



Vivian McLaurin (Matthews) Hess

June 15, 1933 - August 7, 2024

Vivian McLaurin (Matthews) Hess, only child of Katie and Henry Matthews, died August 7, 2024. She was born June 15, 1933 in Tallahassee and was a graduate of Leon High School class of 1951. She attended Charity Hospital School of Nursing in New Orleans and received her associate in nursing at Broward Jr. College in Fort Lauderdale; Vivian was in the first graduating class and was also the class president. During WWII, Vivian's father was Postmaster at Camp Gordon Johnston (Secret Army Training and P.O.W. Camp) in Carabelle. Moving to Camp Gordon Johnston, Vivian had to leave behind her beloved nanny Mary, her family and friends from the ages of 8-13.

Before fulfilling her desire to become a nurse she worked as a secretary to the head football Coach, Tom Nugent at Florida State University and it was during this time at FSU that she met her husband Lawrence "Bud" Hess. He was teaching accounting at FSU and had some guys from the football team in his class. They married in the Methodist Chapel at FSU and shared 47 happy years together until Bud's sudden death in 2006. She lived in Fort Lauderdale, Siesta Key, Sugar Mountain and finally moved back to Tallahassee. Vivian always wanted to be a nurse and dedicated 40 years as a labor and delivery nurse. Until that dream was fulfilled, she also worked as a legal secretary to the Board of County Commissioners in Leon County in the early 50s.

Vivian was predeceased by her parents: Katie and H.V. Matthews; her

husband Bud Hess; son and daughter-in-law, David and Silvana Hess; her beloved nanny, Mary and her fur baby golden retrievers Roady and Peaches. Peaches and Vivian spent time as an animal therapy team at TMH. Surviving her are her children: Kay Jordan (Wally); Lauren Paddock (Don) and her “Bonus Daughter”, Sandy Moser. Grandchildren: Donnie Paddock (Amanda); Katie Moran (Charlie); Katherine Scott (Garrett); Nicole Spencer (Alex) and Megan Jordan. Great Grandchildren: Levi Jordan; Charlotte Vivian Paddock and Maisie Glen Scott.

Vivian loved her Scottish heritage (McLaurin), the sounds and feel of the beach and the North Carolina mountains. Memorial contributions in her name may be made to the Animal Therapy Program at TMH. If you would prefer to donate by check, please mail your check to the TMH Foundation, 1331 East 6th Avenue, Tallahassee, FL, 32303. (Memo: In memory of Vivian Hess). If you have questions, please call us at 850-431-5389. Or the V Foundation for Cancer Research (Memo: In memory of Vivian Hess. Mail To: 14600 Weston Parkway, Cary, NC. 27513). Questions to kscott@v.org.

The family will be receiving guests at Bevis Funeral Home on Saturday, August 31, 2024 at 10:00am to be followed by a memorial service at 11:00am. Vivian and Bud will be privately interred at Tallahassee National Cemetery.

Remember Vivian when you hear a newborn baby cry, seagulls at the beach or a song by Freddie Mercury and Queen.

Links to donation sites:

<https://www.tmh.org/tmh-foundation/donate>

<https://vfoundation.donordrive.com/campaign/vivian>

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

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **31**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Memorial Service

AUG **31**. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Bevis Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Vivian McLaurin (Matthews) Hess*



Bevis Funeral Home - August 30, 2024 at 04:57 PM



“ *Cindy and Lauren Tannenbaum, Susie Bush purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Vivian McLaurin (Matthews) Hess.*



Cindy and Lauren Tannenbaum, Susie Bush - August 29, 2024 at 01:07 AM



“ *Cindy and Lauren Tannenbaum, Susie Bush planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vivian McLaurin (Matthews) Hess.*

Cindy and Lauren Tannenbaum, Susie Bush - August 29, 2024 at 01:07 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Vivian McLaurin (Matthews) Hess.



August 28, 2024 at 04:19 PM



“ Oh how we loved this life of the party. Last time I saw her was at lunch bunch in Thomasville with the ladies from Red Hills. The world needs more Vivian's for sure and I'm sad she is gone. Rest in peace sweet lady. My family thought the world of you ☐



Michelle Bryant - August 25, 2024 at 10:54 AM

DG

“ It was so wonderful to discovery some years ago that we were related to Vivian through finding our Johnson great grandfathers had been brothers in NC in the 1800s. Although it was too late for our mothers to know each other, our mother, Rebecca Johnson Hood, did enjoy a number of good times with Vivian and had known her daughter and husband, Kay and Wally Jordan, for a number of years at Trinity.. I enjoyed knowing and meeting with Vivian on fun luncheons at Goodwood and on one trip to “Magnolias on Main” in Blakely. GA, as well as share ancestral history on other visits when I was in Tallahassee. I was pleased to hear about Vivian’s activities at other times from my sister Sandra Walker who, living in Tallahassee, was able to visit with Vivan and cousins on the McLaurin side of the family on more occasions. Vivian was always fun to be with, and I will miss her a lot!
Diana Hood Gendron, Severn Bridge, Ontario

Diana Hood Gendron - August 20, 2024 at 01:14 PM

NS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Nancy Scott - August 16, 2024 at 10:51 AM