



Frances C. Roberts

April 10, 1934 - July 22, 2019

Frances Clifford Cropper Roberts, age 85, born April 10, 1934, in Ocean City, MD, to the late Clifford Potts Cropper and Henrietta Pennewell Adams Cropper, died at home on July 22, 2019, surrounded by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was the youngest of eight daughters.

Fran lived a very full life, loving her Lord, family and friends. Growing up in Ocean City four doors from the beach, she was an active member of her community, including First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City where she met Thomas Janney Roberts, a 2nd Lieutenant stationed at Bethany Beach, DE, U.S. Army anti-aircraft target range. They become steadfast friends that turned into 61 years of marriage. Prior to their marriage, she attended Washington Bible College where she earned a 3-year Child Evangelism diploma, while Thomas Roberts was attending UVA medical school. After their marriage, they made their home together in the states of Virginia, Texas, Maryland, and North Carolina and also in the country of Afghanistan. Their last home together was in Charlotte, NC, where they both were active members of Christ Covenant Church, Matthews, NC.

Fran is survived by her beloved husband of 61 years, Thomas J. Roberts, MD; children, Timothy M. Roberts and wife Mary, Thomas H. Roberts and wife Shari, Sandra R. Toms, and Jonathan C. Roberts and wife Stephanie; sisters, Violet "Pete" Steger, Sally Bradford and husband Russell, and Charlotte Bergey; grandchildren, Mark Roberts, Mary Frances Behrendt and husband Ben, Bradley Roberts, Carol Ann Ferguson and husband Teron, Palmer Roberts, Virginia Kay Roberts, David Roberts, Jesse Roberts, Isaac Roberts, Rebecca Hanson and husband Luke, Rachel Toms, Andrew Toms and wife Hannah, Matthew Toms, Ford Roberts, Juliana Roberts, Walker Roberts, Hannah Roberts, Elsie Roberts, and Phoebe Roberts; great-grandchildren, Eden Behrendt and Haddie Hanson; and numerous loving nephews, nieces, great nephews and great nieces.

The funeral to celebrate her life will be held at 11am on Saturday, July 27th at Christ

Covenant Church, Matthews, NC with Rev. Bruce Creswell officiating. Her burial will follow at Matthews Historic Cemetery. The family will have a reception following at the Community Life Center at Christ Covenant Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to "The Masters' Mission," PO Box 547, Robbinsville, NC 28771. Please note on memo line "Children's Haven Building Fund."

Arrangements are in care of Heritage Funeral Home, Indian Trail Chapel. Online condolences may be left at www.heritagecares.com

Cemetery

Matthews Historic Cemetery

Pleasant Hill Lane

Matthews, NC, 28105

Events

JUL **Service** 11:00AM

27

Christ Covenant Church

800 Fullwood Lane, Matthews, NC, US, 28105

JUL **Burial**

27

Matthews Historic Cemetery

Pleasant Hill Lane, Matthews, NC, US, 28105

Comments



“ Clarence and Betty Dishman, Bristol, Virginia have wonderful memories of our dear friend, Fran Roberts. We have known her for more than a half century. What a gracious, caring, intelligent person she was, and always a fully bloomed Christian woman. It was always a joy to spend time with her, never a dull moment. Clarence was a classmate and roommate of her husband Tim at Virginia Tech in the 1950s. They made an outstanding Christian couple and raised a lovely family in the Lord. Across the years we visited one another, and every 5 years we met in our 3-day IVCF reunions at Virginia Tech. What great and precious memories we have of Fran and Tim. We are just now getting to know their children as adults, and they bear the mark of these two wonderful people. May God bless you Tim and your family at this time and in the days ahead. I liked what you told me on the telephone the other day about Fran. You said, "She just put it in reverse and went to heaven." That says it. We love you the Roberts family. May God be with you.

Clarence and Betty Dishman

Clarence Dishman - July 27, 2019 at 12:42 PM



“ Mark and Beth Rogers and family purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Frances C. Roberts.



