



Julie Ann Thomas Wilkins

May 4, 1952 - November 22, 2024

The staff of Heishman Funeral Home/Valley Funeral Service sends condolences to the family of Julie Ann Thomas Wilkins.

After living her life serving the Lord, Julie Ann Thomas Wilkins passed away unexpectedly on November 22, 2024, at the age of 72. She loved her family and friends fiercely and unconditionally and will be greatly missed.

Julie was born on May 4, 1952, in Harrisonburg, Virginia, to James Arthur Thomas and Helen Hepner Thomas. Julie is survived by her husband of 47 years, Lenord L. Wilkins; her mother, Helen Thomas of Mount Jackson, VA; brother, Jamie Thomas (Karen) of Orkney Springs, VA; and sister, Melisa Thomas (Mike Chambers) of Mount Jackson, VA. She was preceded in death by her father, James A. Thomas.

Julie graduated from Stonewall Jackson High School in 1970, She then earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Education in 1974 from James Madison University. Her first and only teaching job was at Stonewall Jackson High School in Quicksburg, Virginia, where she taught Health and Physical Education and coached girls' basketball, track and tennis. After 40 years of teaching and coaching, including four state championships, Julie retired—but there is no doubt that she will forever remain a Stonewall Jackson General.

Julie was a lifelong member of Saint Mary's Pine Lutheran Church in Mount Jackson, Virginia. Her faith was strong, and she began and ended each day by reading the Bible and studying scripture. She served the Lord by serving

others whether it was by taking home-cooked meals to friends and family in need or by giving a stranger a warm blanket and words of faith. Julie was not afraid of hard work literally staying busy from sun up to sun down. She experienced true joy through gardening, spending time at the beach, music, the outdoors, reading, cooking and taking care of those she loved. She enjoyed creating and sharing laughter with her wit and humor and was loyal beyond measure to her friends, family, God and country.

A family visitation for Julie will be held at Heishman/Valley Funeral Service at 14116 S. Middle Road, Edinburg, Virginia, on Tuesday, November 26, 2024, from 6-8 p.m. A Celebration of Life service will take place on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, at 11 a.m. at Saint Mary's Pine Lutheran Church and will be officiated by Vicar Steve Povlish followed by burial at the Mount Jackson Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Stonewall Jackson High School Athletic Department, c/o Keith Cubbage, 150 Stonewall Lane, Quicksburg, VA 22847 or to St. Mary's Pine Lutheran Church, c/o Sandy Estep, 1823 Georgetown Road, Mt. Jackson, VA 22842.

Online condolences may be left at valleyfs.com

Arrangements by Heishman Funeral Home Inc., Valley Funeral Service Branch, Edinburg.

Cemetery Details

Mount Jackson Cemetery

6375 Main Street
Mount Jackson, VA 22842

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **26**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Valley Funeral Service
14116 South Middle Road
Edinburg, VA 22824
(540) 984-3700
secretary.valleyfs@yahoo.com
<https://www.valleyfs.com>

Celebration of Life

NOV **27**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary's Pine Lutheran Church
7103 S Middle Rd
Mt. Jackson, VA 22842

Tribute Wall

CM

“ Julie was always a ray of sunshine. She was a joy to be with. She created smiles and laughter everywhere she went. I know she has all the Angels in Heaven smiling and singing. We will all miss her terribly. She was my childhood and adult friend. We loved singing and laughing together. I will never forget her. My love and deepest condolences to Julie's family and friends.

Cheryl Pence

12/1/24

Cheryl Kay Moody - December 01, 2024 at 02:54 PM

GG

“ Sending love and prayers to Julie's family and friends at this difficult time.

Gary and Margaret Good - November 27, 2024 at 11:37 PM

KW

“ Sending prayers of the LORD's comfort and peace to Lenord and family.

Kathy J Ware - November 27, 2024 at 07:44 PM



“ Coach Wilkins (Thomas) was one of a kind. A lady who had the ability to maximize talent around her and the wisdom to coach that talent to greater experiences. We were lucky as SJHS Generals to have her teach and coach us---her focus on grit, work, laughter, and joy was amazing in addition to her strong faith. So grateful for her insights and wisdom, She truly was a great one! Prayers to her family in the days ahead.....

Joanie Hovatter - November 27, 2024 at 07:01 AM

TK

“ *Our deepest condolences to Julie’s family.
Kenny & Tina Knupp*

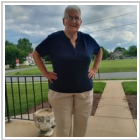


Tina Knupp - November 26, 2024 at 01:56 PM

CR

“ *Our deepest sympathy in the loss of a lovely lady.
Otie & Crena Ryman*

Crena Ryman - November 26, 2024 at 09:12 AM



“ *Lena Gaumer lit a candle in memory of Julie
Wilkins*



Lena Gaumer - November 26, 2024 at 08:02 AM

BR

“ *My sympathy to all family and friends who share grief over this
unexpected death of their loved one.*

Barbara (Showman) Rhinehart - November 26, 2024 at 05:28 AM

LR

“ I played basketball with Julie in high school. She was a great player and team leader. Julie was always fun to be around, kind to everyone. Peace and comfort to Lenord, Jamie and the family.

Linda Silvious Rigsby

Linda Rigsby - November 25, 2024 at 05:59 PM

PM

“ Sending thoughts and prayers to the family. Pat Will Myers

Pat Myers - November 25, 2024 at 01:01 PM

TF

“ She was an amazing dedicated teacher, mentor and friend. She will be greatly missed.



Tina Farrell - November 25, 2024 at 12:11 PM

RJ

“ Lenord, Helen and family,
Sending our thoughts of sympathy and many prayers for comfort and peace in your hearts.

Paquas Hansberger and Roberta Johnson

Roberta Johnson - November 25, 2024 at 10:16 AM

CG

“ *I remember the first day Julie came to teach PE at Stonewall. She made quite an impression on me as a teacher and family member/friend... Always a great Christ like example... My thoughts and prayers are with all of her family. Praying God will comfort you, give you his peace and strength until you are all together again... Love to you all Chris Jordan Guffee 🙏❤️*

Chris Jordan Guffee - November 25, 2024 at 10:05 AM