



Mary Alice Bassett Zink

November 12, 1954 - September 16, 2016

On Friday, September 16th Mary Bassett Zink, age 61, lost her battle with cancer and has joined the stars in the heavens. Mary was taken to Rowan Regional Medical Center, where she passed away.

Born November 12th, 1954 in Chapel Hill, she was the daughter of the late Dr. Joseph "Joe" Yarnall Bassett and the late Lucretia Blankenship Bassett. Mary was a graduate of Cullowhee High School in 1973 and studied business administration at Western Carolina University, where she later joined the bookstore staff. After moving to Salisbury, Mary was hired by UNC Charlotte where she worked for the Office of International Programs for twenty years until her retirement. She enjoyed rock music, reading novels, doing various crafts as well as spending time with her grandchildren, family, and pets. She will be remembered for her charisma, straight talk, and endless sense of compassion and humor.

She is survived by her husband of twenty-eight years, Christopher Zink; her son Joseph "Joe" Christopher Bassett & wife Beth Wall-Bassett of Cullowhee, NC; her daughter Katherine "Katie" Zink Miller & husband Jason Miller of Mocksville, NC; her sister Christine Bassett Bancroft & husband Perry Bancroft of Cleveland, TN. She is also survived by her four grandchildren, Joseph Bassett Jr., Juliet Bassett, Izabel Bassett and Mathilda Bassett of Cullowhee, NC. Mary was also looking forward to her fifth grandchild, as Katie and Jason are expecting in November.

Friends and family are invited to celebrate the life of Mary on Thursday,

September 22nd at Summersett Funeral Home in Salisbury, NC. Visitation will be held at 4:00 P.M. followed by the service at 5:00 P.M.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully asks that donations be made to the Wake Forest Baptist Cancer Center.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Zink family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **22**. 4:00 AM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Summersett Funeral Home
1315 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 633-2111
<https://www.summersettfuneralhome.com>

Memorial Service

SEP **22**. 5:00 PM (ET)

Summersett Memorial Chapel
1315 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144

Tribute Wall

EC

“ *How sad! Everyone that knew Mary will remember what a special person she was and always generated good feelings and memories. We have lost another wonderful soul. My condolences for everyone's loss. Ernie Collins*

E Collins - October 02, 2016 at 07:40 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Alice Bassett Zink.*



September 22, 2016 at 12:47 PM

NB

“ *Our deepest condolences, thoughts & prayer for Chris & family!*

The Buchanans

N Buchanan - September 21, 2016 at 08:14 PM

SR

“ I taught Mary in my U.S. History class in her junior year at Cullowhee High School and she was one of my favorite students. She was bright, interested, inquisitive, and never afraid to speak up which enlivened her class considerably. Although I have not seen her since high school, I have remembered her often through the years and knew something of her life through my daughter Kelly's association with her sister, Christine. We were also good friends of her parents, Joe and Lucretia Bassett who were long-time members of our church. Bob and I send our sincere condolences to all of Mary's family. Susie Ray

Susie Ray - September 21, 2016 at 06:18 PM

JG

“ Mary Zink was my first point of contact when I began my life in Charlotte nearly twenty years ago. We worked closely together for all of those years and most specifically over the last ten while she was my sounding board and confidante. Well beyond her formal role in our Office of International Programs world, and as many colleagues retired, Mary guarded the keys to the treasure chest of memories in our office as our stalwart bridge from yesterday to today. Now, our tomorrow will never be the same.

I celebrate my friend and colleague for her deep intelligence, her loyalty, her imagination, her humor, as well as her commitment to family and friendship. I will always cherish our shared memories: weddings, picnics, concerts and Key West! I wish you days of laughter and sunshine. I wish nights of peace and tranquility, Mary Zink. We all celebrate you for you are a true celebration. –Joël Gallegos

Joël Gallegos - September 21, 2016 at 01:04 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Mary Alice Bassett Zink.*



September 21, 2016 at 12:06 PM



“ *12 files added to the album Photos from International Programs*



OIP - September 21, 2016 at 08:23 AM



“ *I knew Mary from work at UNCC for a few years. I'm sad I am not there now to add my sympathy personally. Mary was a real joy to know and work with. Direct, to the point, and NO BS.....working in an environment where that was not appreciated enough (I think we shared the trait a bit). Anyone planning on going to Heaven eventually can feel better now, knowing that if there was anything amiss it'll be put straight or set straight now!*

