



Frances Keel Pope

April 8, 1936 - April 16, 2004

Frances Keel Pope, 68, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend was ushered into heaven on Friday, April 16, 2004 with her family at her bedside.

She was a member of Nansemond River Baptist Church where she taught Sunday School, sang in the choir, and served as president of the Women's Missionary Union. She was an area representative for the Portsmouth and Virginia Beach Christian Women's Clubs, and former chairwoman of Tidewater After 5, of Stonecroft ministries. Frances was also a member of The Dick Barnes Chorale, and the Yes, Lord Ensemble. She graduated magna cum laude from Old Dominion University with a B.S. in Business Administration, and was a member and officer of the Delta Sigma Lambda Alumni sorority. With more than thirty years of civil service, she retired from the Naval Aviation Depot, as an accountant.

Fran is survived by her husband William T. Pope, Jr.; children Marc E. Smith and Vanessa, Traci S. Ramsey and Crae, Dolores P. Nix, Kenneth W. Pope and Christine; grandchildren Josse, Ethan, Natalie, Elias, Cameron; sister Grace Keel Jones and Monty; brothers Robert B. Keel and Paige, Clarence W. Keel and Linda, Tony Keel and Debbie; a special sister-in-law Libby; "Adopted Brother" Grady Pitts; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. She was predeceased by her parents Annie Keel Garnes and J. W. "Willie" Keel, Sr. and a brother James W. Keel, Jr.

A more loving and giving person you could never find. Frances lived her life in

the example of Christ. Graced with the ability to touch people's lives, she put her talents to use through her music, public speaking, and an amazing social warmth. Throughout her seven and a half year battle with cancer, she continued to inspire those around her. Words fail to sum up a life so full, an example so rich, a faith so strong. So loving, so loved. Our hearts are saddened for we will surely miss her. Godspeed.

A funeral will be conducted on Monday, April 19 at 2 pm at Nansemond River Baptist Church by Brother Tim Piland with burial at Greenlawn Memorial Gardens. The family will also receive friends at the church on Sunday, April 18 from 3 pm to 4:30 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Nansemond River Baptist Church Building Fund, 2896 Bridge Road, Suffolk, VA 23435.

Tribute Wall



“ Ray and I are so very sorry. Frances was a very special, warm and loving person. Prayers are with you and your great family.##imported-begin##Ray and Judy Cohoon##imported-end##

April 21, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To the family of Frances, your wife, mother and grandmother was a true servant of Jesus. As a former members of Nansemond River Baptist Church and Portsmouth Alliance Church. We enjoyed, Frances singing and sharing her many talents to the Glory of God. We were also blessed to know her sister Grace and the love they shared for God and family.
With sincere sympathy and love
Elmer and Margaret Kohlhafer##imported-begin##Elmer and Margaret Kohlhafer##imported-end##

April 21, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Although I never had the pleasure of meeting this woman, I do have the honor of knowing her son, Marc Smith. He is so special in so many of our lives, and I am glad to know the reflections of her work. My sincerest condolences to all family members in their time of grief. Godspeed.##imported-begin##Sheri Guess##imported-end##

April 20, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts & prayers are with you & yours. She will be greatly missed by many.

Please accept our apologies for not attending the services but we were out of the country and were unaware.

*Lots of Love,
Wayne & Susan Simpson
aka Renee Pope###imported-begin##Wayne & Susan Simpson
Renee Pope###imported-end##*

April 20, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ The write up in today's paper was so fitting of Frances. I got to know her through DSL Sorority. I was glad that I saw her just after Hurricane Isobel at Leigh Hospital, and we caught up with one another. I enjoyed every conversation with her, and was sorry to read of her parting from her earthly family, yet rejoicing that we will be together one day with our Heavenly Father and family in Glory. My prayers are with her family at this time.###imported-begin##Diane White###imported-end##

April 19, 2004 at 12:00 AM