



Carolyn Braswell Holman

May 16, 1924 - January 20, 2022

Carolyn Braswell Holman was born on May 16, 1924, in the home of her maternal grandparents, William Miller Mathews and Carrie Cooper Mathews, in Fort Valley, Georgia. She was the first child born to Robert Samuel Braswell, Jr. and Mildred Elise Mathews Braswell.

Her early childhood was spent with her loving, extended family in Fort Valley where she and her paternal grandfather, Robert Samuel Braswell, Sr., shared great adventures on his farm, Nokomis, and in his dry goods store in town. He taught her many important life skills, including how to rig a fishing pole and hook a worm, how to make a corn cob pipe and find Indian tobacco to smoke; and, when she was the ripe old age of 9 years, how to drive a model T Ford. She shared many stories over the years of how they bounced and sputtered across the fields in that Model T while she learned the intricacies of changing gears and mastered her driving skills.

At 12 years old, Carolyn moved with her family to Waco, Texas, when her father was transferred with the Coca Cola Company, and at 17, in 1941, she was graduated from Waco High School.

With her life-long closest friends from Waco, Mary Fran, Jane, Ouizie, and Maggie, she entered the University of Texas in the fall of 1941, and all five of those inseparable girls pledged the Pi Beta Phi Sorority. Carolyn always claimed that the sorority wanted Mary Fran, but she wouldn't join without her best friends. That close friendship continued until the last of the girls passed away five years ago.

It was during her third year at UT that a friend introduced Carolyn to William Clinton Holman, Jr., a dashing pilot in the Army Air Corps who was in his final training assignment before deployment to Ipswich, England. (From that post, he flew 30 bombing missions in the European theater in World War II in support of allied ground troops.) After a brief courtship, they were married on March 19, 1944, just a couple of months before William's deployment. At the end of the War, Carolyn moved to Albany with her husband and her baby daughter, Hope.

Carolyn, along with her husband was an avid wild life and nature lover, and they belonged, for many years to the local Audubon Society. They spent many days "in the field" studying local and migratory bird populations as well as native plants and flowers.

As a member of the Albany Hospital League, later the Albany Jr. League, she was an enthusiastic participant the annual "Folies", an original musical production performed to raise money for Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital. And she could be found every week at the hospital, serving as a "candy striper", volunteering to assist patients and visitors.

Perhaps most important in her life were her faith and her church. Descended from a long line of Methodist, and a few Baptist, ministers, she was a long time member of First United Methodist Church in Albany and a dedicated member of the Fellowship Sunday School Class; and, perhaps in a spirit of ecumenism, an honorary member of Saint Cecelia's Guild at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, also in Albany.

After a lengthy and valiant fight against the onslaught of a terrible disease, Carolyn Holman passed from this earth at her home on Thursday, January 20, 2022. She was attended by her skilled and compassionate caregivers, Juanita Williams, Sharlotte Crimes and Vivian Byrd. And she was surrounded by her loving family.

She is preceded in by death by her husband of 66 years and by her brother Robert Samuel Braswell, III, of Waco, Texas. She is survived by her daughter, Hope Holman Campbell and her husband Bruce of Albany, her son William

Clinton Holman, III (Bill) of Albany, and her son Edward Vason Holman and his wife Lynn of Chester, Virginia. She is also survived by five granddaughters, Ella Fitzpatrick Campbell and her life partner Regina Baggs of Atlanta, Misty Dawn Holman and her life partner, Cara Rose Brewer of Las Vegas, Nevada, Carrie Preston Holman Malone and her husband Paul, and Megan Elizabeth Holman and Anna Grace Holman of Chester, Virginia. She has one great granddaughter, Bailey Lanier Malone of Albany and numerous nieces and nephews in Albany and in Waco, Texas.

Carolyn Holman's memorial service will be at 11 AM on Friday, January 28, 2022 at First United Methodist Church. The Rev. Jim Morrow will officiate. The family will receive friends prior to the service at First United Methodist Church beginning at 10 AM.

Those desiring may send memorials to First United Methodist Church, 307 Flint Ave., Albany, GA 31701.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 28. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First United Methodist Church
307 Flint Ave
Albany, GA 31701

Memorial Service

JAN 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

First United Methodist Church
307 Flint Ave
Albany, GA 31701

Tribute Wall

PM

“ So sorry we have lost a long time wonderful First United Methodist member, dear dear a Carolyn Holman. Her life was a blessing to so many! Prayers for her sweet family!

patsy martin - January 28, 2022 at 03:39 PM

AG

“ All of us at Mathews Furniture Galleries purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Carolyn Braswell Holman.



All of us at Mathews Furniture Galleries - January 27, 2022 at 09:19 AM



“ Mrs. Holman was my neighbor. She was always kind. We would talk outside in her backyard. I will miss her and I am praying for her family 🙏.

