



Audrey Lane Rivers

September 2, 1934 - March 5, 2018

Audrey Lane Rivers, 83, died Monday, March 5, 2018.

Audrey was born in Hosford, FL, on September 2, 1934. She was preceded in death by her parents, Cecil DeWitt Lane and Johnnie Mae King; her husband of 50 years, Lee Adderson Rivers, Jr.; and her daughter, Elisabeth Brett "Beth" Schneider.

She is survived by her daughter Kerry Rivers Laird and son-in-law Glenn Laird, of Tallahassee; her son Lee Rivers, also of Tallahassee; her son-in-law, Scott M. Schneider, and grandchildren, Emma Lane Schneider, and Brett Michael Schneider, all of Pace. She is also survived by her three sisters, Cecile Chambers of Jensen Beach, Hancy Deacon (and husband Steve) of Tallahassee, and Jonnie Ganus (and husband Larry) of Quincy. Other survivors include many nieces and nephews, and an extraordinary friend of Audrey and all of her family, Jackie Wheeler of Concord, OH.

Audrey was raised in Hosford and moved to Tallahassee in her later teens where she graduated from Leon High School. After high school, she pursued accounting and secretarial classes and worked for state government including the Merit System, and various businesses including the Tallahassee Democrat, the Ausley law firm, Rose Printing Company, and McKenzie Tank Lines. Later in her career, she worked for the United Way of the Big Bend and the Volunteer Lawyers Resource Center before retiring.

Audrey influenced many through her gentle expressions of love and her firm commitment to compassion and justice.

With the help of close friends and the later involvement of more individuals, Audrey developed her vision of a ministry to people on death row through the creation of Kindred Spirits Charitable Trust <http://www.kindredspiritstrust.org/>. A memorial service will be held at First Presbyterian Church, 110 N. Adams St., Tallahassee, FL, at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, March 10, 2018, The Reverend Brant S. Copeland, Pastor, presiding. A reception in the Westminster Room at the church will follow the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Kindred Spirits Charitable Trust, PO Box 3373, Tallahassee, FL 32315; First Presbyterian Preschool Scholarship Fund, 110 N. Adams St., Tallahassee, FL 32301; or to a charity of choice in honor of Audrey's commitment to love and serve others. Kelly Barber of Bevis Funeral Home in Tallahassee (850/385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the Rivers family with their arrangements.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR 10. 10:00 AM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
110 North Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Tribute Wall

JF

“ *The stars of heaven are ever lightened and brighter with Cousin Audrey's passing but our hearts have become heavy with the loss - she was so kind, so compassionate, so generous of her time and knowledge, yet such a strong person. Each of the girls send love and hugs of comfort to each of you.*

Janet Fenn - March 09, 2018 at 12:59 AM

JH

“ *A special person who will be missed. Loving thoughts and prayers for her family.*

Joy Harris - March 08, 2018 at 04:51 PM

TC

“ *Audrey was a lovely person. She had a variety of interests and was a delightful conversationalist. Yet, she was always interested in what you were doing. She made you feel special. Even as we say good bye, we remember Audrey's sweet disposition, her grace, her love of family, her many kindnesses, and her gentle spirit. She was loved.*

Terrie and Charlie Corbett - March 07, 2018 at 07:25 PM

DB

Brant Copeland captured her spirit in his sermon/tribute this morning at the service. I was privileged to be there. Dot B.

Dot Binger - March 10, 2018 at 11:56 AM

DT

Audrey and I only met once in 2002. I always managed to miss her on my visits to Tallahassee, but we stayed in contact across the Atlantic via email. We last sent messages back and forth just after Christmas, and she always had something interesting to share. We had come to know each other through support for death row prisoners, and she was a huge inspiration to me in that field through her tireless dedication to that cause. I send my love to all who will feel the loss of Audrey.
David Tucker, Bolton. England. U.K.

David Tucker - March 11, 2018 at 12:38 PM

JB

*I never met Audrey but she worked tirelessly for my husband's case when he was on his last warrant on Death Row in Florida in 1995, along with the Volunteer Lawyers Resource Center. She was always a gentle voice of comfort and support to me and we shared thoughts and letters through that time and after. When Bo was executed, she was a gently spiritual support to me and I thanked her for that. She sent me a story from a children's book (*The Way of the Wolf- about Barrington Bunny*) which was a lovely story from such a lovely person. I miss her spirit.*
Joyce Bolender

Joyce Bolender - April 10, 2023 at 06:22 PM