



Susan Laurie Russell

May 4, 1946 - April 7, 2019

Susan Laurie (Staggs) Russell, known to most as 'Susie', age 72, met her Savior and dearest friend, Jesus Christ, face to face on Sunday, April 7th at 4:44am. Susie was born in Coronado, CA on May 4, 1946 to Capt. William R. Staggs and Grace Kathryn (Glasser) Staggs. As the daughter of a Navy Captain she had the incredible opportunity to live in numerous states and parts of the world, including Japan and Newfoundland. Settling in St. Augustine with her family, she graduated from St. Augustine High in 1962 after enjoying many clubs, activities and putting her "Most School Spirited" status to use as the SAHS Yellow Jacket Mascot!

Following high school, she attended St. Johns River Community College, married and raised three girls while traveling across America to various duty stations. Returning to St. Augustine in 1987, she enjoyed supporting others at both St. Augustine and Nease High School, serving in the offices, clinic and guidance department. Later, as a passionate Coordinator of Volunteers for Community Hospice of North East Florida, she loved leading, training and loving others. As a daughter of King Jesus, Susie loved worshiping Him and learning with others in St. Augustine at Trinity Chapel years ago and Anastasia Baptist Church currently. In true Susie form, she was a very active "all in" member of both churches! Most recently, Susie loved taking on new challenges while sharing her remarkably witty sense of humor, solid Godly wisdom and various crock pot creations as a Bookkeeper at St. Johns Family

Funeral Home. Cooking and laughing with friends, sharing good reads and hanging out with her dog, Bella, brought her great joy!

Reflecting on the love and life of Susie as she was known, her family and coworkers recently gathered these words of adoration and description: generous, loyal, creative, honest, selfless, hilarious, devout, brave, hospitable, compassionate, honest, clever and appropriately inappropriate at the most appropriate of times.

She is loved, missed and survived by her daughters, Suzanne Bennett and husband Rob, Sanford, FL, Jen Hughes and husband Jason, St. Augustine, FL, and Jamie "Betsy" Ball and husband Jeff, New Orleans, LA; Her sisters, Twinkle McNairy and husband John, St. Augustine, FL, Diana Crimi, Roy, WA, and Peggy Frisina, The Villages, FL; Her grandchildren Erin, Jacob, Austin, Ian, Kyler, Abi and Bri, and, of course, her beloved Great Pyrenees dog, Bella.

Susie's life will be celebrated on her birthday this year, May 4th at noon at Anastasia Baptist Church. In lieu of flowers, Susie would love donations to be made in her memory to: Hope for Haiti, 217 Fiddler's Point Drive, St. Augustine, FL. 32080.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 4. 12:00 PM (ET)

Anastasia Baptist Church
1650 A1A South
St. Augustine, FL 32080

Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Susan Laurie Russell*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - May 06, 2019 at 04:03 PM

JB

“ *It has been 7 years now and it still feels like just yesterday. I miss you so much, our long talks, sunrise worship times and lots and lots of laughter. The only peace I have is that you are with Jesus and no longer in pain. I love you and can't wait to see your face again one day. Love Betsy*

Jamie Ball - April 08 at 09:23 AM

WN

“ *With love, Mom & Dad Bennett, the Irwins & Nestors purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Susan Laurie Russell.*



With love, Mom & Dad Bennett, the Irwins & Nestors - May 02, 2019 at 10:09 PM

GM

“ *Thank you all for sharing the wonderful pictures. That's our Susie!!*

glo Minor - April 30, 2019 at 07:02 PM

WE

“ *Suzie was the leader of our life group and showed us how to trust in God's plan. She was truly a remarkable lady who will always hold a special place in our hearts. She lived her faith daily and I am certain that she is now with our Saviour, walking with Him and watching over us as we continue to learn God's word and what it means in our lives. We'll miss her dearly, but we will see her again one day.*

Wayne & Toni Ernissee

Wayne Ernissee - April 30, 2019 at 04:51 PM



“ *63 files added to the album Life Tributes*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - April 29, 2019 at 02:03 PM

BS

“ *As you can see in the photo below, when we were young, Cousin Susie and I would dress up in her mother's glamorous clothes. My earliest memories of her were of a happy, outgoing girl. I am grateful we reconnected later in life and I got to know the generous, loving, funny person she became. She was a support to family and friends and optimistic in the hardest of times. She lived her faith. I feel blessed for the time I spent with her and feel sad for all of us who have lost this special person.*

Barbara (Staggs) Stapleton - April 15, 2019 at 04:38 PM

BS

“ 1 file added to the album *Childhood*



Barbara J Stapleton - April 15, 2019 at 03:29 PM

NW

“ *There is so much I want to say but my words seem to fail me. I know Auntie Susie is in heaven with Jesus, and that brings me comfort and joy. But oh how I will miss her. I love her so dearly. So many things about her were beautiful and special and rare. I wish I could hear her voice again. Her voice was always lovely; full of words of wisdom and encouragement, full of song. My heart breaks for her sons in law, grandchildren, and especially for her daughters. You are all in my prayers. I am so sorry for your loss.*

Nicolle Wadleigh - April 12, 2019 at 11:07 PM

LS

“ *“Aunt” Susie was the first non relative that we referred to as our aunt. She was always funny, sweet and kind to us. Even though I had not seen her in over 45 years when I recently got to visit with her it was like we had just left each other. She always had a way to put others at ease and made you feel welcome and loved. I am glad for the time that she and my mom got to reconnect these last few years and also thankful for the love and care she gave my mom. She will be missed but I know she is happy where she is.*

Lee Snowden - April 12, 2019 at 03:03 PM

JB

“ Thank you for your beauty, teaching me the Love of the Lord, to be a strong woman. Thank you for loving us so much and being the best Mom in the world. I miss you so very much and wish I could still kiss your face. I know you are with the Lord now and at peace but I am so broken hearted. I love you, Mommy.

Jamie Ball - April 11, 2019 at 08:56 PM

GM

“ I met Susie in 1974. We were next door neighbors at N A S Jacksonville. My life has been Blessed ever since. She always welcomed me with open arms. She took away fears and replaced them with strong counsel peppered with great humour. Her strength was unwavering. Her compassion knew NO bounds. When anyone needed a place to recover Susie's home was where we went. I can't think of anyone that loved more. We miss her terribly. But we know she is dancing with great joy in the arms of the LORD!! Thank GOD for every moment we have had with our Susie. She will always be in our hearts.
glo and Charity

glo Minor - April 11, 2019 at 07:01 PM