Mark and Beth Rogers and family - July 26, 2019 at 05:34 PM



“ Fran and her husband Tim have made a great impression on my life, when I was in deep despair from a very trying period in my life. Their selfless sensitivity and care for me during that time meant the world to me. They encouraged me when I thought God would never forgive me for my shortcomings. They assured me that the Lord would heal me and bring me back to spiritual health in a way that He would use me for His glory in many ways that I could not fathom at the time. Their efforts were quite successful!

They had me over to lunch at their home many, many times (probably over a hundred) as their ministry to me carried on, over a period of some years. I am a very different person today as a result of Fran and Tim's lovingkindness! I am very glad that Fran, as of this past Monday, has beheld the face of our dear Lord Jesus in heaven, and that Tim will experience the same at some time in the future.

May God richly bless Fran's family in their time of grief at the loss of their husband, mother, grandmother etc.

Let us all praise and thank God for the blessings He has bestowed on us through Fran!

Dan Nietupski

Daniel Nietupski - July 26, 2019 at 04:02 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Frances C. Roberts.



July 26, 2019 at 11:58 AM



“ I met Fran, Tim, and Jonathan when I first came to Charlotte and Christ Covenant in the early 1990s. Fran and family were the paragon of Christian hospitality; I had many a meal with them. In '96 I had the blessing of sharing with Jonathan (before he was married later that year) the house next door.

In 2007 my family and I rented that house again while our then-new house was under construction. Fran had us over for a meal several times and did much to encourage us in the early years of our marriage with our young children.

I am sad that Fran has moved on to her home with the Lord. I am certain that God completed His work in her and that we will meet again when He returns, if not before.

Rod Early - July 25, 2019 at 02:49 PM



“ Rod, I love you brother and sure did enjoy some very good times with you and my parents and your folks. You were the best roommate ever, and Stephanie appreciates you finding another place back when we lived in the little white house after we got married

Jonathan - July 25, 2019 at 08:02 PM



“ To the Roberts Family,

I'm sorry for your earthly loss of Mrs. Roberts. May your fond memories bring you peace and comfort in Christ.

—Rick Hodge Family

Rick Hodge - July 25, 2019 at 08:02 AM



“ Thanks Rick. Really appreciate your prayers and your helping me out this week.

Jonathan - July 25, 2019 at 08:03 PM



“ Fran was a might prayer warrior. If you were on her lunch st you felt those prayers Such a gracious lady and wonderful example of a Christian woman frank owen

frank owen - July 29, 2019 at 07:59 PM



“ My husband and I were blessed to have Aunt Fran a part of our lives. A favorite memory is that of visiting Aunt Fran and Uncle Tim in their home in 1982 in Leesburg, Virginia months after our December, 1981 marriage. We received marriage counsel and I personally appreciated advice from Aunt Fran to a younger new wife. I watched her lovingly prepare meals and take care of her home, picking up a few recipes and cleaning tips. God’s shalom to the families of Aunt Fran.

Cathy Steger, niece via marriage - July 25, 2019 at 06:52 AM



“ Thank you Gary and Cathy. I remember you all coming to our home. Shalom.

Jonathan - July 25, 2019 at 08:04 PM



“ I wanted to send our condolences to your family. She was the most amazing Christian woman who could rally everyone into action. She loved the Lord, her family, friends and extended family.
I remember when we graduated from High School. She had a graduation party for us. We all had such a good time. She was not only available to her children but their friends which she kept in prayer.
You are in our daily prayers. We love you all and we know that she is with the Lord. She taught many lessons during her lifetime and the greatest was:. "Unconditional Love". I know that if you knew her. You knew the Lord.
I love you. God Bless.

Susan Lynn Castle - July 24, 2019 at 08:01 PM



“ Thank you Susan. Yes, unconditional love.

Jonathan - July 25, 2019 at 07:50 PM



“ Hi Jonathan

I send love, hugs and prayer. I loved your mom. She was so very special to me. Night night Please know that we love you all and lifting your family in prayer.

