

### CAROL THIEN BOWEN

Carol Janice Thien Bowen was called home to be with the Lord at the age of 76 on January 14. A lifetime resident of the Dinsmore area in Duval County, Carol was born January 19, 1942, to parents Arthur Bernard Thien and Mary Louise Pendarvis Thien.

A devoted mother and grandmother, she loved to cook and bake and passed down the enjoyment of these activities to her children and grandchildren, the latter lovingly referring to her as “Granny” or “Nanny Neese.”

In her youth, her love of baking gave her and her good friend, Eva Stithem the opportunity to, as a team, demonstrate and share with members of the 4H community their award winning recipe for braided bread.

Carol, also known to some as Janice, worked as a hairdresser in her 20s while raising her children. She also enjoyed being able to go back to school in her late 30s to study to become a lab tech, where she was given the nickname “C.J.”

As a prolific artist, several of her paintings won awards and ribbons in county fairs and contests. Her love of art and her artistic ability were also things that she passed down to several of her grandchildren, who are now artists or becoming artists themselves.

An avid reader, she enjoyed many forms of literature, ranging from the Bible, to classic works of fiction, and also non-fiction and a variety of other topics. Her favorite things to read with her grandchildren were the Bible and cookbooks. Many an evening, she would enlist the help of her grandchildren to find recipes to prepare for dinner and if ingredients were scarce, she taught them to be adept at improvising.

Carol was survived by her the children, Lorne (Patti) Bowen, Kim Bowen (Danny) Barlow and Logan (Kristien) Bowen; 10 grandchildren Theresa (Richard) Nail, Blake (Tara) Bowen, Trevor Bowen, Trey (Anna) Bowen, Trent Bowen, Tori Bowen and Toby Bowen; five great-grandchildren Trintin, Eythan and Mayson Nail and Brayden and Addison Bowen; sister-in-law Charlotte Thien; two nephews Scott (Amy) Thien and Sean (Amanda) Thien; and one niece Heather (Tim); and her cousin Kaye Johnson. She was preceded in death by her parents; and her brother Marvin Thien.

Throughout her life she also enjoyed spending time with her first cousin, Linda Johnson, whom she always said was more like a sister.

Carol Janice Thien Bowen was a talented, intelligent, resourceful, and strong woman with many stories to tell and much knowledge to pass on. More importantly, she impacted many lives with her kind, gracious and loving heart and her endless ability to forgive. She was the kind of person who went out of her way to give any kind of help that was needed without questions asked or strings attached. Two of her favorite sayings were “Why worry when you can pray?” and “Just give it to the Lord, baby.” Her love of God was best exemplified by the way she lived out her life according to her favorite verses, Matthew 6:14-15: *“If you forgive those who sin against you, your Heavenly Father will forgive you also. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.”*

At her request, no funeral service will be held. However, family and close friends are invited to attend a celebration of Carol’s life, time and place to be announced.

Condolences can be expressed at [www.nassaufh.com](http://www.nassaufh.com). Arrangements by Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770.