



Barbara Campana

June 8, 1938 - May 24, 2020

Barbara K. Campana, dedicated mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, friend, and teacher passed away on Sunday, May 24.

Barbara was born in Harrisonburg, Virginia on June 8, 1938. She was the eldest daughter of Lavelle L. and Virginia M. Koogler.

Barbara is survived by her daughters Lynne Rapier (Bob) and Julie Borghese (Steve); sisters Gayle (Jack) Parr and Sandra (John) English; grandchildren Justin, Corbin, Madison, Nathan, and Sophia; nephews Kevin and Greg and nieces Debbie and Ashton.

She was preceded in death by her loving parents, Lavelle and Virginia Koogler, and adoring husband Herman J. Campana.

Barbara dedicated her entire life to teaching and education. She graduated from Bridgewater College in 1960 with a Bachelor of Arts and started her career in Elementary Education. She moved to Columbus, Ohio in 1971, and took a break from teaching to raise her young daughters. When they started school, Barbara resumed her career as a reading specialist for the Columbus Public Schools and later moved into her own classroom, teaching 4th grade until she retired in 1998. Barbara's passion for teaching continued even after retirement. Her grandchildren fondly remember grandma's days filled with love, fun, and education. As they grew older, grandma's days included tutoring, correcting research papers (with the dreaded red pen) and studying for the ACT. Barbara also spent many years teaching at the Delaware Area Career Center where she helped adult students prepare to take their GED.

She attended each graduation ceremony and celebrated with her students, officially retiring when she was 80.

Barbara was a member of Liberty Presbyterian Church and loved taking part in worship services and Friday morning Bible Study. She deepened her Bible studies on a pilgrimage to Israel in 2009, when she visited the Sea of Galilee, rode a camel up Mount Sinai by moonlight, and left a prayer at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem for each one of her family members and friends.

Barbara was our sunshine, our family's rock. She lit up a room, making everyone in it feel special. She touched so many lives with her kindness, generosity, and love. Her family was her top priority and she was there for each one of us, our biggest supporter. She loved getting together with family and friends, always insisting on doing something to help. Her desire to make a difference in people's lives was evident in everything she did, but nothing stands out more than her love for her family and friends.

A private family graveside service will be held on Friday.

The family would like to give special thanks to the caring and dedicated staff at Willow Brook Christian Home, Kindred Hospice, and Liberty Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Willow Brook Christian Home, Columbus, Ohio.

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara Campana*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *I just saw something on Facebook that said “Who was your favorite teacher ever?” I immediately thought of Barbara Campana! My 4th grade teacher! I decided to google her hoping that she was still around so I could tell her how I’m doing. I’m so sad to see I’m a little too late. I graduated the class of 2000 and shortly after I contacted her to tell her she was still the best ever & let her know I was going to college. I will always remember how she made learning so much fun and always made me feel like she cared about me...that I was important. My 4th grade year, one semester I was the only student in the whole school to get all A’s and I was recognized at the awards assembly. She was so proud that her student did that! When I moved away to another city, I was so sad without her. My mom called the school so I could talk to her. She encouraged me to do well. She told me she expected it from me. Then I ended up moving back and having her as my 5th grade teacher as well! I sure miss the days at Hudson elementary! She would play “Heads Up 7 Up” with us, walk us to Dairy Queen for ice cream & can’t forget the candy winnings from the speed math tests! She was just amazing! My prayers are with all of her family & friends. I love you Mrs. Campana! Rest In Peace. - Ariel Robinson (formerly Carter).*

AJ Robinson - July 27, 2020 at 07:41 PM

LG

“ *It's ironic that Barbara passed on 5/24. That was the street address of the High School where we met and graduated from so long ago.*

One of my fondest memories of that time was 1st Presby's Westminster Fellowship youth groups outings to Miller Beach every other Wednesday in the Summer. There it was food and fun on the beach and swimming in Lake Michigan.

I mourn Barbara's passing, but am uplifted by the fact that she now is with the God she loved, and more importantly the God who loved her first.

LeRoy

LeRoy Goldman - June 23, 2020 at 12:10 PM

CW

“ *Barbara was a wonderful person. She was always fun and caring. I worked with her through the DACC GED program, and she inspired and worked with many students to be successful in earning their GED. She was not only a co-worker, but a friend. Barbara left her mark on the world, and she will be missed.*

Cindy Wolfe

Cindy Wolfe - June 05, 2020 at 02:32 PM

BJ

“ My husband and I were blessed to have your Mother in our lives. She brought love and laughter to our Popcorn Group gatherings. Her wonderful sense of humor made for much needed lively discussion, especially when our chosen book met with little or no enthusiasm! We will never forget her sweet smile and generous heart!

