



## Mary "Geraldine" Robbins Butler

August 16, 1917 - November 23, 2018

Mary Geraldine Robbins (Gerri) Butler, 101, of Salisbury died peacefully at home surrounded by family on Friday, November 23, 2018.

Gerri was born on August 16, 1917 just outside Missoula, Montana as a forest fire threatened nearby, the 6th of 8 children of Charles and Mary LaChambre Robbins.

She was an honors graduate of Sacred Heart Academy in Missoula, and she attended the University of Montana where she majored in Journalism.

She married Roscoe Conklyn Butler on November 25, 1937; he preceded her in death on August 10, 1980.

She is survived by their five children: Roscoe Conklyn Butler, Jr. (Nok) of Chang Mai, Thailand; Julianne Marie (Judi) Butler Smith (Neil) of Carrolls, WA; Dolores Ellen (Dee) Butler Spry of Duluth, GA; Robin Anthony Butler (Cindy) of Lexington; and Mary Elizabeth (Cooki) Butler Perkins (Ken) of Shelton, WA; nineteen grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and 10 great-great grandchildren.

Gerri believed that quality education was of vital importance, and she and Roscoe sacrificed so that her children could attend parochial schools, as she had done during her youth. Her life outside of raising her family was devoted to service. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church since 1961 when the family relocated to Salisbury from Charlotte, and until recently she was an active member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Daughters, where she was past Grand Regent. She was a member of numerous civic and service

organizations, and she took a leadership role in nearly every one of them. She was a past member of Union Grove Extension Homemakers, Associated Country Women of the World, Church Women United, Post 3006 VFW Auxiliary, the Military Order of the Cooties (honorary degree of the VFW), Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, Spencer and Salisbury Women's Clubs and the local Red Hats Society.

For many years, Gerri served as a Den Mother for Pack 361 in Spencer, She volunteered many hours of her time at the VA Hospital and the local homeless shelter. Gerri was a member of the Sacred Heart Church Building Committee and played a vital role in the relocation of Sacred Heart Church and School to its current location. Until her health prevented her from performing her duties, she always had a service commitment to one or more of these organizations. She loved sewing and making crafts of all types, and one of her passions was baking. Gerri earned numerous blue ribbons at the Rowan County Fair for her cookies, cakes and candies. She was famous for her "tea rings", and those that she baked for the many bazaars and bake sales she supported often sold out before she could take them out of her car.

Gerri loved traveling and visited numerous countries on four continents and toured all 50 states of the union. She took her first airplane ride in an open cockpit bi-plane in 1937 on the day she met her husband Roscoe. She celebrated her 87th birthday by taking a hot air balloon ride in Oregon. Gerri was blessed to live a very full life.

A family visitation will be held on Tuesday, November 27 at Summersett Funeral Home from 6 to 8PM

A Mass of Christian Burial for the repose of her soul will be held 11 AM Wednesday (Nov. 28) Sacred Heart Catholic Church conducted by Father John Eckert . Interment will take place 11 AM Thursday at the Salisbury Historic National Cemetery, where her remains will be laid to rest next to her late husband Roscoe.

In lieu of flowers, the family request that you donate in Gerri's honor to the Sacred Heart Catholic School Angel Fund, or to the charity of your choice that

serves those less fortunate.

The family would like to express its thanks to Hospice, and to the many caregivers who made the last years of Gerri's life more comfortable.

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **27**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Graveside Service

NOV **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Old Historic U.S. National Cemetery  
Salisbury, NC

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Happy Kalanchoe Plant was purchased for the family of Mary "Geraldine" Robbins Butler.*



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November 27, 2018 at 09:18 AM



“ *To the family of Gerri Butler...we extend our deepest sympathies and prayers for the repose of your sweet Moms soul. I was very honored to have known her for almost 20 years from Sacred Heart Church and Catholic Daughters and it was always a pleasure to be with her during our meetings, conventions and fundraisers and of course in church praising Our Lord. In addition, I was very blessed to be an Extraordinary minister and bring her Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament on a regular basis. She was a delight and always appreciative of everything I did for her. I will miss her a great deal and extend my prayers and love to her family. Love you Gerri and may you rest in Our Lord's arms...always*  
*Colette & Greg Miller*

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**Colette Miller** - November 26, 2018 at 08:52 AM