



## Helen Lou Montgomery Fletcher

December 9, 1928 - August 17, 2022

Helen Lou Montgomery Fletcher, 93, died Wednesday, August 17th, 2022, at the Big Bend Hospice House. She was a radiantly loving and spirited person beloved by everyone who knew her.

She was born on December 9, 1928, on her father's farm in Mauk, Georgia, to Newell J. and Ruby Mae Harvey Montgomery. As a child, she attended Mauk School, a one-room schoolhouse that is now on the National Register of Historic Places, and always remembered its extraordinary teacher, Miss Kay Lancaster, who semi-miraculously instilled in all her students the ability to speak and write "the King's English."

Helen graduated from Jordan Vocational High School in Columbus, Georgia, and worked as a switchboard operator and then as executive secretary to the comptroller at Archer Mills in Columbus. Visiting her father one weekend back in Mauk, she met her future husband, the young Emory (Candler) seminarian John Fletcher, who had been appointed to the Geneva Circuit to preach, which consisted of six tiny churches without regular ministers. One of these was her father's Methodist church, Pine Level, where he was deacon. Helen helped cook the Southern spread put on for the young preacher, and after meeting her and tasting her cooking, John Fletcher was sold for life.

Helen and her husband served eight Florida churches in seven cities:

Jacksonville, Fort Lauderdale, Orlando, Quincy, St. Petersburg, West Palm Beach, and Tallahassee. She was a friend, confidante, and role model to hundreds of church members as well as many outside the church world. Helen was a brilliant homemaker who invariably created a welcoming, gracious, and spotlessly clean home even when the Florida Methodist Conference gave them a parsonage that could be euphemistically called "basic."

Although Helen had several secretarial jobs during her life that helped pay the bills, when she was asked what accomplishment she was proudest of, she always said, "My children are my masterpieces." Her children are deeply grateful she was their mother.

She is survived by her children, Roxane Montgomery Fletcher of Tallahassee, Florida, and Jon Mark Fletcher of Newburgh, New York, two grandcats, Felix and Simon, four paternal half-siblings and their descendants in Butler, Georgia, many maternal cousins throughout Georgia and South Carolina, and a host of intimate friends who over the years have become family.

A memorial service will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church of Tallahassee on Saturday, September 17, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. with a reception to immediately follow.

Flowers are deeply appreciated but memorial contributions are also welcome and they may be made to either the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Center, the National Wildlife Federation, or the Common Cause.

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

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP **17**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
120 W Park Ave  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 222-1120

# Tribute Wall

ME

“ We are thinking of you all at this time. Mrs. Fletcher was such a special woman and we treasure the times that we spent with her. She will be remembered forever by our entire family. Praying for your family.

Love, The Middlebrooks Family  
Guy, Melissa, Matthew & Hannah

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**Melissa** - September 13, 2022 at 12:05 PM

KB

“ Oh, Roxane. There are likely no words I can share to allay your grief at this time but please know I will hold you and John Mark in my prayers. Your mother was a wonderful woman who I had affection for. Always the true Southern lady made me smile with her own loving and sweet smile, grace and hospitality. May God's Love, Grace and Peace surround you and John Mark.

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**Keith Baxter** - August 19, 2022 at 10:28 AM

LH

I attended Sunday School at Trinity with your mom (and dad) for several years. She was a woman of faith who carried herself with grace & good humor. I feel honored to have known her.

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**Leslee Hancock** - August 27, 2022 at 01:20 PM

MG

Helen was one of the most gracious people I've ever known. I'll never forget how, when she asked about Charlie and me or our children, she was genuinely interested and truly listened. She loved people and people loved her. And I'll always smile remembering her tell how, as a petite lady, she had to clean the Killearny Way (huge and sunken) master bathtub either with a tall floor mop or by climbing down in it. She created a hilarious mental image with that story and enjoyed laughing at herself. What a wonderful lady. She will be missed.

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**Meg Guyton** - August 27, 2022 at 08:06 PM



“ *Mary Dorlon lit a candle in memory of Helen  
Lou Montgomery Fletcher*



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**Mary Dorlon** - August 19, 2022 at 07:27 AM