



## Derenda M. Holland

May 6, 1938 - April 26, 2017

Derenda M. Holland, 78, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri passed away Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at Saint Francis Medical Center.

She was born May 6, 1938 in Peach Orchard, Arkansas to the late Shorty Foust and Bertha Loretta (English) Foust.

She and Mederith G. Holland were married June 20, 1965 in Sikeston, Missouri. He preceded her in death on February 1, 2015.

Derenda had numerous Masters degrees in the education field. She worked as a teacher and counselor and spent many years at Cape Central Junior High School.

She was a longtime and very active member of Cape First Church. Derenda was involved in organizing many groups and taught Sunday school. She was also a member of the St. Mark's Chapter #167 Order of Eastern Star.

Survivors include two daughters, Tonya Evans of Charleston, Missouri and Tamara (Jason) Sondgeroth of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin; five grandchildren, Zachary and Travis Smith, Nathan, Cody and Lexi Sondgeroth; two great-grandchildren, Travis G. and Kaitlyn Smith.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; brothers, Delois and John Foust.

Funeral service will be Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel with Pastor Gary Brothers officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the funeral service.

Entombment will follow at Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum.

Memorial contributions may be given to Teen Challenge International Mid-America, PO Box 1089, Cape Girardeau, MO 63702.

# Cemetery Details

## Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery

2315 Highway 61 North  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
(573) 334-1909  
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**APR 29.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
(573) 334-1313  
[info@fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@fordandsonsfuneralhome.com)  
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

## Service

**APR 29.** 11:00 AM (CT)

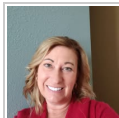
Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home  
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Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
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# Tribute Wall

ML

“ Dear Tamara, I just seen here that Derenda died, I am so sad. What a woman. the perfect mentor for women and men too, to lead a godly life. She always made Wimpy his favorite coconut cream pie special for him. she was so glad when Wimpy got saved and baptized a few years before he died. She always told Wimpy what he needed to hear whether he liked it or not, he really needed to hear what she told him. She always stressed the right way to do things. the Jesus way. when her and Wimpy talked about how hard they had it in Peach Orchard growing up it was so interesting to hear. she always showed up when she came with a present for us. I still have her hat she bought Wimpy his last time the Peach Orchard kid white baseball hat form the reunion. she was so thoughtful!! I know theres alot offer in you!!! Your Dad was that way too. You was really blessed to hav ethem , i know from when Wimpy died after 35 years of marriage it hurts , i cried every day for 2 years, finally I said its okay Lord!! and after 5 years after that i remarried and have a farm now in dora mo. about 75 miles from Branson. Tamara may God give your heart peace and comfort as I know hes with you every day. i seen your family on facebook you look like youve been blessed with a wonderful family. best wishes and gods LOVE ALWAYS! Marcia Foust Lyon, Dora Mo.

Marcia Foust Lyon - June 22, 2017 at 08:19 PM



Thanks, Marcia. Find me on facebook, I am Tamara Holland Sondgeroth. We are driving home from Branson right now.

Tamara Sondgeroth - June 29, 2017 at 10:03 AM

DM

“ Please accept my deep sympathy on the passing of Derenda Holland. She was a respected colleague of mine as a counselor at CHS in the late 60's/early 70's.

Sincerely,

Dale Meier

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Dale Meier - May 01, 2017 at 12:24 PM

LS

“ Derenda continued to help people after her retirement by teaching GED classes. The residents at The Safe House for Women were blessed by her care and work. I will miss her so much. She was a light at Central Jr High and to all of us who worked with her.

Linda Schild

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Linda Schild - April 29, 2017 at 09:03 AM

RB

“ I shared memories with the family today-- Derenda and I started pre-first grade together at age 5-- never lost touch through the years, always kept up as best we could with how life and times were going-- when I get those infernal questions on the internet about who your best friend from childhood was-- was always Derenda. So there; you have one key to my life. But that was using Arkansas spelling so oh well. Loved her like a sister and in many ways she was just that. Truly one of God's chosen ones-- there's a huge celebration going on where she is now. You can be assured of that. To you who were honored to call her family-- our love surrounds you now, enfolds you and blesses you.

