



## Clara Zmuda Stader

March 31, 1960 - June 25, 2024

Clara Zmuda Stader, age 64 of Manassas, Virginia passed away Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at Prince William Medical Center, Manassas, Virginia.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Captain Edward Francis Zmuda, (USAF Ret.) and the wonderful, Matilda Zmuda.

Survivors include Clara's husband and best friend, Captain James Stader (USN Ret.), her son, Mark Stader and daughter in-law, Kristina Stader, daughter Jacqueline Stader Thring and son in-law, Edward Thring, her brother, Edward Zmuda, and two grandchildren, Archer and Naomi Thring.

We remember Clara as the most tenderhearted mother, devoted wife, caring grandmother ("Baba!"), and an all around loving and compassionate friend. Her kindness came alongside wise words that could soothe any soul while giving you the confidence to carry on stronger. From quilting to beekeeping, photography to geology, Clara's creativity and love for learning knew no bounds. Her passing has left a painful void that can never be replaced, but we can cherish all she's taught us and make her proud.

The family will receive friends and family from 6:00PM-8:00PM for visitation on Thursday, July 18, 2024 at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center Street, Manassas, Virginia. The funeral service will be held on Friday, July 19, 2024

at 11:00AM at All Saints Catholic Church, 9300 Stonewall Road, Manassas, Virginia followed by a 1:00PM interment at National Memorial Cemetery at Quantico.

Following the funeral events, please join Clara's family at 2:00PM for food and beverages at the National Museum of the Marine Corps, 1775 Semper Fidelis Way, Triangle, Virginia, to share stories, memories, and the love we shared for Clara.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 18. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home  
9609 Center St.  
Manassas, VA 20110  
(703) 257-6028  
pfh@piercefh.com  
<https://www.piercefh.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

JUL 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

All Saints Catholic Church  
9300 Stonewall Rd  
Manassas, VA 20110-2566  
(703) 368-4500

## Burial

JUL 19. 1:00 PM (ET)

Quantico National Cemetery  
18424 Joplin Road  
Triangle, VA 22172

## Reception

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JUL 19. 2:00 PM (ET)

National Museum of the Marine Corp  
1775 Semper Fidelis Way  
Triangle, VA

# Tribute Wall



“ *May you now Rest in Peace! Sending condolences and love to the family.* ”

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**Kimberly Caudle** - July 23, 2024 at 11:38 AM

“ I met Clara and her amazing family shortly after getting married and moving to Adak, Alaska. Clara was my first military spouse friend. Believe it or not, she worked for my husband, Dean, on the public works side (Dean would say it was more the other way around that he worked for her) and I worked for Jim on the construction side in the ROICC office.

Our paths crossed many times during our husbands' careers and even when we were not stationed near each other we spoke at length on the phone. Over the years when I would call, sometimes I would forget what coast we were all on and would wake Clara and Jim late at night. Upon those occasions Clara still would always chat with me.

When Jackie was young, and the family was stationed in Monterey, we all went to Disneyland where I purchased a Thumper stuffed animal. Jackie had me zip him up in our backpack with his head out so he would be able to see all that we were doing and be able to breath. I still have that Thumper stuffed animal and the memories flood back when I see him.

My family moved to Manassas when Clara, Jim, and kiddos were living in the house on Greeley Blvd. We saw a lot of each other during those five years. Anyone who met Clara would find out quickly that Clara loved estate sales. Clara was always on the hunt for a good deal. I lost count of how many estate sales we attended during those years.

Clara was a kind soul, with an infectious laugh and was always there to get you through a rough spot with grace and guidance. Clara helped make me a better wife, mother, friend, and human over the years.

I spoke with Clara a few days before she passed. We laughed and giggled over our shared memories during that call. I even heard Jim in the background yelling, "Is that Corie?" Clara responded, with that dry joking tone, that yes, it was Corie and we spoke until she was tired and needed to take a break.

I will miss her kindness, love, and friendship every day. My heart and love go out to her family and friends during this time of sorrow.

Corie - July 22, 2024 at 06:17 PM

KI

“ I only have such fond memories of Clara....she was a gymnastics mom and a dear friend of mine in Hawaii. The one thing I remember specifically about her was her words of wisdom. I learned so many things about Navy wife life, mom life and just overall how to live life smarter! She visited me in Va Beach one year, around 2000 and it was so wonderful to see her after so many years from our time in HI. I cannot fathom the loss of such an amazing caring woman, you all have my deepest of sympathies. Until I see you again one day Clara, you rest now.... Kim Bair (Brittany's mom from HGA & HITS)

kim - July 18, 2024 at 09:29 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.



July 18, 2024 at 04:04 PM

AR

“ All our love, Tresa, Matt and Ryan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Zmuda Stader.

All our love, Tresa, Matt and Ryan - July 18, 2024 at 04:04 PM

KS

“ Karla S. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Zmuda Stader.

