



Ulysse Lancaster Butler

June 13, 1933 - August 30, 2022

Ulysse Lancaster Butler left the earth she loved to join God in heaven on August 30th 2022. She was 89 years old.

She was born on June 13th 1933 in Biloxi, Mississippi to Robert Lancaster and Ernestine Desporte. Ulysse lived a lively, imaginative childhood on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi, Key West, Florida and in the mountains of Floyd, Virginia and Sewanee, Tennessee while her father served his country, pursued his studies and work. She shared wonderful memories of her time living with her beloved grandmothers on the Gulf Coast and in the mountains of Virginia.

Ulysse graduated college from the University of North Carolina, in Chapel Hill and taught the fourth grade. She married Andrew P. Butler and moved to Manassas, Virginia in 1961 where she raised 5 children. Many happy summers were spent with her family at a small cottage on the Rappahannock river fishing and crabbing. She worked at Northern Virginia Community College bookstore and attended the George Mason University School of Nursing.

In 1987 Ulysse moved into a log cabin at Lake Monticello in Palmyra, Virginia and lived there for 25 years. She shared her home with many stray animals and creatures that happened to look like they needed comfort and a meal.

She loved all creatures great and small, except a snake. She volunteered to teach art at the local elementary school because they did not have an art teacher.

One constant throughout Ulysse's life was a love of stories. She was a voracious reader, writer of stories, and an enthusiastic storyteller. Her love for books began at age 3 when her father gave her a copy of All The Mowgli Stories and read it to her at night before bed. She often shared stories of family and friends that had touched her life and could spark your imagination with tales from history; her ability to recall events and dates was remarkable. Often, she would draw pictures in a journal and then write a short story or poem to go with it. Writing letters and sending cards to family was a form of art for her.

Most of her adult life Ulysse had a large vegetable garden and knew the names of many trees, plants, and wildflowers, particularly those that contributed to sustaining life on a mountain farm. Even as her memory faded, she could recite the names of all the old-fashioned apple trees in the orchard on the family farm in Floyd, Virginia where she lived for a time as a child.

Ulysse was kind and gentle, loved to laugh, and was "cheerful in all weather".

She is survived by six children and their spouses, 13 grandchildren, and 17 great grandchildren. We will carry her in our hearts forever.

Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, you can honor her memory with a donation to: Fluvanna County SPCA, 5239 Union Mills Rd., Troy, VA 22974

Tribute Wall

BC

“ *Our across the street neighbor, I loved when Ulysse would bring out her guitar and sing for us. Made my childhood.*
Bobbie Latimer Cloud

Bobbie Cloud - October 05, 2022 at 07:05 PM

LB

“ *When Dick and I moved to Prince William County, Ulysse and Pick made us so welcome and introduced us to so many wonderful Manassas natives. She was a wonderful Mother and a wonderful hostess. Know she will be missed. Libba Beamer*

Libba Beamer - September 23, 2022 at 09:56 AM

DW

“ *I never had the great pleasure of meeting your Mom when we were in school together Lisa. I've read so many wonderful posts speaking of her kindness, energy, and love. I pray you and your loved ones take comfort in knowing she is now in a place we can only imagine.* ❤️



Debra Williams - September 22, 2022 at 08:33 PM

SH

“ *Ulysse was a wonderful neighbor when we lived in Manassas. We had such fun trips together to Puerto Rico and the Greenbrier years ago. Our Children were constantly together on North Main Street. Sending Love and Sympathy to Drew, Rob, Lisa, Taz and Ruthie.*
The Hook Family

Sylvia Hook - September 22, 2022 at 06:34 PM