



## Gertrud Burner Fields

January 4, 1927 - August 27, 2017

Gertrud Burner Fields passed away peacefully and surrounded by love on August 27, 2017. The daughter of Willie and Elsa Schulz, she was born on January 4, 1927 and spent her early years in Walldürn, Germany. As a teenager, she moved with the family to Heidelberg.

It was there she met and married Joseph Burner, an American soldier, shortly after the war ended. She arrived in the U.S. on July 4, 1950 and they eventually settled in Roanoke, Virginia, where they raised their daughters. Unfortunately, Joe died at a young age of Leukemia in 1971. Gerdi continued to raise her daughters while also obtaining an associate's degree in bookkeeping.

On January 18, 1975, she married Bill Fields, who for the next forty-two years was a dedicated and loving spouse, and remains an adoring father and grandfather to her three daughters and three granddaughters. Gertrud and Bill traveled the world together and lived alternately in Virginia and Florida. During her life, she touched many people with her affection and humor. She made life-long friends, including fellow war brides and quite a few "adopted" daughters.

She is preceded in death by first husband, Joseph Burner, a granddaughter, Alexis, and a great granddaughter, Miraculous Faith.

Gertrud is survived by Bill and various relatives in Germany including her two younger brothers, Willibald and Freddie. Carrying on her legacy is daughter Susan and husband Al, granddaughter Nicole and her husband Randy –

daughter Deborah and granddaughter Zandra – daughter Theresa and her fiancé Danny, granddaughter Alyssa and her husband Laurie.

A funeral Mass will be held on November 4 at 11:00 am at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Gainesville, VA, where a new stained-glass window she commissioned will be dedicated. A reception will follow at Heritage Hunt Golf and Country Club Mountain View Room 6901 Arthur Hills Drive also in Gainesville.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Capital Caring, [www.capitalcaring.org](http://www.capitalcaring.org), 24419 Millstream Drive, Aldie, V.A. 20105.

[https://secure2.convio.net/cc1/site/Donation2;jsessionid=00000000.app260a?idb=254471334&DONATION\\_LEVEL\\_ID\\_SELECTED=1&df\\_id=1800&mfc\\_pref=T&1800.donation=form1&NONCE\\_TOKEN=F3CC9342693C4928A7AF0CF61CD413D7&idb=0](https://secure2.convio.net/cc1/site/Donation2;jsessionid=00000000.app260a?idb=254471334&DONATION_LEVEL_ID_SELECTED=1&df_id=1800&mfc_pref=T&1800.donation=form1&NONCE_TOKEN=F3CC9342693C4928A7AF0CF61CD413D7&idb=0)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Mass

NOV 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Catholic Church  
8213 Linton Hall Rd  
Gainesville, VA 20155-2997  
(703) 753-6700

# Tribute Wall

DE

“ 1 file added to the album *Hospice paver*



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**deborah** - October 06, 2017 at 11:45 AM

DE

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**deborah** - October 06, 2017 at 11:44 AM

DB

“ My friends have been sending condolences and memories via text and email. I just wanted to share some of the comments from those who grew up with her and some who knew her later in life:

*"I just laughed out loud remembering her lesson to you on how to load a dishwasher properly"*

*"She was a special lady!"*

*"I have fond memories of your Mom. We never could fool her!"*

*"So glad I got to meet her, she was an amazing woman"*

*"I feel like there were so many references to your mom during my time working with you. I know she made you the strong woman you are"*

*Mom made a major impact on this planet and will never be forgotten!*

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**Deborah Burner** - September 20, 2017 at 11:42 AM

DB

“ 6 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Deborah Burner** - September 14, 2017 at 10:31 AM

RJ

“ As a young boy Aunt Gertie and Uncle Joe were two people I greatly looked up to. They were "cool", before being cool was cool. We would sometimes visit them and their girls in Roanoke, which was always fun. I was a little frightened by Aunt Gertie as a young boy because I misunderstood her German nature and tone of expression. I thought she was being harsh and rough toward me, when in fact, she was being very expressive and animated, just being her wonderful self. When I attended our last family reunion in Raleigh 5 years ago (or thereabouts) I told her this story. Again, very expressively, she said "Oh no Ray. I am so sorry I came across that way. I have always loved you boys and wanted the best for you." Then she laughed and said "you crazy boy!" I told her I understand now and I'm a little slow in learning things some times. We laughed together about it and talked about old times. I salute you Aunt Gertie. There will always be only one Aunt Gertie and I will miss you. I won't tell you Good-Bye. I'll just say, see you later.  
Ray Jones (son of Mary Burner, Joe Burner's sister)

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**RAYMOND JONES** - September 01, 2017 at 08:57 PM

DB

*Such a sweet story, so glad you had that moment at the reunion.*

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**Deborah Burner** - September 05, 2017 at 01:48 PM