



Rosa Maria Faulkner

January 4, 1937 - March 15, 2023

Rosa Maria Faulkner passed peacefully at home into the presence of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on March 15, 2023, surrounded by her loving family. Rosa Maria was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, to the late Fred DeRobertis and Edna Creeley DeRobertis. Following graduation from East High School in Knoxville, TN, Rosa Maria continued her education at the University of Tennessee, where she was a member of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority, and graduated magna cum laude with a degree in Music Education in 1959. She was University of Tennessee Homecoming Queen in 1958. In 1959, Rosa Maria was awarded The Torchbearer, the University of Tennessee's highest award for leadership, scholarship, and service. After graduating, she began her career as an elementary school music teacher. She married the love of her life, Robert (Bob) Faulkner, in June 1960. In 1962 the family moved to Charlotte, NC, and two years later they moved to Wilmington, DE, where they have remained to the present day.

Rosa Maria loved spending time with her family, especially during their vacations to Outer Banks, NC, Wild Dunes in Charleston, SC, and Gatlinburg, TN. "Hostess with the Mostest" was an accurate title as she was always known to find any reason to gather her friends and family together, whether it was Black Friday Brunch, Tennessee football games, prayer brunch, or birthday dinners. You name it, and there was a reason to gather and eat! Her fun, outgoing personality paved the way to making friends everywhere she

went, from Hockessin Athletic Club, to her favorite restaurants like Cracker Barrel. Rosa Maria treasured her friends, both old and new.

Rosa Maria used her vocal talents to sing as a soprano soloist at churches she attended over the years and performed various roles in Opera Delaware productions. She served as choral director at Wilmington Christian School for 21 years and a private voice teacher for over 40 years. She had a passion for developing young voices and was so proud of her students when they made All State Chorus or were awarded leading roles in their musicals.

As a trained personality consultant, Rosa Maria spoke over the years for church groups as well as educational, business, civic, medical, and professional groups, helping participants better understand how they are “wired” and how to better interact with others. Just recently in 2020, she developed a small business called Tru (The Real U) Seminars.

Her greatest passion was her love for her Savior, Jesus Christ. Rosa Maria had always been an active churchgoer, but on Oct 6, 1976, she became a born again believer when she invited Jesus Christ into her heart and life. Shortly thereafter, she started sharing her story of faith, “Tiaras, Trophies and Tantrums,” to Stonecroft Ministries Christian Women’s Clubs across 19 states.

Rosa Maria was predeceased by her parents; sister, Giulia DeRobertis Neubert; brother-in-law, Howard Neubert’ and beloved husband of 58 years, A. Robert Faulkner, Jr. in 2019. She is survived by three loving children: A. Robert Faulkner, III (Sheri), Karen Faulkner Knoettner (Jeff), and Kathryn Faulkner O’Bryan (John); three cherished grandchildren: Ian O’Bryan, Kristin O’Bryan, and Stephen O’Bryan; and two beloved nephews, Gregg Neubert and Kurt Neubert.

Family and friends are invited to visit at Ogletown Baptist Church, 316 Red

Mill Road, Newark, DE 19713 on Saturday, March 25, 2023, between 9:30 and 11 am. A service to celebrate Rosa Maria's life will begin at 11 am, with a luncheon following. Rosa Maria's wish to be buried in her hometown of Knoxville, TN at the family plot will be honored. In lieu of flowers, donations in Rosa Maria's memory may be made to Stonecroft Ministries at www.stonecroft.org or Stonecroft PO Box 8900 Kansas City, MO 64114.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 25. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Ogletown Baptist Church
316 Red Mill Road
Newark, DE

Service

MAR 25. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ogletown Baptist Church
316 Red Mill Road
Newark, DE

Tribute Wall

MB

“ *Marcia Brown lit a candle in memory of Rosa Faulkner*



Marcia Wilson Brown - March 25, 2023 at 07:58 AM

MB

“ *To Rosa's family,
I am very sorry for your loss. So many will grieve with your family and friends and yet be comforted by the fact she suffers no more as she is in her final home. Rosa was a shining personality who always exhibited care and joy and she brought me into a new understanding of Christ's love when we met at Stonecroft ministries. That was my first and only encounter but we continued to share devotionals. She was an amazing woman and will be missed. May her home-going be filed with joy and hope and the best memories. Our loss...GOD's gain. 🙏. Marcia Brown Long Branch NJ. Upper Room Devotional*

Marcia Wilson Brown - March 25, 2023 at 07:56 AM

“ Recollections of Rosa Marie Faulkner – from Marge Conn

People gathered here..... friends and family of Rosa Maria..... representing years of relationship. Each of you have had an individual relationship with Rosa Maria. Many who have had such a relationship have passed on to Heaven --- and she renews those friendships even now.

