



## Emma Trahan Hopkins

May 12, 1934 - December 21, 2023

Emma Trahan Hopkins (1934 – 2023)

Emma Trahan Hopkins, age 89, passed away on Thursday, December 21, 2023. Born in Port Arthur, Texas, she lived with her parents and three siblings in several southeast Texas towns before settling in Victoria, Texas. It was there she met her future husband, Donald Hopkins, one Friday night at a local skating rink.

In 1952, Don relocated to South Carolina to work at the new Savannah River Plant. Emma went for a visit, they decided to marry, and she never returned home. For 20 years, Don and Emma resided in New Ellenton, South Carolina where they welcomed their three children. In 1974, Don joined the DuPont Company, prompting the family to move to Memphis, Tennessee.

Subsequently, they resided in Front Royal, Virginia; Beaumont, Texas; Orange, Texas; and Newark, Delaware. In 1996, Don and Emma retired to Summerfield, Florida. Don passed away in 2004, after nearly 52 years of marriage.

Outside of orchestrating these moves, Emma devoted her time to being a dedicated stay-at-home mom to her three spirited children, actively engaged in the community, and nurturing her creative pursuits.

A natural leader, Emma immersed herself in community activities, participating in the garden club, chairing community event committees, and parent-teacher organizations. Her passion for crafting and art was evident; she encouraged others to explore their creativity. Emma was often found crocheting squares, creating beautiful handmade blankets, and highlighting her exceptional skills as an accomplished seamstress, crafting custom wardrobes for her daughters and their dolls. Her entrepreneurial spirit shone through as she furnished her first home by making dance costumes.

While in Florida, Emma directed annual variety shows and personally crafted all the costumes. In her later years, she generously shared her love for crafting by leading arts workshops at Somerby Senior Living, where she lived for the last five years, teaching painting, wreath-making, crocheting, and organizing projects, including making hats for babies in the local NICU.

Emma lived a life characterized by passion and enthusiasm. Her love of adventure was evident through the joy and excitement that waterskiing provided in her 30s. With grace and skill, she navigated the waves, effortlessly performing tricks, all while managing to keep her hair perfectly dry. Her zest for life was boundless and persisted through the years, evident in her pursuit of new passions. In her sixties, she embraced the art of tap dancing and embarked on adventures around the world aboard cruise ships, reveling in the company of friends and family. She was known for her dedication to decorating and accessorizing for every occasion, evidenced by her storage unit filled with wreaths for all seasons and her enthusiasm for patriotic events, as she would be the first person there with her American flag waving.

Emma was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Hopkins, and two siblings. She is survived by her daughter Diane Grant, son-in-law Keith, and grandson Jackson of Dunwoody, Georgia; daughter Suzanne Saunders, also residing in Dunwoody, Georgia; son David Hopkins, daughter-in-law Melissa,

and grandson Samuel from Newark, Delaware; and her sister, Virginia Smith, of Austin, Texas.

A funeral service honoring Emma's life will be held at ten o'clock in the morning on Friday, February 16, 2024, at North Point Community Church, 4350 North Point Parkway, Alpharetta, GA, 30022. A reception will follow at the same location. In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution to a charity that resonates with Emma's spirit. Share memories and offer condolences to the family at [www.northsidechapel.com](http://www.northsidechapel.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Cremation - Northside Chapel Crematory

12050 Crabapple Road  
Roswell, GA

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

FEB **16**. 10:00 AM (ET)

North Point Community Church  
4350 North Point Parkway  
Alpharetta, GA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful Dreams* was purchased for the family of *Emma Trahan Hopkins*.



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February 13, 2024 at 04:26 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray* was purchased for the family of *Emma Trahan Hopkins*.



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February 13, 2024 at 03:47 PM



“ *Dion & Kimberly Natanilov* purchased the *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* for the family of *Emma Trahan Hopkins*.



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**Dion & Kimberly Natanilov** - February 07, 2024 at 10:10 PM



“ *Dion & Kimberly Natanilov* planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of *Emma Trahan Hopkins*.

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**Dion & Kimberly Natanilov** - February 07, 2024 at 10:10 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Emma Trahan Hopkins.



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February 02, 2024 at 08:46 AM



“ Don & Kelly Targac planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Emma Trahan Hopkins.

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**Don & Kelly Targac** - February 02, 2024 at 08:46 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Emma Trahan Hopkins.



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January 02, 2024 at 08:38 AM



“ Shannan and David planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Emma Trahan Hopkins.

