



Mrs. Elizabeth "Toni" Grebel

November 7, 1933 - August 20, 2019

Mrs. Elizabeth "Toni" Grebel, 85, of Albany died Tuesday Aug 20, 2019 at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital.

Her funeral service will be held Saturday 2:00PM at First Baptist Church of Albany with the interment to follow at Crown Hill Cemetery. The family will receive friends Friday from 6:00 to 8:00PM at Kimbrell-Stern.

> The youngest daughter of Ben and Thelma Burroughs, Toni was born in Savannah on November 7, 1933. Growing up in Savannah with her sister Jane, she attended Asbury Memorial Methodist Church and spent her summers on her grandparent's farm. After attending Savannah High School she moved, with her mother and sister, to Miami, Florida in 1950 and graduated from Miami High School. Beginning 33 years of life in Miami, Toni graduated from the Jackson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing with the intention of being a surgical nurse. But life intervened when her brother in law introduced her to Bob Grebel, a Miami firefighter and veteran of the Second World War. Marrying in 1954 she and Bob had three children, David, Robyn, and Susan. Intelligent, witty, and active, Toni was both a great mom and engaged friend. Active in the First Baptist Church of Perrine, she cheerfully accompanied the youth group of 50 teenagers in 1970 and rode her bicycle throughout Northern Europe.

> With her children grown and scattered throughout the south Toni and Bob decided to return to Georgia in 1983 and begin the next chapter of their lives. For the next 36 years Toni lived and served in Albany. In spite of just having heart surgery she played a significant role in feeding the hundreds of responders to the Albany flood in 1994. After joining First Baptist Church, and out of her deep faith in and love for her Lord Jesus Christ, she founded and managed the Father's Kitchen which provided a meal and a place to belong for her homeless and poor neighbors around First Baptist. After the church relocated she went to work with the Lord's Pantry where, as lead counselor, she knew and called by first name the many people she served.

> In her work, and in her life, Toni was caring, concerned about the needs of others, occasionally stern, and centered on her desire to make a difference. With Bob, and her friend Pam Nelson, she contributed to making her portion of Albany a more caring place.

> In addition to her work Toni continued to exercise her gift of hospitality by making her

home a center of love and activity for her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, friends, and the many others who needed her open heart and generosity. She provided a loving gathering place, and occasional sanctuary, for both her family and friends.

Christmas at grandma's became a key part of her family's life and she made certain that there was always a place for them.

> Toni was kind and willing to extend love to anyone she encountered. At her death on August 20, 2019 she embraced the words of her faith, "well done, good and faithful servant" as she joined the great cloud of witnesses that included her parents and her husband.

> Toni is remembered and deeply loved by her sister Jane Hawkins; her children David Grebel and his wife Katherine Godby, Robyn Spring, and Susan Byler and her husband Mark. Her stories will continue to be told by her grandchildren: Benjamin Lansford, Robert Grebel and his wife Jennifer Forester, Jessica Byler Burns and her husband Randy, Deborah Grebel-Becker and her husband Kevin Becker, the "triplets" Katie Grebel, Donnie Tollefson, and Luke Byler and his fiancé Callie Syfrett, and David Tollefson and his wife Nikki. Bringing bonus energy and love to Toni's life were her great grandchildren: Morgan Forester-Grebel, Lily Tollefson, Piper Edwards, and Eleanor Grebel-Forester. And most of all, she will be deeply missed by her dearest friend of almost 40 years Pam Nelson.

In lieu of flowers, you may make donations to the Lord's Pantry, 219 W. Society Ave., Albany, GA 31707.

You may sign our online guestbook and share your own special thoughts with the family of Mrs. Grebel by visiting Kimbrell-Stern's website at www.kimbrellstern.com.

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Cemetery

Crown Hill Cemetery

1907 Dawson Rd
Albany, GA, 31707

Events

AUG **Visitation** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

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Kimbrell-Stern

1503 Dawson Road, Albany, GA, US, 31707

AUG **Funeral Service** 02:00PM

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First Baptist Church Of Albany

145 Oakland Parkway, Leesburg, GA, US, 31763

Comments



“ I remember my mom Wynelle Powell helping with Father's Kitchen. Even when she moved with us here in Columbus she would go back and help. Toni was a very special friend of hers. I know her, Toni and Bob are now all home and having a good time. May God bless her family and friends!

Tommy Powell - August 25, 2019 at 05:16 PM



“ Ms. Toni was a beautiful Godly woman and a faithful servant of the Lord. I'll miss seeing her at the Lord's Pantry. I will continue to pray for God's peace and comfort. Know that one day we will see her in heaven. Dorothy Shirley

Dorothy Shirley - August 24, 2019 at 03:54 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Mrs. Elizabeth "Toni" Grebel.



August 23, 2019 at 08:15 PM



“ I'm going to very sorely miss sitting next to Grandmom every Sunday at church.

Hillary Parker - August 23, 2019 at 09:43 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Elizabeth "Toni" Grebel.



August 23, 2019 at 09:25 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mrs. Elizabeth "Toni" Grebel.



August 23, 2019 at 09:22 AM



“ I only met Toni a few times but she was a special lady. She was the center of her family and will surely be missed. She was an angel on Earth and God needed another angel in Heaven

Charlene Brooks - August 23, 2019 at 12:50 AM



“ It has been an honor and a blessing to have known and loved this wonderful person. I am sorry I am traveling and will not be able to express my sincerest condolences in person to the family. Please know that I am there in spirit.

Penni Ivy

Penni Ivy - August 22, 2019 at 03:22 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Elizabeth "Toni" Grebel.



August 22, 2019 at 02:36 PM



“ I loved working with Ms Toni at the Lord's Pantry. She was an inspiration to us all and a sympathetic ear for me. Will miss her a lot. Lou Chavers

Lou chavers - August 22, 2019 at 12:16 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Mrs. Elizabeth "Toni" Grebel.



August 21, 2019 at 10:41 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Elizabeth "Toni" Grebel.



August 21, 2019 at 09:34 PM



“ A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Elizabeth "Toni" Grebel.



August 21, 2019 at 09:12 PM



“ Your RAM Partners/Greystone Properties Family purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Mrs. Elizabeth "Toni" Grebel.



Your RAM Partners/Greystone Properties Family - August 21, 2019 at 12:24 PM



“ I met Ms Toni at the Lord's Pantry. She was always so nice to me she once gave me a gift card during the holidays. I always would think how eloquent she looked. I don't visit there often but when I did I would look forward to seeing her. Condolences to the family and friends.

Dorothy - August 21, 2019 at 11:49 AM



“ My first memory of Toni was seeing her in action at noon on Saturdays with the meal and devotion at First Baptist while downtown. Her servant heart and her dedication to feeding others both spiritually and with food still lingers. She and Bob were zealous in their efforts and such role models.

Janice Sheppard - August 21, 2019 at 09:26 AM



“ MR.MRS.JOHN&&SHERRY.IREAD THEOBITUARIES,AND JUST FOUND OUT ABOUT HER DEATH.MR.JOHN WORK WITH TONI AT JACKSONMEMORIAL HOSPITAL FOR 25 YRS,AND MOVED TO LEESBURG GA.IN 201 AND MET UP WITH HER AT THE LORDPANTRY,SHE WAS GLAD TO SEE JOHN.SLAUGHTER A GOOD FRIEND OF HER.SHE GOING TO BE MISS. FROM THE SLAUGHTER FAMILY IN LEESBURG GA.317 63

JOHN&SHERRYSLAUGHTER - August 23, 2019 at 09:49 PM