



Diana Lynn Shuler-Swaby

March 5, 1961 - August 12, 2025

Diana Lynn Shuler-Swaby entered her rest in Jesus Christ on August 12, 2025, following complications after open-heart surgery.

Diana was born on March 5, 1961, in Miami, Florida to Sylvia Thomas Shuler and William Robert Carson Shuler.

She attended Palm Springs North Elementary, Palm Springs Junior High and American Senior High, where she was active in FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) and attended North Palm Baptist Church. After graduating from high school, she attended Miami-Dade Community College where she earned an associate's degree, then attended Florida State University where she obtained her bachelor's degree in social work.

Diana enjoyed activities with her family and friends – especially family camping trips on Sandy Key, which brought her many treasured memories.

After graduation from FSU, Diana began her long career with the State of Florida – and made time to help others through the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization.

She was introduced to Donald Swaby in Tallahassee by a mutual friend. That blind date led to a wonderful friendship, and two years later, they were wed –

beginning a marriage that celebrated happy times, endured sad times, and reached almost 31 years through it all. She will be remembered for the love and care she gave generously to family and friends, and others - she was always willing to listen and lend a helping hand. Before welcoming Daniel and Caleb as her sons, she brought other children who needed a quiet and safe space into her home. Diana cared for each of them as if they were her own. Diana had a beautiful smile that would light up any room – and her smile was its brightest when she was holding a baby.

Diana joins her son Daniel and parents William and Sylvia, and is survived by her husband Donald and son Caleb; sisters Debra, Donna and Peche (Steve) and many nieces & nephews; Uncle and Aunt and cousins, as well as her sisters-in-law and their families.

Also left to cherish her memory are colleagues and friends from the Florida Department of Revenue, and the ‘Lavender Ladies’ of Thomasville Road Baptist Church – Diana’s sisters in faith, who show God’s love through their care for babies in the nursery.

Diana’s family gratefully recognizes the tireless efforts of the nurses and physicians at Shands Heart & Vascular Hospital on Diana’s behalf. They brought knowledge and skill, and above all, caring and compassion. We are thankful for all they did.

The family will be receiving guests for a visitation at Bevis Funeral Home on Friday, August 22, 2025 from 5:00-7:00pm. The family will once again be receiving guests for a visitation at Epiphany Lutheran Church of Tallahassee on Saturday, August 23, 2025 from 9:30-10:30am with a funeral service to follow at 10:30am. The service will also be livestreamed via https://youtube.com/@epiphany.online.church7002?si=h61_H8SRNOok-mCU
Interment will be held at Pioneer Baptist Church Cemetery of Crawfordville.

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

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **22**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory
200 John Knox Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 385-2193

Visitation

AUG **23**. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Epiphany Lutheran Church
8300 Deer Lake S
Tallahassee, FL 32312

Funeral Service

AUG **23**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Epiphany Lutheran Church
8300 Deer Lake S
Tallahassee, FL 32312

Tribute Wall

PC

“ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_leQiYC0M74

Peche Chapman - August 23, 2025 at 05:16 PM

DS

“ Deborah S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Diana Lynn Shuler-Swaby.

Deborah S. - August 22, 2025 at 01:13 PM

PC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Peche L Chapman - August 21, 2025 at 09:28 PM

“ My sister Diana Part 2

When we were not out on the water, we would be at home. We would walk to church on Sundays. We attended North Palm Baptist Church. We would also attend church with our neighbors when they asked. Diana and I would walk to school when we were in elementary school, I missed my walking partner when she attended Junior High. We always rode the bus to Junior High and Senior High. She did not get her Drivers licenses until she was in her early twenties. When she attended Miami Dade Community College, my father would take her and pick her up on his motorcycle. I was always so afraid for her, she was so small, and my father would travel fast. She made it through and enjoyed those rides.

