



Linda Lou Ray Donaldson

May 19, 1940 - January 26, 2021

Linda Lou Ray Donaldson passed away peacefully on January 26, 2021 after a long battle with dementia.

She was born to Calvin and Beulah Ray on May 19, 1940 in Asheville, NC. After graduating from Enka High School, she attended Warren Wilson Junior College followed by the University of Tennessee where she received her degree in psychology. Her marriage to Arthur J. Donaldson secured her roots in Salisbury.

Linda pursued a career in law enforcement as a probation/parole officer and retired as a magistrate in Rowan County. Through the years, many past probationers and their families would share appreciation for the tremendous impact Linda had on their lives through her coaching and empathy.

Linda was an avid animal lover; she grew up showing and jumping horses competitively which became a lifelong passion. She also adored dogs, having an affinity for St. Bernards, and holding special places in her heart for Nana and Barry.

But most of all, Linda passionately loved and cared for her children and grandchildren. Always ready to provide sound advice and encouragement, Linda stood resolute for her family's goals and interests. She instilled within her family a sense of grace, humility, and kindness toward others. She lived her life by the Golden Rule and her warm love and embrace will be deeply missed.

Linda is survived by her four children, Sheelagh of Salisbury, Shannon of

Portland Oregon, Sean and wife Sally of Austin Texas, and Seamus and wife Traci of Salisbury, and three grandchildren (Colin, Kate, and Mary Smith). Linda's parents and brother, Bob Ray, preceded her in death.

Special thanks to all the medical providers and especially those at The Laurels of Salisbury for their care and dedication to Linda.

A funeral Mass, celebrated by Father John Eckert, is scheduled for 1:00pm on Saturday January 30, 2021 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Salisbury, NC with burial to follow in the church cemetery. Due to COVID-19 concerns, her funeral will be with family and close friends only.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Faithful Friends Animal Sanctuary send to Friends of Rowan, PO Box 262, Salisbury, NC 28145-0262 with Faithful Friends in the memo for the donation to be matched or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-1905. Summersett Funeral Home is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Cemetery

Salisbury, NC

Tribute Wall

JL

“ I am John Loughridge and I also was a. Probation/Parole officer and we're hired and trained together in UNC Institute of Government and were both assigned to Iredell County where we worked side by side for five years. We were very close friends and resided at apartment age upstairs and I was downstairs so we had many meals together in BBC Statesville Our coworker died also so life is precious. Again Linda and I spent much time together. John Loughridge johnlcarl35@gmail com



John Loughridge - February 02, 2021 at 09:48 PM

CG

“ Sheelagh, so sorry to read of your mom's passing. I enjoyed her time with us in bookclub and also visiting her in the "carriage house".

Carolyn Glasgow - January 31, 2021 at 12:53 PM

RA

“ I am so sorry for you loss. I went to school with Linda Lou at Sand Hill and Enka High School. She was a very sweet person. I remember her very well she rode the school bus I drove in high school.

*Robert Allison
209 Bridgewood Ave
Taylors, SC 29687*

Robert Allison - January 30, 2021 at 10:15 AM

CP

“ *Linda was a beautiful woman inside and out and a true friend. I always enjoyed our talks at church and when we'd bump into each other around town. My thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time. Love to you all.*

Cooki Butler Perkins - January 28, 2021 at 11:12 PM

KS

*Sincere sympathy to Seamus and all the family. May she rest in peace.
Kathy and Jack Seybold*

Kathy Seybold - January 30, 2021 at 01:54 PM