



Julia Keithe Taylor

February 7, 1945 - July 17, 2020

Julia Keithe Taylor passed peacefully on July 17, 2020 after a long battle with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. She was born on February 7, 1945 to the late Richard Dimling Carlton and Betty (Lias) Carlton in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania.

Keithie graduated high school from Lapel High School in Lapel, Indiana and attended Southern Seminary College (Southern Virginia University) in Buena Vista, Virginia before being swept off her feet and eloping with her high school sweetheart, husband Charles Eugene Taylor (Gene) on April 15, 1964.

Keithie worked as a secretary when Gene enlisted in the Army and was sent to Okinawa. After different duty stations, Keithie and Gene landed in Anderson, Indiana and had their first child, Christine Richelle Taylor on December 18, 1967. Keithie was a wonderful stay at home mother and welcomed her second child, Terri U Taylor on February 26, 1971 in Fairfax, Virginia.

In 1981, Keithie returned to college, attending Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, Virginia. She received her Associates degree in nursing in June of 1983, passed her boards, and became a Registered Nurse. Throughout her nursing career, she worked in labor and delivery, urology, pre and post operative care, home health, and eventually retired after 29 years of caring for others. She loved being a nurse and knew it was her calling from a very young age. She was compassionate, tender hearted, strong, and a favorite of her patients who often kept in touch with her or recognized her in town by her signature red hair, thanking her for her great care.

Keithie was a breast cancer survivor who used this experience to encourage and help other cancer patients. She relied heavily upon her faith to sustain her and credited God with her healing and survival of the disease.

During her retirement years, Keithie was able to travel, love on and enjoy her daughters and grandchildren, and shop to her heart's content.

She had a 56 year love affair with Gene that withstood the test of time, varying work schedules, disease and disability, heartaches, and personal triumphs. She believed in love, loyalty, hard work, and commitment.

Keithie, or Keke, was adored by her daughters and 10 grandchildren. She was their nurse, friend, confidante, cheerleader, and inspiration. She taught them their inherent value and encouraged them to aim high and to always believe in themselves.

Keithie is survived by her husband, younger sisters Suzie Buck, Kitty Allain, Candy Walker, and children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren listed below:

Chrissy Taylor and husband Scott Stratton and children Jake, Josh, and Charlie in Nashville, TN

Terri and Bryan Hunter and children Hope, Holly, Elijah, Heidi, Hallie, Hensley, and John in Winter Haven, FL

Great grandchildren Kingston and Leia Pendergist and Ava Nichols and Nadia Pendergist

We will miss Keithie and all that she represented: life, love, fun, beauty, joy, adventure, family, and faith. We look forward to the day we will be reunited!

Cemetery

Curlew Hills Memory Gardens
1750 Curlew Road
Palm Harbor, FL, 34683

Events

JUL 25 Visitation 03:30PM - 04:00PM

Curlew Hills Memory Gardens Funeral Home
1750 Curlew Road, Palm Harbor, FL, US, 34683

JUL 25 Memorial Service 04:00PM

Curlew Hills Memory Gardens Funeral Home
1750 Curlew Road, Palm Harbor, FL, US, 34683

Comments



“ I knew Keithe for many years because she was my customer at the bank in Boot Ranch. She was more than a customer. When she would come in we would all talk to her and she would show us her new manicure. We all loved her beautiful nails! She had a real presence about her. We all always enjoyed hearing about a movie she saw or what fun things she had going on. I remember when she first came in with her oxygen and she told us her diagnosis, but she always was upbeat and positive. I just learned of her passing today and I see that she passed just 2 days before my mom did. My mom actually met her twice as we saw her and her friend at Beef O Brady's when we were walking by their table and stopped to chat for a few minutes. I will always remember Keithe. She was so sweet and lively. She was the kind of person one will never forget.

Cyndi Dodge - October 25, 2020 at 03:25 PM



“ Keithe was such a lovely lady and friend. We met through the nail salon. She was always pleasant, impeccably dressed and her vibrant red hair was amazing. She will be missed and my prayers go to her friends and family. She is now pain free, with the angels and in the hands of God! Love love, Debora Bickel

Debora Bickel - July 29, 2020 at 09:00 PM



“ I met Keithe with her Bunco group in Cross Pointe. What a beautiful lady- “inside and out”. With her warm smile and kind eyes- she would “light” up a room and always made me feel “welcomed” whenever I saw her. Keithe was wonderfully fashionable- her beautiful red hair- gorgeous nails- and lovely outfits! I know she loved her family so much. I am very thankful that I got the chance to meet and know her. She was a kind, humble, funny, and courageous lady. God has a beautiful new Angel. My deepest sympathy to her husband, Gene, and all her dear family. Sincerely, Susie Layton

Susie Layton - July 26, 2020 at 04:09 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Julia Keithe Taylor.