Kimberly Knighton - January 24, 2022 at 10:36 PM

WB

“ Dearest Hope---My thoughts are with you and your family. Rip & Carolyn both were strong influences in my childhood. Much Love William Bates

william bates - January 24, 2022 at 12:23 PM

JB

“ Carolyn and Rip always added so much fun and knowledge to any gathering. We especially enjoyed our Audubon meetings and field trips with them. Our prayers are with their family during this time of loss.

Jo Ann and Bill Bates

Jo Ann and Bill Bates - January 24, 2022 at 11:40 AM

FF

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Carolyn. I had the pleasure of knowing this beautiful woman from the YMCA. I was her fitness instructor. Carolyn was such an inspiration. She was a ray of sunshine! Beautiful inside and out.

My deepest sympathy for your loss. Thoughts and prayers for you all.

Fran Falcione - January 23, 2022 at 04:38 AM

EC

Thank you Fran, she loved exercise and loved the ladies who exercised with her even more. You were all such an important part of her life.

Ella Campbell - January 23, 2022 at 09:43 PM



“ Elena Taylor lit a candle in memory of Carolyn Braswell Holman



Elena Taylor - January 22, 2022 at 08:51 PM

EC

On behalf of the family, thank you for your kindness.

Ella Campbell - January 23, 2022 at 09:44 PM



Most welcome

Elena Taylor - January 25, 2022 at 05:04 PM

KA

“ *Vason, This is Keith Alderman. Just wanted you to know that you and your family are in my prayers.
Blessings,
Keith*

Keith Alderman - January 22, 2022 at 06:33 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Carolyn Braswell Holman.*



January 22, 2022 at 05:47 PM



“ *I am so sorry to learn of this sad news. I did not know Carolyn, but we are sisters in Pi Beta Phi. Bless all of you, her family. Arleeta Henry*

Arleeta Henry - January 22, 2022 at 02:32 PM

EC

Thank you for your kind words. Her Sisterhood was a bond that held her dearest friends together for their lifetime.

Ella Campbell - January 23, 2022 at 09:55 PM

FA

“ *She was one of the true Southern ladies left and a Dirt Road Sport!! She was a delight to this world and made it a better place! RIP*
Frank Ahouse

frank ahouse - January 22, 2022 at 07:28 AM

EC

On behalf of the family, thank you for your kind words. She was one of a kind!

Ella Campbell - January 23, 2022 at 09:55 PM

NR

“ *The Holman family has been special to the Reimer family since my childhood. I am saddened to hear this news as Carolyn and I visited every time we were shopping somewhere at the same time.*

Nancy Reimer - January 21, 2022 at 06:42 PM

EC

She never went anywhere that she didn't see a friend or make a friend!

Ella Campbell - January 23, 2022 at 09:58 PM

EC

“ Carolyn was a wonderful friend of Champion family for decades, but more she was a multi talented, very compassionate lady to her many diverse circles of friends. She outlived her also very talented husband W.C.Jr. "Rip" Holman.

She was younger than "Rip", J.P.Jr. "Bubba" & Jane Champion. Bubba's eyes and Jane's mind were failing but they were not forgotten by the Holmans.

What likely seemed a long time to Carolyn, she slipped away this cold January long after her pals were gone. She should have a large 'greeting committee' as she leaves us.

She and Rip were wonderful as Bubba's Macular Degeneration prevented him driving. Jane had a female familial dementia making her goofy. When they visited, often weekly, their laughter was so sweet.

As caregiver for my parents, those Holman visits allowed me to attend to parental and my own bill payments. Carolyn helped me convinced Jane to do auto pays for regular bills which was a huge blessing as Jane's monthly bills often were found stuck in books or catalogs going unpaid.

Carolyn & I would order their suppers out sometimes. As they ate, laughter was delightful to hear while I went thru up to 10 pounds of Jane's daily junk mail.

Also Bubba often got 1st Methodist Wed. Night supper plates for the group. All these were good but Carolyn's meals beat all. Rip would fetch Jane and Bubba and often Carolyn's delicious meal was awaiting them. What a treat that was!

My sincerest condolences to Hope, Bill, Vason and all the rest of Carolyn's human legacy.

Elizabeth Champion - January 21, 2022 at 06:04 PM

EC

Thank you for sharing such lovely memories. Your family is very dear to ours. Love to you.

Ella Campbell - January 23, 2022 at 09:57 PM

LD

It was a pleasure knowing Miss Carolyn. She was in the coffee club that always enjoyed her so dearly.

Larry & Barbara Delbridge

Larry & Barbara Delbridge - January 27, 2022 at 06:12 PM