With our sympathy and prayers,
Don and Bobbie Justice

Bobbie & Don Justice - June 02, 2020 at 04:04 PM

EM

“ I was touched when I read Barb's obituary in the newspaper. John and I were in a WUMC dinner group with her and Herm in the early 1990s. I always liked her and enjoyed seeing her at church. I last saw her about 18 months ago at Willow Brook when I went to visit another church member. I had a wonderful conversation with her then and was sad to hear about her health. I thought about her many times since and planned to visit her, but somehow life got in the way. I will remember her always for her willingness to help the girls with their children in any way she could. I will always remember what a beautiful woman she was and my good fortune that my life was touched by hers. My heart goes out to all Barb's family and close friends. She left a rich legacy, and now she is living in joy with Jesus, the angels, and all who preceded. My heart pains for all of you in the meantime. God will see you through until you meet again.

With deep sympathy,
John and Eleanor Meekins

Eleanor Meekins - June 02, 2020 at 01:04 PM

PS

“ Barbara was one of the first upperclass students I met at Bridgewater College. We became close friends and shared many happy times together. I appreciated Barb’s positive attitude, her sense of humor, her honesty, her listening ear, and her mentoring during my student teaching experience. I will always remember Barbara’s beautiful smile and devoted loyalty to her friends. My condolences to Lynn, Julie, family members and friends. May our wonderful memories of Barbara remind us of how fortunate we are to have had her in our lives.
Paula Bohi Stump

Paula Bohi Stump - May 31, 2020 at 01:45 PM



“ Red Poinsettia (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of Barbara Campana.



May 30, 2020 at 06:08 AM

PD

“ Pam Dugasz lit a candle in memory of Barbara Campana



Pam Dugasz - May 29, 2020 at 03:06 PM

PD

“ I met Barbara in 2011 when I returned to work after being a stay-at-home mom. She basically took me under her wing and helped me get acclimated to the classroom, my students, and the whole routine. Barbara was definitely loved by our students. She was always ready with a smile, an encouraging word and a big laugh. Barbara loved hearing about my family and talking about her family (who meant the world to her). I will greatly miss her.

I send my sincere and heartfelt condolences to Barbara's entire family. May you be wrapped in comfort knowing how much you were loved and that Barbara is now at peace. Big hugs!

Pam Dugasz - May 29, 2020 at 03:06 PM

LR

“ I knew Barb for just over 11 years - the time I have worked with the GED program. She was one classy lady. Always smiling, with such an impeccable style of her own, she was always upbeat and smiling, showing great care for the students. Students still ask about her as they all have their own fond memories. One young man called her "grandma." She is - and will be - missed.

Liz Robertson - May 29, 2020 at 11:05 AM

NW

“ I was truly blessed to have had Barbara in my life for these last thirty years. A dear friend whose nature was generous and loving to all. I smile when I think of her sense of humor and the laughter we shared, usually over silly things.

Barbara's love of family took top priority and teaching was a dedication. She said she was a tough teacher and I believe it. She expected the best from her students.

Now I think of you, Lynn and Julie, as well as all the family. You must be exhausted and in the depths of grief. Your mom is at peace after a long journey, especially after these last few years. I wish you happy memories and love.

Nancy Waggoner

nancy waggoner - May 29, 2020 at 10:15 AM

DF

“ Lynn and Bob, truly saddened to hear about Barb, she was such a delite when she came into my office as a patient, and we shared so many things that I felt like God had given me a sister..we send our prayers and sympathy..Dr. Dave and Sherry Foor

Dave and Sherry Foor - May 29, 2020 at 09:53 AM

WS

“ I recall a very spunky, loud and proud cheering grandma at many soccer and basketball games over the 10 or so years that Abby and Madison played together. Great big hug of support coming your way Lynn. I'm so sorry for your loss.

Wendi Senhauser - May 28, 2020 at 12:44 PM

AK

“ Our paths first crossed over sixty years ago when we both began our teaching careers at Thomas Stone Elementary School in Mt. Rainier, Md. We became friends immediately, and we and our husbands dined together frequently.

When we adopted Barbie, Barbara gave me a baby shower. When we adopted Linda, Barbara was a witness for us when we went before a judge. I'll never forget her answering the judge's questions and telling him our kitchen floor was clean enough to eat off.

When she and her family moved to Columbus, Ohio, After our cross-country family visit to California in 1975, we stopped for a visit at her house on the way back to Maryland. Years later, we moved to the Powell, Ohio, area and were near her. We then could have lunches and dinners together.

She will always have a piece of my heart. My family will always love and miss her. She was a fun, caring, loving, and very special person.

Ann M. Keefer

Ann Keefer - May 28, 2020 at 11:39 AM

CP

“ Barbara was my P.E.O. sister and treasured friend. She was open, loving, fun, and just a joy. You could tell this was the case instantly by the twinkle in her eyes when she smiled. She was also a very giving person who loved her family dearly and did so much to help others. What a great legacy she leaves. There is no doubt in my mind that anyone who ever spent time with Barb loved her. I hope it is comforting to her family to know that their loved one was admired by so many and is now at peace. God Bless, Colleen Parkhill

Colleen Parkhill - May 28, 2020 at 11:00 AM

BG

“ I once was told by a person in a retirement center she didn't have time to have friends even though she now had all the free time in the world to cultivate friendships. I realized she meant she didn't have years left to develop friendships that evolve over a lifetime of experiences with others. She just didn't have time to create meaningful memories--life's building blocks. Being with Barb in Liberty's bible study and then visiting her weekly at Willowbrook, I realized that lady was wrong.

