

## ~~WESTSIDE JOURNAL

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### **PAULA (ANDERSON) ARPEN**



Paula Marion (Anderson) Arpen, born May 3, 1945 in Jacksonville, Florida to John Paul Anderson and Audrey Rogers Anderson of Telfair County, Georgia, died May 16, 2022. Paula is survived by her husband of 51 years, Claude C. Arpen. Both were life-long residents of north Florida. She is also survived by their son, Graham A. (Jessie) Arpen of Jacksonville; her sister Barbara A. (Gary) Wheeler of Callahan; her brothers and sisters-in-law Joan Arpen (widow of Tommy Arpen), Ronald L. (Linnie) Arpen, Marilyn I. (Jerry) Harden, Earl C. (Vann) Arpen and Sherryl P. (Jim) Mosley all of northeast Florida and south Georgia. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews, grand nieces and nephews, many friends, neighbors and her loved Victory Baptist Church family.

As a young child, Paula spent her summer vacations at her grandmother's home in Lumber City, Georgia, where she enjoyed the freedom of rural, southern life and absorbed the soft grace and manner of southern ladies. She was a wonderful homemaker, an excellent and creative cook and a gracious hostess.

Paula graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in Jacksonville, Florida and from Brewton-Parker College in Mount Vernon, Georgia. She worked for Blue Cross/Blue Shield in Atlanta, The Farmers Credit Union in Jacksonville and retired from Haynes, Peters and Bond Insurance Company in Jacksonville.

Paula loved gardening and nature. She loved working in her yard and garden and was an active member of the Callahan Garden Club.

Paula accepted the Lord Jesus as her Saviour (Romans 10:9-10) as a teenager and has served Him since as a Sunday School teacher at Woodlawn Baptist Church and at Dinsmore Baptist Church, as a children's church worker at Heavenly Heights Baptist Church and as a Vacation Bible School worker at Victory Baptist Church. In fact, Vacation Bible School was a favorite time for Paula because she loved having fun with children.

Her heart was tender towards people who needed uplifting, a second chance or encouragement. She could see a special light in others and she was brilliant at fanning that light until it was at its brightest. Paula's favorite Bible verse was Micah 6:8 "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God?"

All who knew her loved her, and her memory will be kept forever in the round-towers of their hearts.

Paula's funeral service will be Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 11 a.m. at Cedar Bay Funeral Home, 405 New Berlin Road, Jacksonville, Florida. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at 10 a.m. Internment will be at the Verdie Cemetery.