



## Mary Ann Petrea Nelson

July 23, 1934 - July 19, 2021

Mary Ann Petrea Nelson passed away on Monday, July 19, 2021, at the Glenn Kiser Hospice House of Novant Health in Salisbury. She was born on July 23, 1934, and was a twin daughter of the late Hugh Columbus Petrea and his wife, Rose Smith Petrea. Her twin sister was named Margaret Rose but lived less than seventy-two hours due to complications from a premature birth of almost two months.

Mary Ann grew up in Salisbury, went to its schools, St. John's Lutheran Church, Lenoir-Rhyne College, and worked for nine years at the N. C. Lutheran Synod Headquarters. It was through that association that she came to meet her future husband, the Reverend David Paul Nelson. This past June, they celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary. Their life together brought them to ministry settings in North Carolina and Georgia.

Mary Ann transitioned from secretarial administration to being a teaching assistant for nearly twenty years at North Rowan Primary School. She even drove a school bus. She was ideal in her role as a pastor's wife and as a teaching specialist for third graders.

She and her husband have two sons: Dr. Vaughn P. Nelson (Dr. Eva) of Salisbury and Ken-Erik Nelson (Erica) of Indian Trail, N. C. Her grandchildren are Erika Schappell of Nashville, Davis Nelson of Chicago, Dalton Nelson of Charlotte, and Perry and Fern Nelson of the home in Indian Trail.

Mary Ann left behind a host of friendships, gracious creativity, lasting influences, and much happiness. It could be said that she made a mark of her own, but she also made one as a devoted, loving, insightful, and caring wife.

Memorials are encouraged for Novant Hospice, St. John's Lutheran Senior Ministries, or to a charity of one's own choosing.

A service of remembrance will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, August 21, 2021 at St. John's Lutheran Church.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Nelson family. Online condolences may be made at [www.summersettfuneralhome.com](http://www.summersettfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG **21**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John's Lutheran Church  
200 W. Innes St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144

# Tribute Wall

AK

“ I am so sorry to see this. Mrs. Nelson was a wonderful, sweet lady and always a good friend to my mother, Pat Hoffman Safrit. Rest In Peace.

Ashley Safrit Keppel - August 22, 2021 at 05:56 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mary Ann Petrea Nelson.



August 19, 2021 at 03:06 PM

TG

“ The Johnsons, Fowlers, and Garners purchased the Bright and Beautiful Spray for the family of Mary Ann Petrea Nelson.



The Johnsons, Fowlers, and Garners - August 10, 2021 at 01:01 PM

CF

“ Dear David and family. We mourn with all of you in the death of your and many others beloved Mary Ann. She was truly a wonderful wife, mother and friend to any who knew her. May God bless all who grieve for her.

Carl and Miriam Fisher

Carl M. Fisher - July 28, 2021 at 01:29 PM