Barb created wonderful memories even though we didn't know each other back in the day because she shared memories of being a beloved but no-nonsense teacher...of toeing the line for fear of not wanting to be caught doing anything wrong...of raising two daughters to be loving and mindful parents...of kibitzing with friends and drinking wine after a long neighborhood walk. She shared her story and then would listen to mine. We built our memories as she taught me to heed what Maya Angelou says is the wisest thing a person can do- "be present in the present...gratefully."

I will always be grateful to Barb for being present in my life. She was a great lady and friend.

Bev Graves - May 28, 2020 at 10:52 AM

DG

I just found out today of Mrs. Campana's passing. She was my 5th grade teacher at Hudson Elementary School. She by far had an important impact on my life. I searched for years trying to find her. Because I wanted her to know how I was doing and all the things I had accomplished since leaving her classroom in June of 1993. She was tough on me in the classroom. I remember she would keep me in at recess and make me do math because I struggled with it. I remember her telling me I will thank her later and I truly do. Thank You Mrs. Campana for everything you did for me and my classmates. Our dairy Queen walks in the spring to all the games we played. I remember the smell of her hot coco and her salads she made.

Dwayne Graves - January 22, 2021 at 06:44 PM

I ♥
Jeffrey

“ First , I would like to say, to your Family and friend's, I am so sorry for their pain. I know the human part has a broken heart. We know she is happy, no pain and no worries. This however does not make us miss her any less.I will also miss you ,my Friend so very much I hope you knew, what a smile you put in my heart, when my own heart was hurting so. We laughed and we cried together. I am thankful to God, for giving me the gift of being part of your life. Ms. Barb, May 24th was my day God brought me in this world. May 24th God said" Barb it is time for peace. I guess in some Sad, - Happy way, May 24th is special. I never left your room without saying , I love you. One last time, I love you miss Barb.
Your Sassy, Friend at Willow Brook, Joann Rouker

Joann Rouker - May 28, 2020 at 10:31 AM

BH

“ Barbara was a lovely friend who I treasure as a major part of my College experiences at Bridgewater College. She was one of 5 roommates and dear friends. Through the years we were able to visit occasionally but the affection and memories always present. As you girls were born and raised many conversations centered around you and joy she had with you. Then the grandchildren, lights of her life. She was a charming, dear friend and will be missed by each of you and her friends.

Barbara Hinegardner - May 28, 2020 at 08:16 AM

BK

“ I knew her my entire life. She was one of my mothers closest friends. She was always a joy to be around. I'm glad I got to spend a lot of time with her when I lived in Ohio.

Barbara Keefer - May 27, 2020 at 07:38 PM

DR

“ I send my warmest condolences to the family. Barbara's mom, Virginia and my mom, Helen were sisters.

Due to the virus and social group restrictions, I'm sorry all your immediate family are unable to gather for her service but we will all be there in spirit.

Love, Dana Bower Rygas & family in Pulaski, Virginia.



Dana Bower Rygas - May 27, 2020 at 06:44 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Barbara Campana.



May 27, 2020 at 05:40 PM

LD

“ I work with Lynne at L Brands. My thoughts and prayers are with Barbara's family and friends during this difficult time. I know how difficult it can be since losing my Mother in September. Take comfort in each other,

celebrate her life and continue to share the wonderful memories you have of Barbara.



Laura Decker - May 27, 2020 at 03:23 PM

JK

“ I work with Barbara's daughter, Lynne, at Lbrands in Columbus. I'm so sorry for your loss and we are praying for comfort for the family. Please take care of each other. Love, Jenny Kutz



Jennifer Kutz - May 27, 2020 at 03:02 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Barbara Campana.



May 27, 2020 at 02:23 PM

GP

“ Barbara was my friend, my sister, my confident and my joy. We cried together, shared thoughts, comforted each other, uplifted each other. I will miss her but hold wonderful memories in my heart. I love you Barbara. I am happy you are with Jesus, Herm, Mom and Dad, and free of pain. Rest In Peace Barbara 🙏🙏❤️❤️



Gayle Parr - May 27, 2020 at 01:49 PM

JD

“ I worked with Barb for many years. She was always friendly and upbeat! I remember taking a trip to a teacher training and learning a little bit more of her life. She loved her kids her and grandchildren very much! It was a joy to have known her.

Jenny DeJong - May 27, 2020 at 01:14 PM

MS

“ *My husband and I met Barb for the first time when we started going to a Silver Sneakers class at the Powell Y several years ago. I did not take long to know she was a totally wonderful, lovable person and we grew to be friends. We had several get-togethers with Barb and other SS friends and always, always enjoyed her company. So very sorry for your loss.*

Margaret Schubbe - May 27, 2020 at 01:00 PM