July 25, 2020 at 11:27 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Julia Keithe Taylor.



July 24, 2020 at 09:27 PM



“ Keke was such a delight to know and I am grateful she was a part of my life. I met her when she joined our Bunco group in Cross Pointe and became a special friend to all of us. She was a fun, caring and loving person. I will always remember her sparkling personality, infectious laugh, and gorgeous red hair. She always looked like a fashion icon with her lovely brightly colored coordinating outfits with hand and toe nails to match. I admired her strength and courage as she bravely faced her disease and yet maintained a positive attitude throughout even her worst days. She even managed to be a part of our bunco gatherings until Covid put a damper on them. I will truly miss my very special friend and I know all her Bunco friends share these feelings as well!

A special note to Keke's family:

She adored you all and spoke of you often. I know you will all have wonderful memories of this fabulous woman to help you as you grieve.

Gene-It was so sweet to see both of you together, especially when you answered the door. It was so obvious that you adored one another!

Chrissy and Terri: You had a fabulous mom and knowing that the end of her life was inevitable due to her disease does not make the loss of dear your mom less painful. I know this all too well as I watched my mom decline due to emphysema. There is a wonderful article that you can access called "The Seven Things You Lose When Your Mother Dies." spiritmindevolution.com/7-things-you-lose-when-your-mother-dies It really struck a chord with me and helped me in my grief. I have shared it many times. I have a copy on my computer and can share it with you if you cannot access it. My e mail: msinnovate@aol.com

To Keke's grandchildren and great grandchildren. Your grandma adored you and I know you made her very happy. Always remember the great times and how lucky you are to have so many special memories.

Marilyn Swierk

Marilyn Swierk - July 23, 2020 at 01:47 PM



“ Keith was a dear friend who I met at our Bunco group. She was Beautiful lady Full of Love, laughter, who loved her family, friends and God. She was a Beauty soul who taught many lessons to be Kind, patient and thankful for every day. I will dearly miss her and always keep her in my Heart. My deepest sympathies to Gene and her family. With Love to all.

Marty Larson - July 23, 2020 at 11:01 AM



“ When I first met Keithe she was my doctor's new nurse. As we all know, going to the doctor's is not a fun experience....UNLESS...your nurse is Keithe. Her beautiful smile erased all anxiety as we began chatting like high school girls.

Keithe was always a vision of beauty. She looked like a model coming down the runway wearing the latest fashions and her hair was gorgeous. I felt very honored when Keithe shared the name of her stylists (Janet and Rene)! Most women would keep that sacred information a secret for themselves, but Keithe was always very generous and giving. We would often see each other when we went to get our hair done. It was so much fun. She would have the whole shop in stitches. Everyone loved Keithe!

She was such a joy to be with and brought the best out in everyone. Keithe was that special angel on earth and now she will continue being that special angel in heaven.

Our prayers go out to the family. Judy Turnbaugh



Judy Turnbaugh - July 23, 2020 at 10:49 AM



“ Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of Julia Keithe Taylor.



July 22, 2020 at 07:05 PM



“ Keithe has been in my life for 23 years or more, she has watched my children grow. I have had the honor of being her friend and stylist (when my mother was unable) and sharing so many stories and laughs with her... Her laugh Was truly infectious. I am truly going to miss seeing her and hearing her voice. I Believe we are among angels on earth, she was one of them. My deepest sympathies to her family. All my love.

Plummer Rene - July 22, 2020 at 09:46 AM



“ I will miss talking with my friend... I was blessed to get to know her extended family and see the love surrounded by them ..Keith was well know in the hair salon for years .. she was always having someone stop by my chair and talk to her while styling her hair ..Rest in peace my friend..



janet - July 22, 2020 at 09:12 AM



“ Aunt Keithe was not only my Aunt, but the best Godmomma a girl could ever ask for! She saw my mom through some very tough times through my infancy and childhood. She was also there for me a lot not only in childhood, but adulthood as well. Her loss is immeasurable, but I look forward to the day I will see her again in Heavenly places.

Heather Buck - July 23, 2020 at 10:14 PM



“ Our little sunshine will always be remembered. She came to our monthly bunco parties with picture perfect tasty appetizer trays and always dressed for the occasion. Her personality was always cheerful, colorful and fun loving. Keke was so caring in all aspects of life. She could always tell when I sat with her how I was feeling just by looking at me. I loved when & how she recognized things, without even having to say anything.. she was so observant.. glad i had her in my life, and so thankful we had the opportunity to share so many giggles and funny moments together the last decade or so..xoxo love you Keke

Susan - August 09, 2020 at 12:58 PM