



## Mary Dale Woodbery Joyce

November 28, 1936 - March 18, 2022

Mary Dale Joyce, age 85, passed away peacefully on Friday, March 18, 2022, surrounded by her five daughters. Mary Dale and her twin brother were born on November 28, 1936, in Bainbridge, Georgia, to the late William Potter Woodbery, Sr., and May Woodbery. The family lived on their farm in Havana, Florida, and were members of Salem United Methodist Church.

Mary Dale initially attended Queens College in Charlotte, NC, and later graduated from Florida State University. She was a member of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority and was an acrobatic performer with the FSU Flying High Circus.

She was a real estate broker with Investors Realty and later Talcor Realty, where she sold acreage and commercial real estate for more than 30 years. Mary Dale was a natural with people and loved getting to know her clients. You never knew who she was bringing home for dinner, but a lively conversation was always on the menu, and everyone was welcome.

Our mother was a petite lady of only five feet in height, rarely topping 100 lbs most of her life. Mary Dale was optimistic, a great listener, and offered

encouragement to friends and loved ones without judgment. She left a lasting impression on whomever she met and could light up a room with her beautiful smile. Mom embodied southern charm and was a “steel magnolia” known to wear snake boots, carry a pistol, and wield a machete when showing property. Raising five daughters also took some grit; we drove mom “up a wall” and made her so mad she could “spit nails,” but she loved us best by demonstrating strength, courage, character, and compassion.

She married Edwin Anthony “Ed” Joyce, Jr. in 1978, and they lived happily together for more than 36 years at their 1800’s farmhouse. They hosted oyster shucking parties and lots of other celebrations. They invited friends over to pick blueberries, scuppernong grapes and sent them home with vegetables from the garden. Stray dogs and cats became beloved pets, and farm animals from chickens to donkeys enjoyed living under the beautiful canopy of oaks and pine trees. They traveled to many coastal regions of the world with Ed’s job as a marine biologist, enjoyed vacations at St. George Island with their big family, and spent time on the farm in Havana, Florida.

Later in life, after Ed passed away, mom’s memory and cognitive function declined. While dementia robbed mom of many things, her kind and loving spirit remained strong. Her beautiful smile made you feel loved. Mom would often tell caregivers and loved ones how “wonderful” they were. She loved music, dancing, and ice cream! We were blessed to care for and love mom in a new way, and she made it easy, giving us so much love, affection, and gratitude.

Mary Dale is predeceased by her beloved husband, Edwin Anthony “Ed” Joyce, Jr., her twin brother, William Potter “Potter” Woodbery, Jr., and her

parents, Mr. and Mrs. W.P. Woodbery. She is survived by a sister, Helen Loch (Glenn) of Gainesville, Texas, and a brother, John Woodbery (Dee) of Snohomish, Washington. She is also survived by five daughters; Kathy Moore (Jeff) of Havana, Florida; Kim Pope (Robert) of Altamonte Springs, Florida; Beth Schremser (Jeff) of Crawfordville, Florida; Kelly Crutcher (James) of Atlanta, Georgia; Carson Durrance (Tim) of Tallahassee, Florida. Nine grandchildren; Shelbi Evans (Rob), Mary Kendall Durrance, Parker Durrance (Sarah), Alex Pope, Emily Pope, McElvy Moore, Matt Moore, Cate Crutcher, Lawson Crutcher, and two great-grandchildren; Drew Evans and Carston Pope. Mary Dale is also survived by two stepsons, Chris (Alysia) Joyce and Tripp Joyce, of South Carolina, and many nieces, nephews, friends, and relatives.

Our family wishes to thank all who cared for mom over the last few years and months. The caregivers at home, Azalea Gardens Assisted Living & Memory Care, and Big Bend Hospice for comforting mom and making our time with her meaningful.

On Friday, March 25, 2022, a visitation will be held from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm, where the family will receive friends and relatives at Bevis Funeral Home on John Knox Road in Tallahassee, Florida. A Memorial Service will be on Saturday, March 26, 2022, at 3:00 pm at Salem United Methodist Church in Havana, Florida.

Donations in memory of Mary Dale may be made to Big Bend Hospice Foundation; 1723 Mahan Center Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32308.

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

# Cemetery Details

## Woodbery-Womack Cemetery

Havana, FL 32333

# Previous Events

## The Family Will Receive Friends

MAR 25. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Memorial Service

MAR 26. 3:00 PM (ET)

Salem United Methodist Church  
202 East 9th Avenue  
Havana, FL 32333

# Tribute Wall



“ 7 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Kelly Crutcher** - March 29, 2022 at 09:49 AM



“ We called her “Miss Mary Dale” and she was an exceptional person —such a combination of beauty, optimism, and strength. My sympathies to Kim and all the daughters. I have fond memories of your mom and know she will be missed.

