



# Donette Elaine McLaughlin

November 24, 1964 - August 17, 2024

Donette Elaine McLaughlin, a beloved mother, wife, Mimi, and friend, passed away peacefully on August 17, 2024, surrounded by her loved ones, at the age of 59. She was born on November 24, 1964, to Sandy Hughes and Donald Pope of Charlotte, NC.

Donette is survived by her loving husband, Rick Thornburg; her mother, Sandra Hughes; her stepmother, Tammy Pope; her sisters, Christy (Joshua) Bush and Tonia Pope; her brother, Donald (Laura) Pope; her daughter, Heather Phillips, and son-in-law, Travis Phillips; and her cherished grandchildren, Skylar, Bryce, and Adalynn Phillips. She is also remembered by her nieces, Kirsten Bush, Caroline and Kelsey Lynch, and her nephews, Aaron Lacy, Daniel Bush and Brooks Pope. Preceding her in death were her father, Donald Pope; her sister, Tracy Pope; and her nephew, Alexander Lacy.

Known for her gentle spirit, kind heart, and unwavering devotion to her family and friends, Donette will be remembered for her love of cooking from scratch and her passion for gardening alongside her husband, Rick. Those fortunate enough to know her were treated to her famous dance moves, including the beloved signature move known as the "Donette." With a vibrant personality, she never met a stranger and left a lasting impression on everyone she encountered. Donette's infectious laughter, love of the holidays, and greatest joy as a Mimi truly defined her spirit.

One of her favorite quotes from Winnie the Pooh, "If there ever comes a day when we can't be together, keep me in your heart; I'll stay there forever," encapsulates the love she shared with those around her. Though her loss leaves a profound void in our lives, her memory will forever shine brightly in our hearts. We know you'll be the first to "Holla" when we enter Heaven.

A memorial service to celebrate Donette's life will be held at Wilson Grove Baptist Church on Friday, August 23rd, 2024 with visitation beginning at 4:30 and memorial service following at 5:00.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Billie's Buddies to honor Donette's love for animals. Donations can be made through Venmo @billiesbuddies.

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Friends and Family

AUG **23**. 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Wilson Grove Baptist Church  
6624 Wilgrove Mint Hill Road  
Mint Hill, NC 28227

## Memorial Service

AUG **23**. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Wilson Grove Baptist Church  
6624 Wilgrove Mint Hill Road  
Mint Hill, NC 28227

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Donette Elaine McLaughlin*



**Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home** - August 23, 2024 at 03:29 PM

RT

“ *richard thornburg lit a candle in memory of Donette McLaughlin*



**richard thornburg** - August 22, 2024 at 09:18 PM

FF

“ *From the McLaughlin and Brawley Family purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Donette Elaine McLaughlin.*



**From the McLaughlin and Brawley Family** - August 21, 2024 at 10:06 PM

KC

“ *Karen and Celina purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Donette Elaine McLaughlin.*



**Karen and Celina** - August 21, 2024 at 04:39 PM

KC

“ *Karen and Celina planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donette Elaine McLaughlin.*

**Karen and Celina** - August 21, 2024 at 04:39 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donette Elaine McLaughlin.



August 21, 2024 at 12:47 PM

SH

“ Stephanie, Brianna, Kristi, & Hastings planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donette Elaine McLaughlin.

Stephanie, Brianna, Kristi, & Hastings - August 21, 2024 at 12:47 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donette Elaine McLaughlin.



August 20, 2024 at 09:28 PM

JW

“ Jamie, Amy, Tyler and Peyton Wiley planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donette Elaine McLaughlin.

Jamie, Amy, Tyler and Peyton Wiley - August 20, 2024 at 09:28 PM

AP

“ Donette and I were neighbors for over 20 years. Our families spent holidays and lots of cookout together.

We had a refrigerator with ice and water on the door , Donette would come over and say “ I wanna glass of your rich water “ . To this day my daughter and I always quote that and reminisce about the good times. I will miss her but she leaves me with great memories.

Praying for the family.

Fly high !!

Angela Pennachio - August 20, 2024 at 07:42 PM