



Jacqualine "Jackie" Hollingsworth

July 1, 1946 - October 3, 2010

Jacqualine Ray Yearwood Hollingsworth

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On October 3rd, Jackie Hollingsworth was wrapped in God's blanket of comfort and love just as she wrapped so many others in the past. Few people in the North Fulton area have never heard of the "Blanket Lady" from Alpharetta First United Methodist Church because more than 10,000 people have received a comfort blanket from the ministry that Jackie started in 1998. Over the years, other members of the church caught Jackie's enthusiasm for this ministry and the work will continue. Jackie spent her life giving to others through her ministries, music, teaching, and strong devotion to her family. From an early age Jackie was well-known for her passion for music. In her 35-year career as a music teacher in Fulton County School system, Jackie taught thousands of students to love music. She retired from teaching in 2006 As a music teacher in her private piano studio Jackie shared her love for music. She was a gifted teacher and enjoyed creating beautiful music too. As a musician, she served as organist, pianist, and choir director in churches throughout the community and was an accompanist for many years for GMEA's All-State Choruses. Jackie grew up in Jackson, Mississippi, graduated from Forest Hill High School in 1964, then graduated from Mississippi State College for Women in 1968 where she earned a Bachelors degree in Music Education. Then in 1971 she graduated from North Texas

State University with a Master of Music Education degree. After graduate school, she began her teaching career in Georgia at Roswell High School then taught at Haynes Bridge and Northwestern Middle Schools in Alpharetta. In retirement, Jackie discovered she loved volunteering to teach English to adult speakers of other languages. Jackie and her husband, Ben, recently celebrated their 37th wedding anniversary. They were truly devoted to each other and supported each other in their various careers, hobbies, passions and raising their children, Erin and Biff. Jackie loved her role as “Joy Mama” with her grandsons. She felt blessed to see her son and daughter become great parents and give her two awesome grandsons. Many times Jackie would push herself to do things with the grandchildren in spite of her illness. Jackie stocked a fabulous playroom for her grandsons with many great bargains from thrift stores. Jackie loved a bargain and would buy things with specific intentions to give them to people who were in need. Her Good Samaritan heart was inspired by her parents. Her father, D.C. Yearwood, was known as the “Good Samaritan” of Jackson. Her mother, Vera Yearwood, established a thrift shop in her church to help people in need. Over the years, Jackie undertook multiple crafting projects, but she was perhaps better known for her “Tom Sawyer” personality. She was great at having the ideas - and even better at convincing someone else to carry out those ideas. She became a member of Chattahoochee Evening Stars Quilt Guild and then persuaded her husband Ben to join. Additionally, she was a member of the East Cobb Quilt Guild with Ben. She was also a member of AFUMC's Agape circle of United Methodist Women. Jackie lost her final battle with cancer after a courageous 14 year fight. Jackie fought the disease despite just about every set-back imaginable. She lived life to its fullest even while coping with her ongoing treatments. Throughout her years of treatments, she was loved and supported by her husband, family, and doctors and staff of Atlanta Cancer Care. For two months prior to her death, Jackie was cared for by her family, friends, and an amazing home hospice staff.

Jacqueline Ray Yearwood Hollingsworth was born July 1, 1946 in Jackson,

Mississippi. She was the daughter of D. C. and Vera Catherine Eads Yearwood. She is survived by her husband, Bennie M. Hollingsworth of Alpharetta, GA, her sister, Ginger Alice Yearwood Manchester (John Manchester) of Raymond, MS, daughter, Catherine "Erin" Christine Hollingsworth Parker (Chaz Parker) of Woodstock, GA, son Douglas Clinton "Biff" Hollingsworth (Kate Murphy-McMillian) of Durham, NC, two grandsons, Owen Charles Parker and Jonas Clyde Mulhollan, one nephew, Joshua Manchester (Amy Manchester), one niece, Katie Ha (Steve Ha), three aunts, Alice Eads, Faye Denham and Carolyn Pendery, and their families. The family will receive visitors from 6-8pm on Wed. October 6th at Northside Chapel Funeral Directors and from 5-6pm on Thurs. October 7th at Alpharetta FUMC. Funeral services will be Thurs. October 7th at 6:30 at AFUMC and will be followed by a reception in the Methodist Youth Center. Interment will be Fri. October 8th at 11am at Greenlawn Cemetery. For more information, visit www.northsidechapel.com. Memorials may be made to the Blanket Ministry at Alpharetta UMC at 69 N. Main Street Alpharetta, GA 30009.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 6. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Northside Chapel Funeral Directors and Crematory
12050 Crabapple Road
Roswell, GA

Visitation

OCT 7. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Alpharetta First United Methodist Church
69 North Main Street
Alpharetta, GA

Service

OCT 7. 6:30 PM (ET)

Alpharetta First United Methodist Church
69 North Main Street
Alpharetta, GA

Tribute Wall



“ *Jacqueline "Jackie" Hollingsworth*

October 08, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ *Dear Ben and Family:*

I was so sad to hear of Jackie's death. I was sad, too that I was out of town and unable to attend her services. She was such an incredible delight to know. I wish we had had more time to get to know her better. Her upbeat spirit caused me to want to emulate her as a person and as a teacher/musician.