Susan Lynn Castle - July 25, 2019 at 10:17 PM



“ Love Always, Louise, Crystal & Marc, Tara, Ashley purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Frances C. Roberts.



Love Always, Louise, Crystal & Marc, Tara, Ashley - July 24, 2019 at 01:44 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frances C. Roberts.



July 24, 2019 at 01:37 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Frances C. Roberts.



July 24, 2019 at 09:16 AM



“ Neighbors, friends, spiritual "parents," and so much more were Tim and Fran when they lived in Leesburg. Fran invited me to the Bible study where God's Word pierced my heart (after she had lovingly told me I'd make a good Buddhist!) Her heart was so full of the love of Christ that her joy just always spilled over. How I wish Johnny and I could join the family in the celebration of her life. LOVE and hugs from us to all the family, Laura (and John)

Laura Gannaway - July 24, 2019 at 12:01 AM



“ Mrs. Gannaway, I know you would be there if you could. We love you. Hugs.

Jonathan - July 25, 2019 at 07:53 PM



“ Thanks for your love and understanding, Jonathan. More hugs ;)

Laura Gannaway - July 26, 2019 at 09:26 PM



“ I will always remember this sweet lady who showed everyone so much love and spunk! She loved Dr Tim with all her heart and the two of them set the bar high for what a true Christ-like marriage looks like - full of love, laughter, joy, and ministry. Love this family will all my heart and blessed to know them and Dr Tim and this sweet funny lovable Fran. I will miss her greatly. Praying for all of you, especially her sweet husband, Dr Tim...

nye Allen - July 23, 2019 at 10:39 PM



“ Thanks Nye. Dad lost his best friend and appreciates all your prayers. Thanks for this tribute to my Mom. It certainly captures it!

Jonathan - July 25, 2019 at 08:06 PM



“ Blessed be Fran Roberts who was a mother of the faith. Fran taught many Bible studies for women. Fran also taught our Teen Sunday school class from time to time along side of her husband, Dr. Tim Roberts. I learned so much from Fran. I am forever grateful that God placed her and Dr. Tim and their whole family in our church in Leesburg, VA. Their children, Tim, Tom, Sandra, and Jonathan are living examples of living a Christian legacy passed along to them by their parents in a covenant chain that God designed for His church. Never once did I ever see Fran & Dr. Tim waver in their love for Christ, their faithful Christian walk, their constant teaching of their children, and that spilled over onto others who are and were blessed to know them. I was even blessed to be in their home and eat Fran's cooking and observe her life, and their precious evening devotions when she and Dr. Tim so consistently gathered the family around the Bible, God's word. That was the center of her life and her home. Fran was a wonderful homemaker. She was a friend to all and reached out to her extended family in Christian love sharing the gospel and the grace of Christ, desiring that none should perish. Fran was a well known prayer warrior who prayed many people into the kingdom of God. While we are sad and weep over our loss of her presence, she has gained her eternal reward. I know she has received that blessed, promised welcome from her savior Jesus Christ, "Well done thou good and faithful servant!" Please accept my deepest sympathy to Dr. Tim, Tim, Tom, Sandy, and Jonathan. Sincerely, Melissa Urban Craig

Melissa Urban Craig - July 23, 2019 at 08:52 PM



“ Neighbors, friends, spiritual "parents," and so much more were Tim and Fran when they lived in Leesburg. Fran invited me to the Bible study where God's Word pierced my heart (after she had lovingly told me I'd make a good Buddhist!) Her heart was so full of the love of Christ that her joy just always spilled over. How I wish Johnny and I could join the family in the celebration of her life. LOVE and hugs from us to all the family, Laura (and John)

Laura Gannaway - July 23, 2019 at 11:41 PM



“ Melissa, thank you for this sweet tribute to my Mom. As Tim Arnold said, losing your Mom is like pulling a deep rooted plant from my chest. Certainly happy though that she is in heaven, secure in Jesus Christ her Savior. Thanks for being such a good friend Melissa.

Jonathan - July 25, 2019 at 07:58 PM