



Mary Ann Bentley Reynolds

October 30, 1950 - March 18, 2017

Mary Ann Bentley Reynolds

Mary Ann Bentley Reynolds, 66, passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 18, 2017 after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. Mary Ann was born on October 30, 1950 in Roanoke, Virginia to F. J. Bentley and Janie Bentley Kerfoot. She married her life long love, Samuel Reynolds, on October 23, 1982, enjoying 35 years of life together.

Mary Ann attended Roanoke Catholic High School and Longwood University in Farmville, Virginia, graduating with honors in 1973 with a B.A. in Art

Education. She completed additional studies in painting, drawing, computer graphics, children's literature, and mathematics.

Mary Ann's passion as an artist touched the lives of thousands of students, teaching art in the Clarke County and Roanoke City Public Schools for 36 years, retiring in 2009. Creating objects of beauty and exhibiting her art work at numerous venues, brought Mary Ann great joy. She and her husband Sam founded Dragon Tooth Crafts after her retirement, and she sold oil paintings, photography, exquisitely painted slates, gourds, saws and commissioned pieces. She found pleasure in swimming, playing poker, exploring nature with her husband, and writing poetry for family and friends for special occasions.

In addition to her husband, Mary Ann is survived by a brother, Michael Bentley (Susan), two sisters, Jane Lambert (Gary), and Judy Whiting; nieces & nephews Gary Blevins, Ann Simmers, Stacy Fisher, Mike Bradley, Alicia Baxter, Holly Turner, Sarah Bentley Allred, Alexander Bentley, and Matthew Bentley; sister in laws Jean Bradley (Ralph) and Mary Ann Blevins; step-daughter, Samantha Crews, and numerous step grandchildren, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and her beloved pets, Sparkey and Flash.

The funeral service will take place on Tuesday, March 21st, 1:00 pm at Salem Methodist Church, on Rt 42 outside of New Castle, VA with the Reverend Susan Bentley officiating; the burial will be private. The family will receive visitors for a reception at 3:00 pm that day, at St. James Episcopal Church, 4515 Delray Street, NW, Roanoke, VA. Arrangements made by Paitzel Funeral Home in New Castle, Virginia.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Good Samaritan Hospice, 2408 Electric Road, Roanoke, VA 24018.

"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can

steal." From an Irish headstone

Tribute Wall

EA

“*Mrs. Reynolds was my art instructor at Stonewall Jackson about 30 years ago and she left a mark on my life that has lasted a life time. She taught me art was the one place I could be free, be open, be me. She gave me confidence in my talent and without her I would not be where I am today. I am saddened by the news of her passing. I pray for her family and loved ones. Heaven will be filled with beautiful color today. Rest in peace Mrs. Reynolds. Hope you knew what you meant to us.*

Effie Atwell - March 21, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BS

“*I have known Sam and Mary Ann since 1985, when we moved to Catawba. We were lucky to have been included in family functions and always looked forward to our wonderful meals that Sam would cook and a game of cards was always enjoyed. Even though Mary Ann is gone she will never be forgotten and we will continue to spend time with Sam. Love, Brenda Strough*

Brenda Strough - March 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“*My condolences to the family. Maryann was a very special lady. She will be missed by many friends. I'm happy to have been one of them. Brenda Jones*

Brenda Jones - March 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MI

“ Very saddened to learn of Mary Ann's passing. Lost track of her after our early college years, but I know that the light of her passion for art and photography never dimmed over the years. "Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up" (Pablo Picasso). I know Mary Ann never had that particular problem. All my prayers and condolences to Mike, Jane, and Judy as well as Mary Ann's husband, children and other family members.

Mike - March 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ I did not know Mary Ann well, but only through her sister, Judy Whiting, who is my dear and devoted daughter-in-law. I pray God will give the family peace and mercy through their heartache and loss.

Lorene Edmunds - March 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Sammy, Jean and Family: My sincere and deepest sympathies for your loss. I did not have the privilege of knowing Mary Ann, but have heard so many wonderful things about her and her wonderful talent for art. She will be painting beautiful pictures in heaven. I will remember each of you in the days ahead. Take comfort in knowing all the lives Mary Ann touched while here on earth. With Love To All, Janice Damewood

JANICE DAMEWOOD - March 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ So sorry to hear of Mary Ann's passing. She always seemed to be so happy and full of life. Praying you find comfort in knowing her pain is no more, and that the beautiful treasures and memories she left will bring you peace.

David and Susan Steger - March 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM