

TAMMY FAYE AUSTIN



Tammy Faye Austin, 60, of Callahan, passed away peacefully August 30, 2021, due to complications of COVID in Jacksonville. She was born May 15, 1961, in Jacksonville, to the late James and Alice Roberson. Tammy was one of nine children. She was the oldest of five daughters, and like a mother to all her siblings. Tammy grew up in Florida and spent most of her childhood helping her family on a Dairy Farm. She attended West Nassau High School and in 1979 she decided to move to Houston, Texas to live with family. Tammy loved Texas, especially line dancing on Friday nights. While in Texas, she took classes including a 10-key typing class that would later help her in her job at Baptist Medical Center in the accounting department. She later moved to Bakersfield, California, where she gave birth to her daughter, Jennifer. She ultimately decided to return to Jacksonville in 1986. She soon met her next-door neighbor, Tommy, and they ended up falling in love after Merry, her little sister, set them up. Tommy loved her and her cooking and they married February 21, 1987. Together, they had their daughter, Brittney.

Tammy relished the role of stay-at-home Mom and homeschooled her children Jennifer and Brittney through elementary school. She was energetic full of life, a prayer warrior, a woman of faith and loved God. In 1996, Tommy and Tammy decided they wanted to make more of a difference in life, so they chose to become houseparent's at the Baptist Home for Children. At any given time, Tammy would have 8-10 extra daughters to love and care for until they were either adopted or transitioned back into the arms of their family. Tammy has kept up with a lot of the girls that are now women from the Baptist Home and was fortunate to be "Granny Tammy" to their children. Tammy was the ideal role model for all her children to look up to and the epitome of strength. A testament to her strength is being an ovarian cancer survivor in 2007.

Most recently Tammy worked at Frontier Airlines, as the friendliest ticket agent and had a second job at Publix, a job in which she loved so much. People were drawn to Tammy because of her friendly disposition and kind spirit that was sprinkled with fun and laughter. She had a way of making everyone feel special, a gift that made the lives of everyone who knew her better.

Tammy had an entrepreneurial spirit and was always thinking of her next adventure. One of her biggest accomplishments was when she started a clothing and gift boutique, in Callahan, called Haley Caroline and Co. She most enjoyed getting to meet new people in her community. She initiated her own YouTube channel, called Forever Tammy Faye, and had well over 1,000 subscribers. On her channel she shared her love for southern cooking, crafting and shopping.

Tammy is preceded in death by her parents; sister Jean Forbes; brothers Terry Roberson, Timmy Roberson and Tony Roberson.

Tammy is survived by her loving husband of 35 years, Tommy Austin of Jacksonville; daughters Jennifer Crawford and Brittney (Bobby) Boyce; grandchildren Jacob Bowler, Levi Bowler and new grandchild due in February 2022; and her siblings Rocky Roberson, Jerry Roberson, Merry (Kenneth) Carroll and Sherry (Michael) Bates.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, September 8 at 5 p.m. prior to the celebration of Tammy's life at 6 p.m. at Nassau Funeral Home.

Arrangements under the direction of Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770.

Visit www.nassaufh.com to sign the family's guest book.