



Barbara Adele Dahlgren Redding

August 5, 1929 - September 21, 2018

Barbara Adele Dahlgren Redding of Tallahassee, Florida, died peacefully on Friday, September 21, 2018 with her family by her side. She was 89.

Barbara was born in Princeton, Illinois, the daughter of Bill and Sally Dahlgren. She grew up riding and showing saddle-bred horses and moved with her family to Macon, Georgia as a pre-teen. Barbara attended Stetson University before marrying Charles Robert “Charley Bob” Redding in 1952, after his graduation from Georgia Tech. They had three sons together, all born in Martinsville, VA. The Redding family relocated frequently with Charley Bob’s career in technical sales, first with DuPont in Martinsville and later with Nalco Chemical Company. Their moves also included Macon, GA, Houston, TX, Jacksonville, FL, Lynchburg, VA, again to Jacksonville; Tallahassee, St. Croix (U.S. Virgin Islands), Detroit, MI and finally to Tallahassee again, where Charley Bob retired in 1985.

Many people will remember Barbara locally as “the doll maker,” but she had many artistic talents—needlepoint, knitting, hooking rugs and basket weaving among them. She always had a project going, such as stripping and refinishing antique furniture, many pieces of which are still found in the homes of her family and friends. Barbara was a perfectionist and loved to teach her art. When she shared collectibles, such as pressed glass pitchers and cast iron frying pans or blue Danube and Willow place settings for each grandchild,

she gave them books about the pieces so they would appreciate their value.

The Reddings were among the earliest families to build a house in Killlearn Estates and they were the 25th members of Killlearn Country Club. That community is where Barbara made many of her lifelong friends like Annie Mae Yancey. She was a member of the “Tuesday So and Sews,” ladies who meet to fashion dolls from raw materials and sew their clothes. One of Barbara’s specialties was Bleuette dolls, a French creation dating to 1905, and a highly prized collectible. Barbara also had an extensive collection of Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls and Teddy Bears.

Though she has passed, so much of Barbara still lives on through the gifts she so generously shared, whether handmade craft, treasured collectible, restored antique or skill she taught others. Her service is without end.

Barbara’s survivors include her three sons, Charley Redding (Leslie) and Vince Redding of Tallahassee and Rich Redding (Cecilia) of Raleigh, North Carolina; grandchildren, Sarah Jordan Sandy (Ryan), Alex Redding (Logan), Chelsea Jakubowski (Stephen), Rebecca Redding, Jamey McEachran (Chris), Caitlyn Horne (Justin); great grandchildren, Paige, Flynn and Abigail; and a sister, Theodora “Teddy” Jones of Damascus, Maryland. Barbara is also survived by her beloved neighbors and friends in Los Robles, including Don and Hazel Dixon, Pat and Donna Peacock, Candy Mitchell and Sam Ashton as well as a feisty little Jack Russell named Lucy (so generously adopted by the Dixons). Barbara was pre-deceased by her husband of 44 years, Charley Bob Redding; a brother, Robert Dahlgren, and grandson, Robby Redding.

A memorial service will be held at St. John’s Episcopal Church at 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 25, 2018 with a reception immediately following at the Woman’s Club, Los Robles. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be made to Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan Center Blvd.,

Tallahassee, FL 32308.

Rocky Bevis of Bevis Funeral Home (850/385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the Redding family with their arrangements.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP **25**. 3:00 PM (ET)

St. John's Episcopal Church
211 North Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Tribute Wall

JJ

“ I just so happened to be thinking of Barbara on the day of her death. Her obituary hit the nail on the head as far as her artistic talents and teaching, as what I was recalling was how my former mother-in-law taught me how to needlepoint when we lived in St. Croix, and helped me refurbish an old trunk, as well as a few pieces of furniture. She really was talented. I'm sure her extended family will sorely miss her, as I have all these years. She was a wonderful lady.

Julie Jones

Julie Jones - September 24, 2018 at 03:15 PM

SC

“ Charley, we send condolences and love from North Carolina. I was fortunate enough to know your sweet and talented mother- she will be missed by many.
We hope you find peace and joy recalling all the beautiful memories you shared with her and through the love and support of friends and family.

Sheila and Dennis

Sheila Costigan - September 23, 2018 at 06:36 AM