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**Shannan and David** - January 02, 2024 at 08:38 AM

JS

“ Lots of memories from the theater guild in our home in Florida, to a travel companion. Emma will truly be missed. RIP my friend! 🙏🙏  
🙏

Jan Stotlemeyer - December 27, 2023 at 02:14 PM

SS

Thank you Jan

suzanne saunders - December 27, 2023 at 10:58 PM

DG

Thank you, Jan. Mom loved her friends at Stonecrest!

Diane Grant - December 30, 2023 at 01:42 PM

JL

“ Emma was Theater Guild's president for many years. In "The Last of Sherlock Holmes" (see photo), she was the House Manager and Costume Designer. Emma was instrumental in the Guild's success and popularity.  
Sonny Lerner, Theater Guild Director



Joan and Sonny Lerner - December 27, 2023 at 01:25 PM

SS

What a great memory. Thank you for sharing.

suzanne saunders - December 27, 2023 at 10:59 PM

DG

What a great picture, Sonny. Thank you for sharing it! Mom loved being involved with the Theater Guild.

Diane Grant - December 30, 2023 at 01:47 PM

HT

“ HYATT Design & Planning Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Emma Trahan Hopkins.

HYATT Design & Planning Team - December 27, 2023 at 11:14 AM

HT

“ HYATT Design & Planning Team purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Emma Trahan Hopkins.



HYATT Design & Planning Team - December 27, 2023 at 11:14 AM

DM

“ I met Emma at the Theatre Guild at Stonecrest...she was very active, so friendly and always said hello...thank you for the obit..will tell my FL friends of her passing. I'm very sorry for your loss...

dolores modic - December 26, 2023 at 05:10 PM

SS

Thank you Dolores

Suzanne Saunders - December 26, 2023 at 10:22 PM

DG

Thank you, Delores.

Diane Grant - December 30, 2023 at 01:44 PM

VS

“ Virginia and Leon Smith purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Emma Trahan Hopkins.



Virginia and Leon Smith - December 26, 2023 at 04:26 PM

HT

“ So sorry for your loss. I know you had wonderful gatherings since she moved up to Ga. She was a great neighbor in Stonecrest. Had many good times together and many memories.  
Jim & Helen Thompson

Helen & Jim Thompson - December 26, 2023 at 04:21 PM

SS

Thank you Helen & Jim

Suzanne Saunders - December 26, 2023 at 10:23 PM

DG

Thank you, Helen and Jim. Mom loved her friends at Stonecrest and you were among her best.

Diane Grant - December 30, 2023 at 01:49 PM

KM

“ I'm sorry for your loss! Emma was a gem, she'll be missed by many

krista mccrea - December 26, 2023 at 01:34 PM

SS

Thank you Krista

Suzanne Saunders - December 26, 2023 at 10:23 PM

DG

*Thank you, Krista.*

**Diane Grant** - December 30, 2023 at 01:49 PM

IM

“ *So sorry to hear of Emma’s passing. Our families became friends when they moved to New Ellenton many years ago. Prayers for you all.*

*Pat Blackmon and Ida Blackmon Meeler*

**ida Meeler** - December 26, 2023 at 12:43 PM

SS

*Thank you Pat & Ida*

**Suzanne Saunders** - December 26, 2023 at 10:24 PM

DG

*Thank you, Pat and Ida. There are so many great memories life together in New Ellenton. Mom treasured a pelican your dad carved for her with his chainsaw and it sat on a pedestal outside her door for many years.*

**Diane Grant** - December 30, 2023 at 01:52 PM

SA

“ *Emma was a great lady & neighbor. She made costumes for me for her Variety shows & thoroughly enjoyed what she did. Never said NO. A very talented lady & was missed when she moved from Stonecrest. Left many memories.*

**sally abernathy** - December 26, 2023 at 12:27 PM

SS

*Thank you Sally*

**Suzanne Saunders** - December 26, 2023 at 10:24 PM

DG

*Thank you, Sally. Mom loved her life at Stonecrest and it was due in no small part to the many great friends she had like you!*

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**Diane Grant** - December 30, 2023 at 01:53 PM

PH

“*Emma was a good friend - always full of laughter - first day of snow, it was chili at the Hopkins. She helped me survive a divorce and packing to move from my home; as a single mom, she helped me with appointments for my younger daughter, who always called her “Nurse Emma” - she was always available to listen - even though she lived to talk as much as I do. Emma will be remembered fondly as a genuine friend.*

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**Patti Hossain** - December 26, 2023 at 11:53 AM

SS

*What a great memory Patti. Thank you for sharing.*

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**Suzanne Saunders** - December 26, 2023 at 10:25 PM

DG

*Thank you for sharing, Patti. You were always more than a friend...you were part of her Delaware family.*

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**Diane Grant** - December 30, 2023 at 01:56 PM