



Mary Lou Taylor

July 22, 2022

Mary Lou Taylor, 85, passed away at her home on Friday, July 22, 2022, surrounded by her family.

Born in Waycross, Georgia to Reginald and Inez Sweat, Mary Lou's family relocated to Portsmouth, Virginia, when she was a young girl. She attended Woodrow Wilson High School (class of 1955) and after graduation she began working at Southern Candy Co., where she met and eventually married her first husband, Norman "Ned" Lynnwood Abbott, Jr. She also served as the secretary for Churchland Elementary School and the Portsmouth City Treasurer before retiring in 1992.

Several years after the passing of her husband Ned, Mary Lou married John M. Taylor, also of Portsmouth, Virginia. Together, they enjoyed 9 years of joyful retired life, bouncing between their cottages in Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina, their river-front home in Portsmouth, and cruising the Chesapeake Bay on their boat, "Shu-Shu." Shortly after John's death, Mary Lou became a grandmother. Over the last 20+ years, three additional grandchildren joined her family, crowning her with the nicknames Banma and Bebo.

Mary Lou was preceded in death by her first husband Ned Abbott, her second husband John M. Taylor, and her sister Latrelle Sweat Hill.

She is survived by her sons Greg (Sandra) and Chris (Valerie), her grandchildren Christopher, Jonathan, Mary Clare and Bridie, and her brother, Reginald Sweat (Donna).

A graveside service will take place at 1:00 PM on Monday, August 8 at Meadowbrook Memorial Gardens in Suffolk, Virginia, with Reverend John Cole II officiating.

Friends are encouraged to share memories and offer words of condolence with the family.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Centenary United Methodist Church in Portsmouth or the Cancer Research Institute.

Cemetery Details

Meadowbrook Memorial Gardens

4569 Shoulders Hill Road
Suffolk, VA 23435

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

Meadowbrook Mem. Gardens Chapel
Suffolk, VA US 23703
Suffolk, VA 23703

Tribute Wall

VD

“ We have such fond memories of Mary Lou and John fishing off the end of Cypress Cove Pier . It didn't matter if they caught anything .It was obvious how much they loved being together ,having fun and counting thier :Blessings !
Rest in Peace,
Mike and Valarie Dobson



Valarie Dobson - August 07, 2022 at 07:52 AM

WK

“ We have many fond memories of sharing meals with Mary Lou on Friday nights with the bunch.and sometimes just the 3 of us. She was a good conversationalist . We will miss being with her. Sue & Bill Knowles

William Knowles - August 06, 2022 at 05:36 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Taylor.



August 05, 2022 at 01:45 PM

CR

“ I will always remember the good times we had as children playing in New Gosport and then finding ourselves back together again raising our children on Shannon Rd. I will cherish our many late night telephone talks, too. Love and God's blessings to her beautiful family. Carol Robinson

Carol Robinson - August 04, 2022 at 06:28 PM

BG

Mary Lou and I have been friends for about 60 years and have lived close to each other in two different neighborhoods. Our children have remained friends as have Mary Lou and I. I will miss her greatly but know that she no longer suffers and is at peace. Sending my love and sympathy to her family. Barbara Anne Goldman

Barbara Anne Goldman - August 06, 2022 at 04:45 PM

BJ

Mary Lou came into my life when her son, Chris, married my daughter Valerie in 1999. A Long Island Mom and a Virginia Mom may have had little in common until they were connected by their children --- and we were never at a loss for something to brag about. Especially since we also shared in two amazing granddaughters together. Mary Lou, your sparkle, your vivaciousness, your beauty and you fabulous personality will be sorely missed. Thank you for always being so lovely and welcoming - Especially when we shared Thanksgivings and Christmases with our families. Bless your heart ❤️ and to Chris, Greg, Valerie and Sandra and your children- I am so sad you have lost this very special Mother and Grandmother. Her shoes can never be filled ... but the memories she has left behind, you will find are priceless.
Love to you all,
Barbara "Nana" James

Barbara James - August 07, 2022 at 07:36 PM