



Arleen F Matthews

APR 24, 1941 - MAR 1, 2017



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Arleen Florence Matthews, age 75, died peacefully on Wednesday, March 1, 2017. She was born April 24, 1941 in Southfield, Michigan, the daughter of Martin and Florence Willacker. She was a Lakeland resident for 57 years. Arleen is survived by her sisters Shirley Gramer and Gail Campbell; her daughters Teri Kortum (Dale), Toni Albritton (Bill), and Tina Waters; her grandchildren Kurtis Bennett, Shawn Whitehurst, Derrick Bennett, Shane Waters, Erik Kortum, Kyle Kortum, Shannon Owens, Karissa Kortum, and Todd Lockwood; her step granddaughter Jennifer Sapp (Graham); her great grandchildren, Landon Kerans, Kyra Bennett, Cloee Tosti, and Gavin Cannoy; and her step great grandchildren Tristen and Carina Sapp. She was preceded in death by her son, Todd Matthews, father, Martin and mother, Florence Willacker; brothers; Martin Jr., Stanley, Donald, Vernon, Clayton, Gerald, Richard and Raymond and sisters; Verta Allen, Maxine Gardner, Doris Dery and Carol Cross.

Arleen was often described as full of life and fun-loving. Her friends and family will always remember her laughing and smiling. She had a great passion for shopping at Flea Markets where she found many treasures and met her best friend Betty Hoskins.

Arleen will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her. A celebration of life will be held Saturday, April 22, 2017 from 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm at the Blue Heron Pavilion, Lake Parker Park, 820 Robson Street, Gate #4, Lakeland, Florida 33805. Memorial donations may be made to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation <http://www.pulmonaryfibrosis.org/home>.




Events


Arleen F Matthews

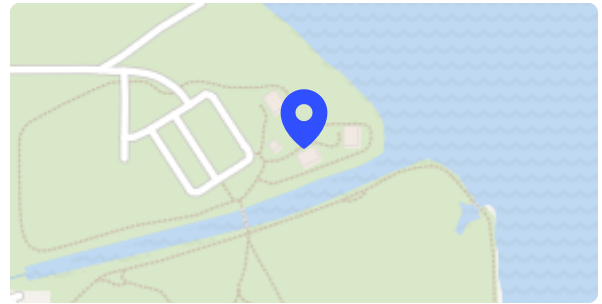
APR 24, 1941 - MAR 1, 2017

Celebration of Life

 **Saturday**, April 22, 2017

 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM ET

 **Blue Heron Pavilion, Lake Parker Park**
820 Robson Street, Lakeland FL 33805





Tribute Wall

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RL

Roberta Lehtola posted:

Dear family, We are so sorry for your loss. Aunt Arleen was the best--always with a wonderful smile and laugh. She will be missed. Love, Roberta (Willacker) and Hank Lehtola

March 8 at 6:40 AM

SM

Sheryl Milligan posted:

We met Arleen when we both worked at Peace River Center back in the 80's. She was great fun to be around, always had a smile on her face. Several of us would meet for 'happy hour' on paydays whether we drank or not; it was the friendship and the fun that we all had whenever we would get together that was most important. She was a good person and truly loved life and all her children and grandchildren and great grandchildren. Treasure all the memories and she will always be in your heart. Sheryl Milligan and Kathy Surver

March 5 at 2:37 PM

RA

Rebecca D'auria posted:

When I was 15 I came to Florida for a week and stayed with my Aunt Arleen and my cousin's in Lakeland. It's one of the greatest memories growing up spending time listening to Aunt Arleen's wonderful stories, sneaking through the fence at the ballpark at the end of the street with my awesome cousin's to watch the Detroit Tiger's spring training. Aunt Arleen has and will always be in my heart. May God watch over my cousin's and help them to find peace in their heart's with this tremendous loss.

March 5 at 8:08 AM



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AC

Amy Cummings lit a candle in honor of Arleen.

To Terri.Toni and Tina My name is Amy Cummings I'm the oldest daughter of Mary Frances and the oldest granddaughter of Maxine Willacker and I'm your cousin and your mom was my mom's and my great aunt. Aunt Arleen was my #1 favorite aunt we all will miss your laughter and her stories and she was a wonderful and beautiful person to have around and she will be sadly missed by her family and friends who truly loved and care about her so very much. Now she is with her family that is in heaven. There will be a day that we all will be together again one day. Now she is in all of our hearts she is our guardian angels looking down at us all right now. I will remember all the good times that I had with Aunt Arleen I loved and I will miss her very much. Now she is gone she will never be forgotten I'll miss my #1 Aunt and she's also in heaven with my mom now they can talk with one another again. Now that Aunt Arleen is in a better place now where she doesn't have to suffer anymore I'll always keep Aunt Arleen deep in my heart and I'll always keep her memories alive. She will always be remembered by the ones who truly loved her so very much. I miss an love you very much Aunt Arleen RIP to my sweet Aunt Arleen Love ya! great niece Amy Cummings



March 3 at 2:54 AM



Anonymous sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Matthews family.



March 3 at 6:38 PM

DB

Della Nick Bishop lit a candle in honor of Arleen.



March 3 at 5:41 PM



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Berta Dowdy posted:

We met on Normandy st. In the late 60's an to this day love Arlene and her family....We played as children moved away still kept in touch. I move back to Florida in 84..... Tina got ahold of me where I ended up babysitting for Shawn and Shane and Toni's two boys Kurtis and Derrick..... Love you all...Will always remember your mom's answering machine 🍷

March 3 at 2:54 AM



Della Nick Bishop March 3 at 5:57 PM

Nick and I just want to reiterate what wonderful friends you are .. you are never alone .. just look up for peace .. place your hand on your heart for all those fun filled memory making times you have had with your wonderful mother throughout the years .. it's not easy when we lose someone who is so dear to our heart and in our life.. but.. what rejoicing it is to know .. she suffers no more .. she smiles .. she is heard laughing .. visiting with all friends and family who have passed early on..what a joyous reunion she is now part of .. its peaceful .. beautiful .. no more pain ., let the good times roll .. for she behind those pearly gates having a great time .. bless her by keeping her warm in your hearts .. until you meet again .. spread that love she taught you so well .. nothing but love for you guys as you mourn a great soul .. your mama .. she will visit you in the years to come .. in the form of a memory..butterfly..ladybug..bird..flower..be watching .. love you guys



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Arleen by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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