



Mary Deoppe McManus

December 10, 2023

Mary Elizabeth McManus, nee Deoppe, was called home to be with her Lord and Savior on Sunday, December 10, 2023, at her home in Portsmouth, Virginia. Mary had many careers in her time, always talking about what she “was going to be when she grew up”. She was a zookeeper primarily focusing on the lions and buffalo at the Virginia Zoo in Norfolk after her first time graduating college, followed by being a RADCON (Radiation Control Team) yard bird at Norfolk Naval Shipyard both locally and wherever the government sent her until the birth of her first child. At that point, Mary decided to become a teacher so that she could spend the summers with her children and have an inside of the education system while still being able to be a stay-at-home mom for a time and go to and graduate college a second time. Following her much-celebrated retirement from Portsmouth Public Schools and having taught at Waters Middle School and Churchland High School, Mary continued her education once again and was most recently a certified tax accountant at Lila James’ Tax Services. Mary was not only incredibly quick-witted and intelligent but also highly educated. She held a bachelor’s degree in animal sciences from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg and was a dedicated Hokie. She also held a NAVSEA Article 108 technical certificate issued by Norfolk Naval Shipyard, a master’s degree in education from Old Dominion University, a bachelor’s degree in math from Norfolk State University and a host of accounting and tax certifications from Tidewater Community College.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Robert Neal McManus; mother, Ruby Estelle Deoppe nee Duncan; her father, John Elvin Deoppe; an older sister, Katherine Ann Deoppe; an older brother, John Edward Deoppe; and her nephew, Jason William McManus.

She is survived by her children, Summer Brooke McManus, and Christopher Duncan McManus; two brothers-in-law, David William and his wife, Jan McManus, and Lee Emerson McManus; and three nephews, Matthew McManus, Christopher Smith, and David Smith.

Mary also leaves behind a host of friends as near as dear to the family including but certainly not limited to Sonya Inman, Donna and Elmer Woodard, and John Pasquale, and loved “adopted children” from her time as a teacher. There is a horde of pets passed over the years that most certainly met her at the gates with Rob, and she will be missed by her dogs, Anubis (Doobie) and Ira, and her cat, Lucy.

Mary was a devout born-again Christian who was passionate about life. She enjoyed gardening, fishing, crabbing, and camping and was always down to doing the craziest things! She was an exquisite baker and could create absolute wonders of gingerbread for Christmastime, homemade, of course. She read avidly and was a major fan of Tom Clancy, Dan Brown, and Clive Cussler. She made sure to try to instill in her children a love for literature of all types. She was an animal lover through and through, as shown by her work at the Zoo, her time working with domestic animals, and her pets throughout the years.

There will be a visitation on Thursday evening, December 14, 2023, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at Loving Funeral Home, where the family will receive friends. There will be a service on Friday morning, December 15, 2023, at 9:30 am at Loving Funeral Home, followed by a committal ceremony at Meadowbrook

Memorial Gardens. Both services are public.

Cemetery Details

Meadowbrook Memorial Gardens

4569 Shoulders Hill Road
Suffolk, VA 23435

Previous Events

A Visitation Celebrating Her Life

DEC 14. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)

Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel
3225 Academy Ave
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Funeral Service

DEC 15. 9:30 AM (ET)

Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel
3225 Academy Ave
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Tribute Wall

HA

“ I graduated from Norcom with her. She was very smart and friendly. I should have had her as a math tutor. Anne Doyle Hauer class of 78

Hauer Anne - January 09, 2024 at 10:00 PM

LM

“ Laurel Cooke Miles sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Deoppe McManus



Laurel Cooke Miles - December 16, 2023 at 06:17 PM

LM

“ Sending deepest condolences to her family and friends. My prayers and love are with you all. God will have his arms wrapped around you giving you comfort.



Laurel Cooke Miles - December 16, 2023 at 06:15 PM

JP

“ Mary touched a lot of lives in her altogether too short time on this Earth. She loved God, her family, her pets (and other people's pets), her garden, the beach, her country, her books and her naps. I've known her a very long time, and am thankful for her friendship. Too say she will be missed is a major understatement. Fair winds and following seas



John Pasquale - December 16, 2023 at 01:06 PM

GG

“ Worked a long time with Mary. She was a great coworker and a great friend. She always made the job better just by her presence. She will be greatly missed.

Gary Gard - December 14, 2023 at 09:09 PM

RC

“ My heart and thoughts are with the McManus and Deoppe families. I've known Mary since High School. She was very smart and could accomplish anything. I was always so proud of her when she went to VA Tech. Even though we lost touch through the years, I'll always have fond memories and remember the good times and laughs. I'm sure she will continue to live in all of our hearts and memories, reminding us of the love and joy she brought into our lives.

Ron Cope - December 14, 2023 at 05:14 PM

SM

Thank you so much for your sweet sentiment. We heard stories of Ron and Donald Cope growing up and I'm sure we have pictures of y'all just unsure who is who.

Summer McManus - December 14, 2023 at 08:55 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Deoppe McManus.*



December 14, 2023 at 06:05 AM