



## Donna Ruth Jackson

April 7, 1939 - October 27, 2018

Donna Ruth Jackson was a loving spirit and devoted to her family. She passed away on Saturday, October 27, 2018. She was a gifted artist and a lover of all souls. Born in Buffalo, NY, she moved to Central Florida in 1964. She was an administrative assistant to the Vice President, Academic Affairs, at Florida Institute of Technology before moving to Leesburg in 1973. After serving as office manager for a number of area medical and legal enterprises, she became an art therapist and consultant for LifeStream, Sunrise Arc, and the Lake and Sumter County Schools. Her sculptures and weavings are in a number of public and private collections and she was instrumental in the facilitation of the Healing Wall at Tavares Middle School. She established the Lake County Empty Bowls project, an international effort to end hunger. She was a long time member of St. James Episcopal Church, prior to being a member of St. Edwards Episcopal Church.

She was predeceased by her husband, Reverend Dr. Terry W. Jackson and granddaughter, Natalie L. Spear. She is survived by daughters, Kim Spear (Mike Spear), Debbie Oliver (George Oliver), Michelle Ryan (Joe Ryan), and Jennifer Burnsed (Matt Burnsed); brother, Ron (Patricia) Knutson; sister-in-law, Janet (Doug) Parham; brother-in-law, Bobby (Nadine) Jackson; 11 grandchildren, Michael (Tiffany) Spear, Wesley (Alisha) Spear, Jessica (CJ) Baynon, Jacob Rixie, Joshua Rixie, Jamie (Preston) Stater, Zachary Ryan, Lucas Ryan, Addison Burnsed and Landon Burnsed and 2 great grandchildren, Logan Rixie and Mia Spear.

Memorial Services will be held on Thursday, November 1, 2018 at 1:00 PM at St. James Episcopal Church, Leesburg with Father Thomas Trees and Father Mark Lafler. For those who wish, memorials may be made to the Lake Cares Food Pantry 2001 West Old Highway 441, suite 1, Mt. Dora, FL 32757 or [LAKECARES.org](http://LAKECARES.org).

# Tribute Wall

FG

“ I am so sorry for the passing of Donna, my condolences to her Family.I know too well the pain of losing a loved one and what helped me was Gods promise at Revelation 21:4-" And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away." Very soon death will done away with and we will see our loved ones again. I hope this comforts you as much as it did me.

Franklin G - November 10, 2018 at 04:06 PM

DH

“ Our heartfelt sympathy to all the family during this time of bereavement. We weren't with Terry and Donna very often, but so enjoyed our last visit at the Jackson reunion in Austin several years ago. Donna was a loving and gifted soul and we cherish our memories of her. We hold you all near in our hearts as you make this transition. With love to all....



Don and Judy Hauk - November 03, 2018 at 02:40 PM

KR

“ Your gentle, loving light will always shine on us all and live through your beautiful legacy of children, grandchildren and on. Rest Softly Ma'am and please say hello to my mom, dad and brother John. Much love, Kelly



Kelly Ryan - November 01, 2018 at 12:39 PM

SS

“ *I have fond memories of your kind and lovely mother when I spent time with the Jackson girls during high school. I am sorry for your loss.*

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**Susan Rager Sapp** - October 31, 2018 at 06:30 PM

JC

“ *My condolences to Donna's family and friends. Donna was such a lovely lady, always smiling and so very positive and wanting to make each life she touched better. She accomplished that goal and so much more. She will be greatly missed.*

*God Bless,  
Judy*

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**Judy Carter** - October 31, 2018 at 10:25 AM

LK

“ *Dear cousins,  
I was very sorry to learn of your mom's serious illness and then of her death. I am also so very happy to know of all the wonderful moments we shared, when both young and old, with one another and our parents. Know that our love extends to each of you. Kim and I will be making a memorial to the food pantry. Lots of Love,  
Larry*

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**Larry Knutson** - October 30, 2018 at 07:11 PM