



## Ruth Ann Burnett

March 4, 1953 - June 14, 2023

Ruth Ann Bearer Burnett, 70, of Mooresville, passed away on Wednesday, June 14, 2023.

She was born on March 4, 1953, in Ligonier, PA to the late Louis and Mary Kennedy Bearer.

Ruth spent her life in the service of others. Ruth was a stay at home mom in Florida while her daughters were young. When the family relocated to North Carolina in the 1980s, Ruth started her 20+ year career as a NC State Employee. As a librarian in elementary and middle schools within Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school system, Ruth had a gift of finding books that ignited the love of reading in her students, even ones who didn't like to read. She transitioned into the Secretary/Treasurer at Kennedy Middle School and used her role to connect with more students and help them grow.

After relocating to Mooresville, Ruth began working at UNC Charlotte, where she spent the majority of her career developing and running the Technology Transfer office. Whether she was a patent paralegal or the acting director, Ruth always looked for ways to engage students and connect them with opportunities. She was the co-creator of the Five Ventures Program which was founded to help early-stage UNC Charlotte student -led businesses grow.

Ruth used her retirement to do the things she loved: spending time with family, especially her grandchildren, working in her flower gardens and cooking up

delicious meals. She would often wear a bright colored ballcap when she went out so she could be spotted easily by her grandchildren. Ruth was direct, honest and stood up for who and what she believed in. She will be missed by many.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, Brenda Funk and brother, Edward Bearer.

She is survived by her loving husband of 49 years, Douglas Burnett; children, Dr. Faith Rouco (George), Kandas Burnett; siblings, John Bearer (Sue), Vincent Bearer (Linda), Mary Woessner (Ray), Robert Bearer (Paula), Peggy Knupp (Tim); grandchildren, Ronin and Aven Rouco, 20 nieces and nephews and 20 great-nieces and great-nephews.

There will be no services will be held at this time.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society 1901 Brunswick Ave #100, Charlotte, NC 28207.

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home is proudly serving the Burnett family. Condolences may be made to the family at [www.cavin-cook.com](http://www.cavin-cook.com).

# Cemetery Details

## **Cavin-Cook FH & Crematory**

494 E. Plaza Drive  
Mooresville, NC 28115

# Tribute Wall

RP

“ Dear Doug, Faith, Kandas and Family

*We're so very sorry for your family's loss of a truly wonderful lady. She was thoughtful, kindhearted and had such a warm wonderful smile.*

*She will be missed dearly by so many.*

*With our deepest condolences,*

*Rob & Lyn Padykula*

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**Rob Padykula** - June 30, 2023 at 05:46 PM

GJ

“ Doug, Faith, and Kandas,

*My heart is heavy for you all. May our Lord Jesus Christ give you a peace that surpasses all understanding and great recall of cherished memories. When I think of Ruth I see an engaging smile, a great hug, and ability to blend in to our family immediately. The image I have is standing around grandma and grandpa's kitchen in Marshville with her warm smile and laughter.*

*She was a beautiful woman. Praying for you all.*

*Love,*

*Greg*

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**Greg Jones** - June 24, 2023 at 11:31 AM

LV

“ 1 file added to the album *Friends*



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**Laura Vargas** - June 23, 2023 at 10:50 AM

LV

*Ruth was one of kind. She was such a great friend and educator. She will be especially missed by our long time friend group of educators from working together in Winston-Salem.*

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**Laura Vargas** - June 23, 2023 at 10:53 AM

AG

*Doug, Faith, Kandas, and grandchildren. We are heartbroken to hear about Ruth passing. It was truly a great loss.*

*I worked with Ruth for over 11 years. Ruth was an exceptional work colleague. It was so pleasant to work with her. Always positive and very caring to people that she knows. She loves her family and always make time to her family and also to her friends and colleague. She finds time to meet with us even for lunch whenever there's an opportunity since retirement. She was valued as a good boss, colleague, confidant, and a true friend.*

*May your happy memories give you peace and comfort during this challenging time.*

*Andy Gonzales*

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**Andy Gonzales** - July 10, 2023 at 08:20 AM