



Dianne Russell Saunders

July 6, 1948 - December 21, 2018

Dianne Sloan Russell Saunders departed her earthly home for her heavenly home on Friday, December 21, 2018, after a courageous 18 year battle against cancer.

Dianne was born in Danville on July 6, 1948, to the late Cabell T. “Jack” Russell and Nellie Sloan Russell, who survives. Dianne was married to L. Samuel Saunders, CPA for fifty-two years. She was a charter member of North Main Baptist Church where she sung in the choir and served on various committees. Her true calling was working with small children. She taught in the preschool department for almost fifty years and loved and cared for each of her “church” children.

Dianne graduated from Averett University with an Associate Degree in Art. While she was a good artist, but she preferred working with crafts and creating things, a passion she shared with her children, grandchildren and “adopted” children.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her two sons, Mark H. Saunders (Dawn) and Timothy D. Saunders (Sabrina), her mother and her sister, Jeanne R. Lavinder (Michael). She is also survived by the joys of her life, her seven Saunders grandchildren, Andrew Preston, Rachel Sloan, twins Emily Nicole and Kathryn Ann, twins Danielle Arlene and Erin Dianne and Caleb

Russell, and her sisters in law, Melody S. Walley (Steve) and Kathy S. Robertson.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 pm on Monday, December 24, at North Main Baptist Church. The family will receive friends on Sunday, December 23, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the church.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests you make memorial donations to North Main Baptist Church Building Fund or the Community Foundation of the Dan River Region Board Fund.

Online condolences at www.wrenn-yeatts.com.

Wrenn-Yeatts North Main Chapel is serving the Saunders family.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **23**. 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (ET)

North Main Baptist Church
2818 North Main St
Danville, VA 24540

Funeral Service

DEC **24**. 1:00 PM (ET)

North Main Baptist Church
2818 North Main St
Danville, VA 24540

Burial

DEC **24** (ET)

Highland Burial Park
3049 North Main Street
Danville, VA

Tribute Wall

SP

“ So very sorry for your loss. Susan and Dan Pomposini

susan pomposini - December 26, 2018 at 10:36 AM

JB

“ We are so sorry for your loss. I know your family is a comfort at this time and remember how you spoke of her love of family and her giving nature whenever we saw you.

Judy and Bob Broughton

judy broughton - December 24, 2018 at 08:02 AM



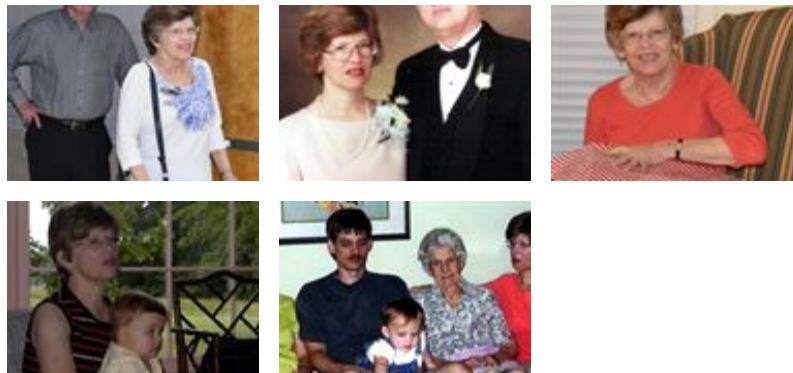
“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dianne Russell Saunders.



December 23, 2018 at 09:17 AM



“ 72 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes - December 23, 2018 at 08:47 AM

DB

“ My heart and prayers go out to the Saunders family at this time for their loss. Dianne was a good Christian lady. She will be sorely missed.

Duane B - December 22, 2018 at 11:33 PM

AJ

“ Praying for the family during this difficult time. Just like the footprints in the sand, when you only see one set of footprints, God is carrying you through this. Angela Jones-Petty

Angela Jones-Petty - December 22, 2018 at 09:21 PM

WB

“ Sammy, we are sorry to hear about your loss. She is now pain free and celebrating life with her Lord. Prayers are with you and your family.

Wesley & Violet Barker - December 22, 2018 at 03:20 PM

BD

“ Thoughts and prayers for your family.

Barbara Dillard - December 22, 2018 at 08:52 AM

BW

“ Please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers as you experience your loss. Bob & Virginia Wiles

Bob & Virginia Wiles - December 22, 2018 at 08:37 AM

AW

“ Dearest Saunders Family,

Thoughts and prayers are with you. Though we did not know Diane personally, we felt like we knew her through the many wonderful stories told us at Averett University's board of trustees meetings by wonderful and loving Sammy. We lift you up in prayer for comfort during this difficult time, and we wish we could do more.

Sincerely,

Annie (Board of Trustees) and Ray Wimbish

Annie Wimbish - December 21, 2018 at 08:08 PM

CC

So sorry for your loss. My first memory of Dianne was her sweet smile as she took part in Melissa and Jeff's wedding shortly after her diagnosis. What a caring spirit!

Carolyn Chandler

Carolyn Chandler - December 22, 2018 at 10:21 AM

LF

“ *Tim and Family, your strength will be given unto you by your Savior, Jesus Christ. Your Mom was ready, and her wings were ready to go, but I know your hearts were not ready. You know she in heaven, and if you cannot be with your loved ones, then there is no better place to be. May your Dad, brother, and all the family find peace in knowing where she is. She has no pain, no sorrow, and is cancer free. She fought a long and hard battle but she has been set free. May God give each of you the strength that you will need each day. Praying for you.*



Linda Falls - December 21, 2018 at 06:22 PM

LB

“ Dear Sammy, we send prayers and sympathy to you and your family, what a strong woman to have hung onto life for so long, know you will miss her,, love. Lily and Maynard's

Lily Barker - December 21, 2018 at 04:39 PM

KW

“ Tim my family and I are sending prayers for peace and comfort to you and your family during this difficult time.

KC Watson, Lynchburg, AHAA office

KC WATSON - December 21, 2018 at 03:26 PM

TE

“ My friendship with Dianne goes a long way. She makes the newcomers in Danville feel welcomed. One thing Dianne and I have in common are our allergies. We went together to Duke Hospital to have our allergies tested. We are July Babes- loyal, artistic and unassuming. and also she laughed at my jokes. I gave her a tiny wooden crucifix from Jerusalem, told her that if she is in pain to hold it in the palm of her hands, Still she was so brave and courageous to submit to a lot of surgeries and chemotherapy. Today I was thinking about her. Our house was flooded and my husband and I are sick. I was going to call her.

Rest in peace, Dianne. GOD LOVES YOU. And I will miss you.

Tita Escario

Tita Escario - December 21, 2018 at 01:53 PM

JC

“ Dianne was a special, gifted person. She certainly fought the good fight and my heart is heavy that she has left her earthly body, but know she is in a good place and no longer ill. Her family is in my prayers. Judy Cobble

Judy Cobble - December 21, 2018 at 12:18 PM

LC

“ Tim, just wanted to say how sorry I am for the loss of you mother. Thoughts & prayers are with you and your family.

Lisa Clark, Lynchburg AHAA office

Lisa Clark - December 21, 2018 at 12:03 PM