After she graduated from Miami Dade, my mom drove us up to Tallahassee so that she could attend Florida State University. She first studied accounting, then later decided to study social work. All the time we were living in Tallahassee we would either take the city bus, walk or ride our bikes to school. It was a good time for both of us. We later moved into my parents' Quincy house, then we both got our drivers licenses and drove into Tallahassee to attend classes. When she graduated, she went back home to Miami and began working for the State of Florida. After a while she moved into her own apartment closer to her work. She purchased a parakeet and got a roommate. My parents decided to move to the house in Quincy and Diana got a transfer to the state offices in Tallahassee.

Diana met Don after a mutual friend set them up on a blind date. She later married Don, and they eventually moved to Tallahassee. They began opening their home to children in foster care. One such child was Daniel, who she later adopted and then Caleb.

Even though we sisters have lived in many different areas of the US, we were always able to get back together during the holidays at my parent's house in Quincy. Even though the times we saw each other were few, we did talk over the phone and later started have a

sister's weekend after our parents died. We each enjoyed reuniting with each other and reviewing old times. She had such a great memory, very rarely did she not remember names or events.

Diana was fortunate to have many friends in the Tallahassee community that she bonded with. We are all so grateful for them and the love and kindness that they have shown. She had a big heart and was always willing to help others out.

I'm so grateful that she was my sister. Through her I learned kindness and respect and caring for others. Love you, Diana!!!!!!

Peche L Chapman - August 21, 2025 at 09:23 PM

“ My sister Diana Part 1

Diana was the 3rd daughter of Bill and Sylvia Shuler. She had a difficult start in life, with many medical issues, but she always persevered through hard times. Diana was one of my three older sisters; she and I were only 2 years apart. Our Big sisters are Debbie (6 yrs older than Diana) and Donna (4 yrs older than Diana).

Diana and I were together a lot, this was good and bad for both of us, because she was the boss of me. She sheltered me from many things and was always my partner when we played. When I was very young, we visited my grandfather's pool, all the adults and my older sisters were eating on the patio next to the pool. Diana and I were hanging around the steps of the pool. I accidentally slipped past the steps and couldn't reach the side or the bottom without my head going under water, I had not yet learned to swim. Luckily she was willing to reach her hands out for me and pull me to safety. She was always brave when it involved someone needing assistance.

We played barbie's together with accessories created by Debbie. We played dolls together, she had a doll named Velvet, who had blond hair that you could make long or short, by pulling on her hair at the top of her head. She was a cool doll with Velvet eyes. Diana loved that doll. We would play outside with the neighbor kids, write on the sidewalks with chalk.

While visiting our grandmother and Grandfather during the summers, we would use all the groceries in the house and pretend to grocery shop, all the while she would write the prices down just like a receipt as she played the cashier. Later, when we were able to stay home on our own, we would walk to the neighborhood pool in the summers. We would spend all day at the pool then come home and eat peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in the air conditioning. Life was good.

When we were young, we used to sing the following songs:

The name rhyming song:

*Debbie! Debbie! bo bebbie banana fanna fo febbie Fee fy mo
mebbie Debbie!*

*Donna! Donna! Bo bonna banana fanna fo fonna Fee fy mo monna
Donna!*

*Diana! Diana! Bo banna banana fanna fo fanna Fee fy mo manna
Diana!*

*Peche'! Peche' Bo bacha bnana fanna fo facha fee fy mo macha
Peche'!*

As a family we went on many family fishing and camping trips. The early years we would camp at Sandy Key with all the cousins. Since we were so much younger than everyone, we would find things to entertain us. Once my cousin Jerry was going to take us fishing in his smaller boat. Unfortunately, it was a short trip. Upon entering the boat Diana stepped on a fishhook and it stuck in her toe.

When we went snorkeling for lobster, sometimes she was able to go along with my dad and sisters. My dad would always say what a good job she did. Later in life, Diana decided she didn't like to touch the fish that she caught. My dad made us bait our hooks and take any fish that we caught off the hook. She would always make sure she had some kind of rag around so she could wrap it around the fish to take it off the hook. She also hated to walk around barefoot. I could never understand that until I got older.

See Part 2

Peché L Chapman - August 21, 2025 at 09:20 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Diana Lynn Shuler-Swaby.*



August 20, 2025 at 12:30 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Diana Lynn Shuler-Swaby.

August 20, 2025 at 12:30 PM