Rev Colleen E. Brown, Jacksonville, AR

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Rev Colleen Brown - April 28, 2017 at 04:22 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Derenda M. Holland.*



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April 28, 2017 at 03:49 PM



“ *Garden Accent - "Someone you love..." was purchased for the family of Derenda M. Holland.*



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April 28, 2017 at 03:45 PM



“ *Ms Holland was my high school guidance counselor. Everyone loved her. She an impact on so many lives. May God give you strength and comfort.*

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**Jane Rader DeBoe** - April 28, 2017 at 12:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Derenda M. Holland.*



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April 28, 2017 at 09:53 AM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Derenda M. Holland.*



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April 28, 2017 at 09:36 AM



“ *Derenda and Gale were the first two people we met in Spring of 1980, when we came to Cape Girardeau, to talk with the church board/interviewed for the position of pastor, at First Assmebly on Mt Auburn Rd. They took us to dinner and from that day on were good friends and coworkers. They remembered our boys and loved us all deeply.*

*You could never find a more loving and caring couple on this earth as those two.*

*Derenda was full of mercy, grace, wisdom and love the entire we were there until my first husband died in 1991. The few times I came back home, she was there with her arms welcoming me. I will never forget her.*

*Anyone who was acquainted with Derenda knew how special she was. I was greatly saddened to hear of her passing, but rejoices that she was with Gale in heaven.*

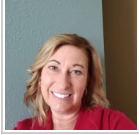
*Tamara was a great friend to my son, Jeff the entire time we were in Cape. Tamara, you were greatly blessed to be the daughter of Derenda.*

*Sending you and your sister love and prayers.*

*Love, Millie Grams*

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**Millie J Grams** - April 28, 2017 at 08:16 AM



“ I am preparing notes for the preacher tomorrow. I have so many great memories. Here are a few:

1. My mom was the most faithful wife. She visited my father every day while he was in the nursing home. A greater soul-mate has no man ever seen.
2. My mom was a caring mother. She was always there for me and Tonya as we grew up. She was a great role model.
3. My mom was a counselor to many over the years. She dealt with teenage kids and guided them to find the right place for them. She was a great counselor.
4. My mom was a great friend. I have heard so many stories from others about how she was such an influence on them. My mom was so logical and would help people see the logic around any situation.
5. Lastly, my mom was a great servant of God. My mother was always a big part of our church. She loved organizing events and teaching Sunday School.

*I love you. I will miss you. May I leave as big of a legacy on people as you did.*

*May we all write the last chapter in our book to be like yours. Do all you can. Enjoy every moment. Then go out with your favorite things: Food, Friends and Church.*

*May we all be so blessed. Amen.*

*--Tamara*

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**Tamara Sondgeroth** - April 28, 2017 at 03:12 AM

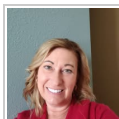
RW

“ For 48 years I had the privilege of, and was blessed to know Derenda and to call her friend. We shared the common thread of being raised in Clay County, Arkansas, and, at one time, even attend the same AG church in Peach Orchard. Derenda was a great woman of faith, a student of the Word of God, a great Sunday School teacher, a mentor, and a friend to countless others.. Rarely did she meet a stranger. To borrow a line from another time and place, "Heaven must have great coffee, because Derenda would never go somewhere that wasn't know fore its great coffee"! One winter night this past February we spent almost 2 hours on the phone talking about friends and family back in Arkansas, and bringing me up to date on the families of Tonya and Tamara. I have so many great memories of her and cherish each and every one. She walked out her faith daily, and impacted the lives of countless others. To Tonya, and Tamara, and their respective families, she was so proud of each of you. Know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers.

Ruth M. Waldon  
Little Rock, AR

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Ruth M. Waldon - April 27, 2017 at 05:34 PM



Thank you, Ruth.

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Tamara Sondgeroth - April 28, 2017 at 02:48 AM

PK

Tamara, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May those treasured memories make imprints on your hearts for all to remember. May God bless and guide you in this time of sadness and Joy for your Mom as she's now home with our Lord.

Patty Kurtz  
Waunakee WI

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Patty Kurtz - April 28, 2017 at 07:03 AM

KM

*What a wonderful personality. She always had a smile on her face. Such warmth and giving of herself as a Godly woman. She was a blessing to so many people, including myself. To Tonya and Tamara and your families, my thoughts and prayers are with you. I know she is smiling down from Heaven and wanting you to know she is in the presence of the Lord. May God's loving arms surround you and may your loving memories sustain you is my prayer. Friends in Christ, Karen McClendon Cape First.*

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**Karen McClendon** - April 28, 2017 at 07:35 AM

JK

*To Randal, Janie and family I am sorry for your loss. I had the privilege to meet Ms. Derenda and saw her as Christian woman and a kind soul. God Bless you all. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*  
*Jim Kerber*

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**Jim Kerber** - April 28, 2017 at 08:16 AM

  
Travis  
Smith

*So sorry I wasn't able to make it! Grandmom truly was the salt of the earth and a light for the world. I've never seen her when she wasn't shaking and shining. I thank God that she was part of my life and invested and sowed into me. I know Granddad was waiting on her.*

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**Travis Smith** - May 03, 2017 at 02:09 PM