Kelly Franklin - September 20, 2016 at 11:27 PM

JL

“*Mary Alice was a fun friend through high school and college. As one of the Cullowhee High gang, she was a bright spark. Praying for the family as you celebrate her life and grieve her passing. Thankful to have shared time with her*❤️

jJane Clayton Lambert - September 20, 2016 at 07:39 PM

CT

“*Mary, my friend for twenty years. You brought me such good times, laughter, and taught me to be stronger. We shared so many wonderful times - Kelly's wedding trip to Charleston, going to the Depot with Butch and I, visits to your home town, making crafts together, and talking endlessly. You walked this journey the way you did everything, with strength and grace. You will be missed greatly, but forever in our hearts.*

Cathy Thompson - September 20, 2016 at 07:25 PM



“*So very sorry for your loss. Peace and love to all the family. Julia Tipton*

Julia Tipton - September 20, 2016 at 05:38 PM

SK

“ I was sad to hear about Mary's passing! I always loved how she was such an attentive friend when she lived near me in Cullowhee. I'll never forget how happy she was when she and Chris started dating and were later married! That Christmastime wedding was beautiful. Even though we drifted apart through the years as more children came along and more distance came between us... I will always have fond memories of what a devoted daughter, mother, wife, friend and grandmother she was! May she be blessed with heavenly peace and happiness in her everlasting life!



Susan Hmielewski Karcher - September 20, 2016 at 03:04 PM

KA

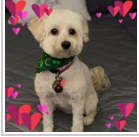
“ Katie, Jason and family -- our thoughts and prayers are with you during this very emotional time. I know you will miss her every day, but know that she is with her heavenly Father and that he is comforting her now. We love you both! Kay, Shanna, Amy and Caleb

Kay - September 20, 2016 at 02:22 PM

SL

“ I worked with Mary at WCU Bookstore. She was a joy to work with! My prayers and sympathy to all the family! Susan Lewis

Susan Lewis - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 PM



“Katie, I am so sorry for your loss. I never new your mother, but she must have been an amazing women to have raised such a wonderful woman as you. Her legacy will live on through your sweet baby boy. May God bless you and your family. I will keep you in my prayers.

Norma-Mark Honeycutt - September 19, 2016 at 08:48 PM

EB

“I have been out of the Office of International Programs Community for fifteen years, but my memories of Mary Zink are vivid. I have lived and worked all over the world but rarely did I know a person as strong and focused and intelligent and effective as Mary. She brightened every day when I walked into the office. OK: we found ourselves in agreement on just about every cosmic event, but her wit and insight and sense of command made me (and others) acolytes to her and her view of the world. Mary was a truly remarkable woman. My condolences to her wonderful family. Ed Brynn

Edward Brynn - September 19, 2016 at 08:08 PM



“My condolences, thoughts and prayers go out to the family.



Beverly Maurice - September 19, 2016 at 05:32 PM

 Debbie
Wilson

“ *I had the pleasure of working with Mary at UNC Charlotte for 18 years. We immediately became great friends and were as close as two people could be. We not only shared the good and tough times at work, but also in our personal lives. Our respect and love for each other continued to grow through the years and we looked to each other many, many times to help get us through life.*

Along with other close friends, we had so many good times full of laughter and yes, a drink or two!

There were many times she would come to my home after work and sit and talk for hours with myself, my late husband, Mark, and our 2 son's, Keith & Jason. We all looked forward to those times and something I'll never forget.

As most of you know, Mary was a head strong woman who said things the way they were. She was as honest, loving, understanding, and thoughtful person I had the honor of knowing. I cherished her friendship and considered her family along with Chris & Katie & now Jason.

I'll miss her every day of my life but she's in a better place now watching over all of us.

Rest in peace my friend.

*My heartfelt sympathy,
Debbie Wilson*

Debbie Wilson - September 19, 2016 at 04:22 PM

JW

“ *Heaven got another star. I have fond memories of Mary as I do for all the Zink's. My thoughts and prayers go out to you all.*
John Wolfe



John Wolfe - September 19, 2016 at 03:51 PM

BM

Mary was an important member of the caring family we had in OIP - witty and straight-talking she was always a joy to chat with. I miss Mary and the rest of the gang there in Denny 119.

Barbara Mattingly - September 24, 2016 at 01:44 PM

RG

We were grieved to read of Mary's death. Jim was her pastor for five years at Cullowhee United Methodist Church. Our daughter, the Rev. Gina Gilland Campbell, was her classmate. We have recently moved to Trinity Oaks in Salisbury, but circumstances prevented our attending the service. We hold you in our prayers
Rev. Dr. Jim and Glener Gilland

Rev. Dr. Jim and Glener Gilland - September 24, 2016 at 09:00 PM