I am a latecomer to that group, having met Rosa Maria only 3 ½ years ago when we moved to the area and when she felt led by the Lord to come to Trinity ----- perhaps because she was now a woman on her own after her many years of marriage to her husband and their “being a couple” at their previous house of worship.

I believe our meeting was God-ordained. Someone who knew Rosa was going to try Trinity Community Church told her to look up “Debbie Keever”. Rosa appeared at a summer evening Fellowship gathering held outside at the Trinity site, dressed impeccably which was her style, and wandered to the meeting area. Not knowing anyone, she approached a woman with a friendly smile and said she was looking for a “Debbie Keever”.....and guess what? That woman was Debbie..... who happens to be my daughter.

Debbie is always trying to connect people, so she arranged a lunch date for herself, Rosa, another lady, and myself. So I met this charming, Southern lady. We shared our lives through talks at church, over lunch, and at Bible Study. She was always an encouragement to me. Loved her testimony.

I was very impressed by Rosa’s never “retiring” from involvement in the Lord’s work even though she was getting older and was experiencing widowhood after so many years of being a couple. She still did some speaking engagements. She entered into the activities at her new church to get to meet new people and see where she could be used. I watched her singing praise and worship songs on stage with a much younger Worship team. She came to

Fall Festival – as a volunteer – doing whatever she could to serve. She was always “young at heart” and had a heart to serve her Jesus. Being an instrument of God to help bring her husband and you, children, to the Lord. What a wonderful legacy.

Marge Conn - March 24, 2023 at 09:08 PM

WF

“ We love you! Patryce, Grady and Friends purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Rosa Maria Faulkner.



We love you! Patryce, Grady and Friends - March 24, 2023 at 05:40 PM

DL

“ A beautiful and sweet lady ! Rosa and Bob were cherished friends of my parents. My Mother went to so many of her talks that she knew them all. Rosa was so talented and sang Ava Maria at my wedding. She raised three wonderful children who were active at Ogletown Baptist Church. One of God’s Angels. God Bless the Faulkner family.

Dan Langston - March 22, 2023 at 04:07 PM

EJ

“ So sorry to hear of Rosa Maria's passing. She will be missed. My condolences to her friends and family.

Evelyn Joiner - March 22, 2023 at 03:16 PM

EJ

“ *Evelyn Joiner lit a candle in memory of Rosa Faulkner*



Evelyn Joiner - March 22, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rosa Maria Faulkner.*



March 21, 2023 at 02:29 PM

NS

“ *My heart hurts because she isn't present on this earth any longer... but at the same time I am joyful that she is in her heavenly home. She was magic.*

I had the gift of having her for a music teacher when in elementary school.

I still remember and sing all the songs that I learned. So much fun.

The highlight for me was singing with the Knoxville symphony.

I loved this lady so much. She made such a huge difference in my life.

My prayers for her family are going up.

Nellie Strange - March 21, 2023 at 11:07 AM

DC

“ My friend from Trinity Community Church in Hockessin De for a short period of time. She was a beautiful soul and woman. Happy Heavenly Birthday Rosa. My sister in Jesus Christ. See you soon pretty girl. Your Spiritual sister Diana.
Always remember our meet and greet
My acquaintance if only a brief few weeks

Diana Convery - March 20, 2023 at 06:15 PM

MK

She was my neighbor, vocal teacher, and a beautiful person. Heaven just received another Angel. She will be missed. Hugs and prayers to the family. Love The Kerwiens

Mary Kerwien - March 23, 2023 at 07:51 AM

BD

“ One beautiful lady in all ways. Plus, she did it God’s Way. Rosa touched a lot of hearts with her bubbling personality and one person we’ll always remember. RIP Pretty Lady 🙏❤️

Bill Dewberry - March 20, 2023 at 02:21 PM

MP

Bob, Karen and Kathy, My heart is broken that your Mother is no longer with us. She was a source of joy and laughter to me and so many others. We had wonderful conversations that ultimately lead back to our love for our Lord and the pleasure we experienced in dedicating our lives to Him. I am so thankful that we will see her again soon in our heavenly home.

Marcia Paxton - March 20, 2023 at 08:01 PM

PS

Dear Karen and family. I am so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. She was so special to my parents and to OBC. Always smiling and friendly to everyone. I can see her now as choir director positioning her feet just right, straightening her back, lifting those graceful hands, then a burst of praise from the choir. Keeping you all in my prayers.

Patricia Simerson

Patricia Simerson - March 23, 2023 at 10:12 AM