



Rosetta "Rose" Speake

October 1, 1944 - December 29, 2023

Rosetta "Rose" Speake passed away peacefully on December 29, 2023, at the age of 79, surrounded by her children.

Born on October 1, 1944, in Wythe County, VA, she was the daughter of the late Nettie and Alfred Viars. Rose's life journey was marked by the love of family, richness of her friendships, and the enduring love she poured into her role as a grandmother.

In her early years, Rose traveled the world with her husband and friends. Although she visited many destinations including Hawaii, London, and Rio de Janeiro, the landscapes of Switzerland were by far her favorite. Her most treasured discovery, the joy of motherhood, came to her later in life. After having her children, Rose's travels found a new purpose – creating memories at the beach with her family and friends.

Rose also had a huge heart for her furry friends, treating each one as a family member, including her "granddogs." She rescued many animals including birds, dogs, cats, and even a raccoon. Though she loved many things: family, baking, a good book, animals, and the Christmas season, her greatest love was reserved for her grandchildren. She always had a smile for her grandkids and treasured being their Grandma Rose.

Rosetta "Rose" Speake's departure leaves a legacy filled with memories of her love and kindness. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers, Alfred Viars, Roy Viars, and Kelly Viars, and sisters, Eva Grimes, Ruby Viars, and Betty Gravely, and by her close friend, Gloria Hampton, with whom she spent many hours by the river, enjoying cocktails and conversation.

Left to honor and cherish her memory are her husband Dale Speake, her children, Melissa Donabedian (Will) of Burke, VA and Jonathan Speake (Kristal Tucker) of Welcome, MD, her grandchildren, Kelsey Donabedian, Jordan Speake, and Matthew Donabedian, and her brother, James "Ed" Viars (Ellen). She will also be remembered lovingly by her nieces, nephews, cousins, and many special friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Hospice of the Chesapeake, an organization that provides compassionate care during life's most challenging moments. (Hospice of the Chesapeake Foundation, John and Cathy Belcher Campus, 90 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena, MD 21122.)

A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date.

Cemetery Details

Private

Tribute Wall

KG

“ *The christmas get togethers and many sleep overs at rose and dales house were very memorable. Her smile was infectious, and was always a pleasure to be around sitting on my grandmothers porch chit chatting. Prayers to Dale, Melissa, and John*

keith grimes - January 04, 2024 at 03:53 PM

FC

“ *Frank & Ingrid Culhane lit a candle in memory of Rosetta "Rose" Speake*



Frank & Ingrid Culhane - January 02, 2024 at 03:57 PM

DC

“ *Rose was a favorite "parent" of mine. She always had kind words for me. We often shared laughter and whatever was going on in our lives. She was a great listener and I loved spending time with her!*

Dee Crowell - January 02, 2024 at 03:48 PM