Karla S. - July 18, 2024 at 01:58 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.



July 17, 2024 at 09:21 PM



“ Fred, Annie, Mary, and Ken Paul planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Zmuda Stader.

**Fred, Annie, Mary, and Ken Paul** - July 17, 2024 at 09:21 PM



“ Kurt and Robin Stein purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.



**Kurt and Robin Stein** - July 16, 2024 at 04:31 PM



“ Kurt and Robin Stein planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Zmuda Stader.

**Kurt and Robin Stein** - July 16, 2024 at 04:31 PM

TF

“ *The Bill and Michelle Stader Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Zmuda Stader.*

The Bill and Michelle Stader Family - July 16, 2024 at 01:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.*



July 16, 2024 at 01:28 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.*



July 16, 2024 at 10:10 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.*



July 16, 2024 at 06:18 AM

MW

“ Melissa and John Wangsgard planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Zmuda Stader.

Melissa and John Wangsgard - July 16, 2024 at 06:18 AM

PC

“ Peggy Craig purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.



Peggy Craig - July 16, 2024 at 02:25 AM

TD

“ Thomas D. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Zmuda Stader.

Thomas D. - July 15, 2024 at 12:05 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.



July 15, 2024 at 10:09 AM

MB

“ Melyssa B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Zmuda Stader.

Melyssa B. - July 15, 2024 at 09:21 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.



July 14, 2024 at 04:38 PM

JT

“ Jim and Sharon Truesdell purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.



Jim and Sharon Truesdell - July 13, 2024 at 01:22 PM

LN

“ Love, John and Denise Nesius purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.



Love, John and Denise Nesius - July 12, 2024 at 04:30 PM

LN

“ Love, John and Denise Nesius planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Zmuda Stader.

Love, John and Denise Nesius - July 12, 2024 at 04:30 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.



July 12, 2024 at 04:01 PM

LG

“ Love Theresa, Billy, Theo, Quinn, Grace planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Zmuda Stader.

Love Theresa, Billy, Theo, Quinn, Grace - July 12, 2024 at 04:01 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.



July 11, 2024 at 08:24 PM

TS

“ 7 files added to the album *Memories of Mom*



Thomas Stader - July 06, 2024 at 11:44 AM

JS

“ 19 files added to the album *Memories of Mom*



Jennie Stader - July 04, 2024 at 12:42 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.



July 04, 2024 at 11:09 AM

KC

“ It's so hard to believe that Clara is no longer physically with us. She's left a void no one else can ever fill. Jim, Jackie & Mark--you're in our thoughts & prayers.

Our family first met Clara in Hawaii when Jim & I were assigned to the CINCPACFLT staff in the mid to late 1990's. Our 2 families were among the 40 or so families lucky enough to live on Ford Island in the middle of Pearl Harbor. Life on Ford Island was idyllic for kids and their parents if they could live on "ferry time". Ned, Matt & I developed a close friendship with all of the Staders that continued long after we left Hawaii. At the heart of that friendship was Clara. She was such a welcoming person...unflappable...comfortable in her own skin...nurturing & supportive of Jackie & Mark and their passions...quick to support other Navy spouses/families...the hostess of legendary Christmas parties....and Jim's full partner throughout his career & into retirement. No matter how long it had been since our last talk/meeting, it was so easy to pick up where we left off with Clara. I will miss that. I am so glad we got to know & be friends with her.

*Fair Winds & Following Seas Clara. A Hui Hou (until we meet again).*

*Kathy, Ned & Matt (A Cummings & 2 Wolfes)*

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**Kathy Cummings** - July 03, 2024 at 06:54 PM

BM

“ Jim, Jackie, Mark and Ed,  
I am very sorry for your loss. Know that Clara loved you with all her heart and will always be with you. Jim, a favorite memory of you and Clara is you dancing on the stage at Saint Mary's. Still don't know how she got you to dance in front of all those girls. Berta Molina

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**Berta Molina** - July 03, 2024 at 12:51 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Clara Zmuda Stader.*



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July 01, 2024 at 08:06 PM



“ *Jim and Clara have been the absolute best neighbors, and my fondest memories of Clara have been chatting with her as she was headed in or our, passing by, sharing a bit about our day or grandkid news. She was proud of her kids and always excited to talk about the new baby on the way. Clara was the only person "authorized" :) to feed our horses carrots, and she would come by with the biggest carrots that I've ever seen, saying that she saved this or that one for them. My cat always spent more time over at her house than at mine. She was an animal lover, and a really good person. I'm only sorry that I did not get to know her better. Hugs to Jim and the entire family.*

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**Shannyn Snyder** - July 01, 2024 at 11:33 AM



“ *Clara will be wonderfully remembered and forever missed by all who knew her. She was generous, loving and always kind. As a military spouse, her strength and support knew no bounds and as a mother, her love and admiration for her children was unconditional. My heart and prayers are with you, Jim, Jackie and Mark.*



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**Theresa Folinusz** - June 30, 2024 at 09:22 PM

JN

“ Our prayers and condolences to Jim, Jackie and Ed, Mark and Kristina and family... dear Clara... what an amazing military spouse/mother, friend, neighbor, creative quilt artist, and customer/guest many times to my community growing business... you are deeply missed. Thank you for your kind thoughtfulness, family service to our nation, with many dedicated years of club service and exemplary events' hospitality. Your service loyalty to our nation, and patronage to small community business, generosity and friendship made a difference to so many through the years, and your legacy of family, service to others and creativity will live on. A woman who was a great example to all, it was an honor to call you friend. Our deepest sympathy to the family, and prayers continue to be with you all.

