



## Catherine L McCarty

September 5, 1937 - January 22, 2026

Catherine L. McCarty, 88, was born on September 5, 1937, in Union City, Arkansas, to the late John and Mattie Ferguson. She passed away peacefully on January 22, 2026, in Green Cove Springs, Florida.

Catherine devoted her life to faith, family, and service. As a pastor's wife, she embraced every aspect of that calling with grace and commitment. Her life centered on the church and her husband's ministry, where she taught Sunday School, led Bible studies, faithfully attended services, and often helped prepare Wednesday night suppers. Serving others through the church was a central and defining part of her life.

In addition to her devotion to family and ministry, Catherine dedicated her professional career to education. She worked for many years as a secretary and spent the final 20 years of her career as Executive Secretary at the St. Johns County School District in St. Augustine. In this role, she worked closely with teachers, principals, and school board members, relationships she valued deeply. She took great pride in her work and retired at the age of 73.

Catherine loved living in St. Augustine and especially enjoyed walking through the historic district. Despite the many demands of being a pastor's wife, a mother, and a full-time professional, she always made time for the things she loved. She was an accomplished Southern cook who generously shared her recipes with her daughter and granddaughter. She maintained an organic

vegetable garden and took great care in canning and freezing food for her family. Her sweet pickles even earned a blue ribbon at the Putnam County Fair.

An avid gardener, Catherine delighted in growing roses, African violets, and orchids. She had a lifelong curiosity about the natural world and set a personal goal of learning the names of as many flowers, trees, and shrubs as possible.

She is lovingly survived by her daughter, Cathy (Gregg) Simmons; her son, David (Amy) Futch; her sister, Dorothy Brasher; three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Penney Farms Retirement Community: [https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=QA7MM5S8J6PLS](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=QA7MM5S8J6PLS)

# Tribute Wall

BK

“ Catherine was a dear friend to both Jim and I. We loved her at HCC as our Pastor’s wife and welcomed her to Penney Retirement Community after Doran passed. Catherine and I shared a love of orchids and other plants. She was a great help in our PRC orchid greenhouse. She was truly missed when her health kept her from continuing with orchid care. We have good memories of meals together and automobile trips back to St Augustine. Especially to eat at O’Steens! Love and prayers to all her family.

*Jim and Barbara Knight*

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**Barbara Knight** - February 03 at 02:46 PM

SH

“ Catherine was the dearest friend who always had time for me and even offered a shoulder to cry on at times. She was the epitome of a Pastor’s wife, a loyal steadfast friend and shared her Light with anyone and everyone. I was blessed to be able to call her my precious friend.

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**Susie Hellmann** - February 02 at 09:43 AM

MC

“ Ms. Catherine always had a kind word for all she saw and made them feel welcome at Anastasia. Enjoyed sitting near her on Sunday evenings and singing hymns. I missed our Sunday conversations when she and Dorian moved. Prayers of comfort for her family and to remember the special memories you shared.  
*Margaret Cody*

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**Margaret Cody** - January 27 at 06:40 PM