



Twylla Rene James

August 10, 1957 - June 22, 2017

Twylla Rene James, 59, went to be with the Lord on June 22, 2017. Twylla was born August 10, 1957 to Bill and Florence Ross James in Cape Girardeau. Twylla received a degree in Home Economics from Southeast Missouri State University, but her love for books and libraries started at an early age when she insisted that her parents take her to the Cape Public Library. After college, Twylla worked for the Cape Public Library serving as their outreach librarian taking books to people whose circumstances did not allow them to get there such as firemen, nursing home residents, and the home-bound. Twylla continued her career with Southeast Missouri State University's Kent Library where she enjoyed being with her "work family" for 22 years.

Twylla loved the Lord and was a friend and blessing to all those who knew her. The song "This Little Light of Mine" was significant to Twylla and evidenced in the way she used the gifts the Lord had given her. Twylla was one of the founding members of the Lynwood "Chain Gang", a ministry that met each week to make crocheted items to be given as extensions of love and care. She also played piano and organ at Southside and Fellowship Baptist Churches for several years as well as sang in the Lynwood Baptist Church choir. Twylla felt a call to share the Light outside the United States through mission work in Belarus, Nicaragua, and Honduras and even recently working on a degree in English as a Second Language to enhance her work on

mission trips.

Twylla had an easy laugh and grew a broad circle of close and loving friendships. She enjoyed being with others and was quick to organize a get-together. Her creativity and enthusiasm always livened up an event whether she was helping in a Christmas program dressed as an elf, posing at the fountain in front of Kent Library dressed as Mary Poppins, decorating the Phi Kappa Phi entry for the Southeast Homecoming parade or just being herself.

Twylla's resilience and faith in God have been evident throughout her life and especially during her battle with cancer. She used the situation to provide hope and encouragement to others and, as she faced the final stages of the swiftly moving disease, hoped that others would be reminded how quickly life can change. Twylla's symbol through the process was the acronym F.R.O.G., Fully Relying on God, which she did and hoped that others would do the same. Twylla was preceded in death by her parents and an aunt, Karen Shrum.

Twylla is survived by an aunt, Sharon (Dick) Estes of Springfield, MO, uncles, Charlie Shrum of Farmington, MO and Thomas Ross (Betty) of Cape Girardeau, MO.

Friends may call from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday at Lynwood Baptist Church in Cape Girardeau.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at Lynwood Baptist Church in Cape Girardeau with Rev. Mark Anderson officiating. Burial will be at Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery in Cape Girardeau.

Memorial contributions may be given to Lynwood Baptist Church or Southeast Cancer Center.

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

JUN 24. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Lynwood Baptist Church
2935 Lynwood Hills Drive
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Service

JUN 25. 2:00 PM (CT)

Lynwood Baptist Church
2935 Lynwood Hills Drive
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

JR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



john ritchie - June 25, 2017 at 02:46 PM

JR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



john ritchie - June 25, 2017 at 02:41 PM

JR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



john ritchie - June 25, 2017 at 02:36 PM

AE

“ I only knew Twylla a short time. I was a member of the crochet group she was in. Her energy and positive attitude I will not soon forget. I quickly grew to love and admire her love for others and indomitable spirit.



Annetta Evans - June 24, 2017 at 10:52 PM

LH

“ I worked at the Cape Girardeau Public Library with Twylla for several years. She had a quick smile and a beautiful heart! CGPL was a such a fun place to work, and Twylla was a big part of that. Our patrons loved her, and so did we❤️

Lisbeth Hostetler - June 24, 2017 at 09:33 PM

WM

“ What a special Lady! She, and sometimes her mom & dog, would house/dog sit for us as we traveled with baseball. They would just move in for the long week end and love and visit with our dogs and Catt. Always loving, upbeat and dependable. VERY special. Heaven's gain, earth's loss. Thanks, Twylla, for being you and blessing our lives. Joan & Wayne

Wayne & Joan McPherson - June 24, 2017 at 12:19 PM

DP

“ I was so saddened and shocked when I heard of Twylla's death. We first became acquainted as colleagues at Southeast Missouri State University. She was in the library and I was in the College of Health and Human Services. Later, I joined the Professional Home Economists organization and Twylla was already a member and served as our secretary . I got to know her a lot better then and our interaction increased. She was adorable and simply beautiful, inside and out. In conversations with her, it was so obvious that she was a Christian and loved helping people. In my last conversation with her in Trees and Trends, she was so positive about her health outcome. I was convinced that she would be a cancer survivor. She will definitely be missed. My prayers are with the family. Dr. Loretta P. Prater

Dr. Loretta P. Prater - June 24, 2017 at 11:39 AM

LL

“ I met Twylla at the Baptist Center at SEMO. I was 7 years older than her but we had so much in common. We both played the piano & organ at a Baptist Church. We had many great conversations. I was an employee too for 23 years . I retired in 2012 & thought I would go visit with the many friends at the University frequently but I have not done that because it seems somehow I stay busy. I see many SEMO friends at Walmart!. That is where I saw Twylla a couple of months ago & we hugged & laughed & visited for almost an hour but then she told me about her Mom & Karen & then she told me about the cancer. I told her my husband & I would keep her in our prayers. We hate cancer! I was sad when heard that Twylla had passed but we can know without a doubt that Twylla is in Heaven !!

Linda Little - June 24, 2017 at 12:14 AM

PR

“ Twila and I worked in the same building at SEMO. I remember her as a very spiritual and kind person. Her enthusiasm for work and those she served was contagious. I am sorry to learn of her passing.

Patricia Ryan

Patricia Ryan - June 23, 2017 at 11:45 AM

GI

“ I graduated in the same class as Twylla at Cape Central High and she was a friend to all in high school. While it has been many years since I last saw Twylla, she was a very good person and I am so sorry that cancer took her life, but as mentioned in her obituary, her F.R.O.G. way of life, she is at peace and enjoying her eternal life now. Rest in peace Twylla.

Greg Illers

GREG ILLERS - June 23, 2017 at 09:12 AM

JH

“ I first met Twylla playing volleyball at First Baptist in Cape. We stayed friends thru the years. She was blessed with many talents that she used for the Lord. May GOD provide strength for her family & friends thru this time.

Janice Ham - June 23, 2017 at 08:27 AM