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**Julia Higdon Whitson** - March 26, 2022 at 08:39 AM



*Julia... Thank you so much for your condolences. Mom loved all of our friends!!!*

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**Kim Pope** - March 28, 2022 at 08:16 PM

RC

“ *What a beautiful life this charming woman lived. I consider myself very fortunate to have known Marry Dale and Mr. Joyce. I have fond memories of farm BBQ's and the plethora of stories shared during gatherings with friends and family.*

*A friend shared this thought with me, A mother never leaves you, her spirit remains in your heart and follows you in happiness and goodness shared with others.*

*Sending healing thoughts and love during this sad time.*

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**Roxann Campbell** - March 25, 2022 at 01:45 PM

KP

*Thank you!*

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**Kim Pope** - March 28, 2022 at 08:17 PM



*What a beautiful thought - thank you so much!*

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**Carson Durrance** - April 06, 2022 at 10:15 PM

JC

“ *Mary Dale was a dear friend, with a sweet spirit. I spent many, many days walking and talking (intently) with her over three decades. Her counsel as a reality professional and more importantly as a Christian sister were an monumental part of our life. Rest In Peace. “ Slow down a bit and let me catch up.”*

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**June n Frank Cole** - March 25, 2022 at 09:05 AM

KP

*So sweet June!!*

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**Kim Pope** - March 28, 2022 at 08:18 PM



*June - Mom loved walking with you so much! I'm so glad y'all found each other. I hope you and Frank are doing well! Much love to you and your family.*

**Kelly Crutcher** - March 29, 2022 at 09:44 AM



“ **FARESIA WALKER ( NICKNAME)REESES MED TECH /CAREGIVER I WANT REALLY THANK THE FAMILY AND ALSO THE WONDER 5 DAUGHTERS OF MARY DALE FOR TRUST ME AND MY AZALEA GARDENS TEAM FOR CARING FOR YOUR MOTHER IT WAS SUCH A BLESS TO HAVE TIME AND MONTHS FOR CARING FOR HER.AND I TRULY SAY YALL GURLS WAS ALMOST AND DID A VERY GOOD AND WONDERFUL JOB WITH YALL MOTHER I TRULY BELIEVE IN SAYING SAY WHEN A FAMILY PRAY TOGETHER STAY TOGETHER AND YALL GIRLS TRULY DID WHAT GOD ASK YALL TO DO . YOUR MOTHER HAD A HEART OF GOLD AND. NEVER COMPLAIN BOUT ANYTHING NOT EVEN WHEN SHE NO THAT THE TIME WAS COMING TO A END. MARY DALE WAS A WOMAN THAT BIBLE TALK BOUT AND NO SHE IS WITH GOD DANCE IN HEAVENLY WITH THAT SPECIAL BEAUTFIL SMILE AND LOVING EYES. I HAD A SHORT PERIOD WITH HER BUT THE SOUL SHE HAD SEEMS LIKE FOREVER AND FOREVER AGAIN THANK YOU THANK YOU FOR LET US TAKE CARE OF MOTHER MARY DALE SO WILL BE TRULY MISS** ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️

**faresia walker (reeses)** - March 24, 2022 at 10:52 AM



*Thank you so much for taking care of our sweet mama, Faresia. There's a special place in heaven for loving caregivers like you!*

*Kelly (#4)*

**Kelly Crutcher** - March 27, 2022 at 05:22 PM

KP

*Reeses, Mom was blessed to have such wonderful care givers like you. Thank you !!! Kim (#2)*

**Kim Pope** - March 31, 2022 at 02:17 PM



*Reeses - you were so sweet to her as you are to all those that you care for!!! I am forever grateful for the love and care you showed to mom - you are a gift!!!*

**Carson Durrance** - April 06, 2022 at 10:11 PM

GB

“ *Grant Burton purchased the Simply Elegant Spat hiphyllum for the family of Mary Dale Woodbery Joyce.*



**Grant Burton** - March 24, 2022 at 10:44 AM

LS

“ *I will always remember the warm and friendly smile Mary Dale greeted me with over the years. Peggy and I send our condolences and prayers to her daughters and family.*

*God grant you peace during your grief. She was a true southern lady and frequently spoke with pride in her daughters. May you carry that with you.*

**Larry Surles** - March 23, 2022 at 06:08 PM

KI

*Thank you Larry for your condolences and the flowers that you sent! Mom was truly a wonderful gift to us all!*

**Kim** - March 31, 2022 at 02:13 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Mary Dale Woodbery Joyce.*



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March 23, 2022 at 05:54 PM



“ *Lisa Phillips purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mary Dale Woodbery Joyce.*



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**Lisa Phillips** - March 23, 2022 at 01:32 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Mary Dale Woodbery Joyce.*



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March 23, 2022 at 12:46 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Dale Woodbery Joyce.*



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March 23, 2022 at 12:33 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mary Dale Woodbery Joyce.*



March 23, 2022 at 12:16 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Dale Woodbery Joyce.*



March 22, 2022 at 11:11 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Dale Woodbery Joyce.*



March 22, 2022 at 10:41 PM



“ *Curt and I are very sorry for the loss of such a special woman to so many. You all will be in our thoughts are prayers for the days to come. What a beautiful life your Mother had. May she Rest in Peace.*

*Curtis and Lisa Warmack*

**LISA ANN WARMACK** - March 22, 2022 at 12:09 PM



*Thank you both so much!! You have been such sweet supporters during these difficult times. We are remembering mom and mourning our life without her. She is resting in a beautiful place out of pain and suffering.*

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**Carson Durrance** - April 06, 2022 at 10:14 PM