



Ann Woodlief

DEC 11, 1943 - DEC 28, 2014



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Ann Woodlief

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Ann Woodlief (Willie Ann), 71 years old, of San Jose, CA, passed away peacefully at her home on December 28, 2014 after four decades of enduring a chronic illness, Sarcoidosis. She was a devoted mother and grandmother. Ann was born December 11, 1943 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana to Willie and Mary Winsey. She was baptized and attended Israelite Baptist Church in Baton Rouge and as a young teen, played the piano and organ for her church and at various other churches and functions. She attended McKinley High School graduating as Salutatorian of her class. She also attended Southern University in Baton Rouge. In 1961, she married Leroy Woodlief of Baton Rouge, and to their union had three children. They moved to California in 1963. Ann worked as a telephone operator for Pacific Bell while settling in San Francisco for a few years before they purchased their first home in Daly City, CA. There, Ann was a dedicated stay at home mom while her three children were school-aged. She volunteered as a Girl Scout troop leader, Boy Scout den mother, and at the schools her children attended as well as devoting time to her church. She continued her volunteerism and dedication to her children after the family moved to Milpitas in 1974. She was a wonderful seamstress and loved making clothing and costumes for her children and friends. Ann eventually began working at Syntex Pharmaceuticals (which later became Roche) in 1985 and retired as a Clinical Data Project Manager after 18 years of employment. She loved shopping, cooking, traveling, decorating her home, spending time with her children and grandchildren, and hearing from close family and friends. Ann was preceded in death by her parents, Willie and Mary Winsey, ex-husband Leroy Woodlief, sisters Mary Stringfellow, Juanita Winsey, Gloria Porter and Eloise Young. Ann leaves to mourn her passing; two sons and one daughter, Lee Woodlief, Victor Woodlief and Marva Gelesic, a dotting son-in-law, Bradley, three loving grandchildren, Tory Brundage, Alana Gelesic, Evan Gelesic, two sisters, Alma Carey and Lucinda Clark of Baton



Obituary

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Rouge, LA; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. She will be greatly missed. Thank you to all who have reached out to Ann Woodlief's family and offered condolences. Thank you to Skylawn Funeral Home and Memorial Park for their assistance. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research - stopsarcoidosis.org, 1820 W. Webster Ave., Suite 304, Chicago, IL 60614.



Tribute Wall

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ND

Nyla Dixon posted:

To the Woodlief Family, I will always remember how your Mom and I re-united through Facebook. It has been a joy talking with her over the years. She will truly be missed. May peace and comfort find you during this difficult time. We will keep all of you in our thoughts and prayers and continue to stay in touch. Your Cousin, Nyla P. Dixon & Family Douglasville, Georgia

January 2 at 11:39 AM

MH

Marvelyn Harris posted:

I will always remember my classmate from first grade through high school. Willie Ann was kind and generous. I still remember the days, we would walk to McKinley High School together laughing and talking about the events of the day. She was smart, studious, and she knew how to develop her ideals to accomplish her goals. I lost contact with my friend, but I would go to Baton Rouge I would ask about her. After our fiftieth class reunion, I made contact and visit with her and her children and grandchildren in San Jose. I thank God for the opportunities to visit with her. She was openly positive about her illness and never was depress. She had that great smile as if it was sunlight. I know she will be missed and a deep loss in the heart of her family and friends. Ann's love has touched many hearts and I pray that God will heal each heart and bless her memories forever. Marvelyn Alexander Harris (George) Mckinley High School Class of 1961

January 2 at 6:33 AM

MR

Mary Robinson posted:

It is very hard to say goodbye to my beautiful friend, Ms Ann. She wasn't an ordinary friend; she was like a mother to me. We enjoyed some wonderful times together; laughing, shopping, eating her great cooking, and admiring her creativity, especially the dresses she made for my daughters. She touched so many people's lives, so positively and leaves an amazing legacy behind. I regret that I'm not able to be there to give my farewell to my good friend. We'll miss her – but she will always be in our hearts and memories!! Victor, Marva, and Lee thanks for sharing your Mother with me. Her beautiful spirit will live on through you. She tried with all her heart to stay for you, but God called her, and she had to go. Remember to care for each other as she did for you. With much love, Mary Robinson & family

January 1 at 8:14 AM



Tribute Wall

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CB

Cora D. Brown posted:

I remember Ann for her love of her children and adored her grandchildren. I remember her for her style and for being a classy lady. Most of all I remember her for our friendship and sense of humor. You are truly blessed to have had a mother as sweet as she was and she was blessed to have children and grandchildren that appreciated and love her. I know she is happy and I am happy and sad for what I will miss of her. Rest in peace my Sista. Always your friend Cora

December 31 at 6:53 AM

CT

Christina Toste posted:

Victor and Family- Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. We love you Victor and we are always here for you

December 31 at 5:21 AM

SS

Sheila Simpson posted:

Ann was one of the most wonderful person I have ever met..She was a awesome friend to me while caring for her..she will always be in my heart and in my mind. She shared some of the most wonderful stories of her live..she was always happy and her stories filled me with laughter..I felt privileged to be her caregiver and friend.. I miss you my friend. .Rest in peace now!

December 31 at 4:58 AM

HO

Hoyt posted:

To the Woodlief Family: I extend to you my most sincere condolence during this time of great sadness. Ann was (and still is) a highly regarded, and very studious, member of our McKinley High School Class of 1961 and one who held the bar high for the rest of us. I regret very much your loss and know that only time and God's hand will begin to heal the anguish of such a loss. As Classmates, we missed Ann's presence at our recent 50th Anniversary Celebration but I believe, to an individual, we all realized that she was there very much in spirit. May God's peace be with you during this difficult time. Hoyt A. King Nashville, TN McKinley High School Class of 1961

December 31 at 3:45 AM



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KP

Kerry Moore-Perry posted:

Woodlief Family, Your Mama was a beautiful, wonderful, gentle soul. We loved her dearly and have some of the fondest memories of her when we all worked with her at Syntex/Roche. She will be sorely missed but I firmly believe what God says in that 'to be absent from the body, is to be present with The Lord.' Your Mom is at complete peace now and her love for you will continue forever. Warm regards, Kerry Moore-Perry

December 31 at 3:29 AM

BJ

Bishop Ernest L. Jackson posted:

Dear Woodlief Family, our thoughts and prayers are with you during this very difficult time. Ann fought a long and courageous fight. We prayed for her peace and her healing, and our prayers have been answered. Dear Ann is now resting peacefully – free from pain, free from suffering. Please know that we will continue to prayer for you asking that God will strengthen you during your time of sorrow. Grace and peace be with each of you. Bishop Ernest L. Jackson Grace Tabernacle Church San Francisco

December 30 at 4:54 PM

EV

Evelyne posted:

Our hearts and love go out to the whole Woodlief and Gelesic Families. We have known Ann for approximately 45 years and we enjoyed each others families through many memorable occasions. She will be missed . Ann will also be remembered very fondly! Very Sincerely, Evelyne, Tom, Werner and Family

December 30 at 2:10 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Ann by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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