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**John and Denise Nesius** - June 30, 2024 at 11:33 AM

JT

“ 6 files added to the album Memories of Mom



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**Jackie Thring** - June 29, 2024 at 07:44 PM

JN

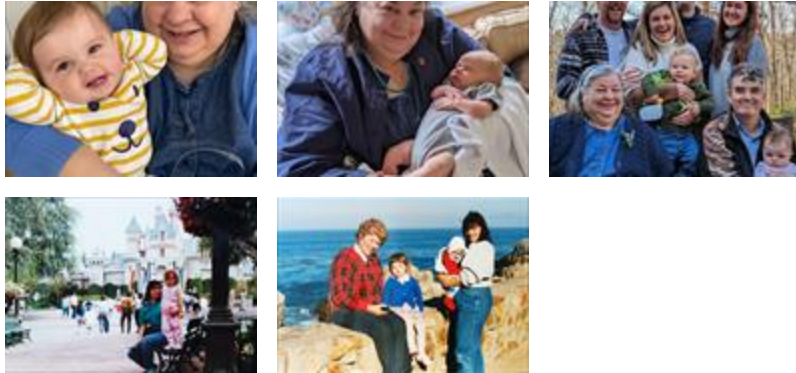
*Thanks for sharing your photo memories, so beautiful! We are so sorry for your loss, Jackie and Mark. A mother's love lives on forever in loving memories, in the heart and in the mind. Hugs and Love!*

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**John and Denise Nesius** - June 30, 2024 at 11:40 AM

JT

“ 20 files added to the album *Memories of Mom*



Jackie Thring - June 29, 2024 at 12:50 PM

RG

*So sorry for your loss Jim, Mark, Jackie and families! Thank you for sharing these pictures, brings a smile to our faces as we remember our dear friend! May happy memories comfort you too! Clara loved you all so much! ☐. With sincere condolences. Rhonda & Chuck Geyer*

Rhonda Jean Geyer - June 29, 2024 at 01:05 PM

JL

“ *Condolences to Jim and Family. Clara has been a caring and supportive God mother to Stephanie and the Lara family.*



joe lara - June 28, 2024 at 08:05 PM

JN

*Beautiful, we miss Clara too, such a great neighbor and friend who is missed dearly!*

John and Denise Nesius - June 30, 2024 at 11:43 AM

RG

“ Clara and family lived next door to us in West Springfield, VA. Our kids went to the same schools and participated in many after school activities & sports together. Clara was the best neighbor anyone could ever ask for! A beautiful soul with a huge heart, she was always willing to help anyone at anytime! When our kids rowed WSHS Crew together, Clara ran the entire transportation coordination program for the crew team for which she affectionately earned the title of “Carpool Clara”.

Clara’s love of family and strength in spirit were evident while raising her family and more recently put to test with her support of Jim during his health crisis. Being a wife, mother and grandmother were her greatest joys.

Our entire family mourns her passing and will miss Clara. We will always cherish the fond memories we shared as neighbors and dear friends.

*The Geyer Family*

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**Rhonda Jean Geyer** - June 28, 2024 at 04:07 PM

DD

“ Clara was a friend of my mom's though quilting and eventually became my friend too. She was so kind, loving and always available when my mom passed. We have stayed in touch since I moved. Clara was beside herself with her cute grandson and was so proud of her children. Clara was a great friend to everyone she met. RIP my friend, you will be missed.

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**Diane Dufresne-Morvay** - June 28, 2024 at 03:27 PM

BB

“ Clara and I were friends thru quilting. We loved looking at the Community Service quilts that were donated from members of Stone House Quilters Guild and talking about the quilts that we were working on. Clara was a lovely and kind person. She will be missed.

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**Brenda Baughman** - June 28, 2024 at 12:59 PM

RB

“ Such a sweet and loving soul. We at Stone House Quilt Guild will miss you.  
Rae Brady

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**Rae A Brady** - June 28, 2024 at 09:42 AM

KC

“ I knew Clara through our love of quilting. She was a kind and giving soul. I will treasure her memory. It was a privilege to call her my friend.  
Kathy Coleman

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**Kathy Coleman** - June 28, 2024 at 08:57 AM