May God sustain you through this difficult time. You are in our prayers!

In Him, Musically,

Lori Hamrick###imported-begin##Lori Hamrick###imported-end##

October 21, 2010 at 09:59 AM



“ *I knew Jackie in high school at Forest Hill in MS. She has always been a special person and a blessing to know.*

May you experience Gods Peace even more for knowing and loving Jackie.

Fred Hall###imported-begin##Fred Hall###imported-end##

October 11, 2010 at 10:59 AM



“ Dear Ben, Erin and Biff and all the family,

I will always have very warm and loving memories of Jackie. Although we did not see each other often, I felt a kinship with her and we kept up with each other through Ginger and John. I always enjoyed hearing of the family as they were growing up and then as young adults. I was/am in awe of the artistic talent she and Ben shared. We will always have a special connection and beautiful memory in common as our two grandchildren, Owen and Keily captured the hearts of everyone at Katie's and Steve's wedding as the ring bearer and flower girl. Katie and Steve were not the only stunning couple there! Our collective hearts and prayers go out to the entire family at this sad time. We love you all.

Bonnie and the Butsch Family##imported-begin##The Butsch Family##imported-end##

October 10, 2010 at 11:08 AM



“ I READ ABOUT JACKIE IN THE PAPER TODAY. I HAVE SO MANY FUN MEMORIES OF YEAR AT FOREST HILL- WHEN I SPEND THE NIGHT AT HER HOUSE AND WENT TO FOREST HILL METHODIST CHURCH. I'M SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSE. SHE IS A SWEET AND PRETTY GIRL##imported-begin##MYRA DALE JONES CHILDRESS##imported-end##

October 09, 2010 at 11:15 AM



“ Ben

I didn't know that Jackie was ill again. I saw her at the library's book sale about a year ago and, as always, enjoyed a conversation with her about our kids, grandkids, favorite books, quilting and life in general. I am so sorry to learn of her death. The world is a dimmer place without her light shining on everyone she met.

Jeanne Pethel###imported-begin##Jeanne Pethel###imported-end##

October 08, 2010 at 01:02 PM



“ *I was so sorry to hear about Jackie. Although I have not seen her in over 50 years, I remember her well. She and I grew up in the same neighborhood, and her parents were also such good neighbors to my Mother. As a young child Jackie was such a good musician. I know she will be missed by her family and friends.###imported-begin##Marian Cox Crawford###imported-end##*

October 07, 2010 at 05:02 PM



“ *I just loved Mrs. Hollingsworth - she was my chorus teacher at Haynes Bridge Middle School 1987-89. She is the reason I still love to sing, and know all of the states in alphabetical order :) . Love and Prayers to your family...###imported-begin##Melaney Mills Sems###imported-end##*

October 07, 2010 at 04:51 PM



“ We share your grief and sense of loss, but know that Jackie will always live in our hearts.

Lena and Jim Eads *James W. Eads, Jr.*

October 07, 2010 at 04:41 PM



“ I heard of Mrs. Hollingsworth's passing this morning from a friend. I was saddened to hear this but blessed to read and learn about all that she had done for the community. I was privileged to have her as my chorus teacher at Haynes Bridge Middle School back in the 80's, and remember her enthusiasm for music and how much she enjoyed teaching us. My thoughts are with Erin and the rest of the family during this difficult time. God bless.

Jessica Wegener Kling

October 07, 2010 at 08:33 AM



“ Ben & family- I want to start off by saying how sorry I am for the loss of Jackie! It was great to see you tonight and meet the rest of the family. As I shared with y'all tonight, ms.jackie was a very special lady to me! I had it rough in middle school and Jackie was the only one to take up time with me. I first met her in 6th grade music class, and also had her 7th grade as well at north western. I started her arts & craft club my 6th grade year and that's where we got connected! I remember our weekly trips to the bead shack in crabapple, and all the fun projects she had each week for us! She was so creative, caring, and would give you anything she could. My grandfather got sick with a tumor and she made him several blankets. Jackie was such a very special lady to me and I can't stress how much I will miss her! Love you ms.Jackie. If there is anything I can do please contact me. Again sorry for the loss! My thoughts and prayers go out to you all! Matt Thaxton- mthaxton09@gmail.com###imported-begin##Matthew Thaxton###imported-end##

October 06, 2010 at 10:48 PM



“ Dear Ben and Erin:
I want you to know how much Jackie meant to me. I was a stupid kid in 1974, running around with the wrong crowd, until Jackie discovered my talent and put me in Bye-Bye Birdie, RHS Chorus and finally Varsity Chorus. She also arranged for me to sing in All-State Chorus my senior year and get a scholarship to Mercer, where I received a Bachelor of Music Degree in Voice. She essentially helped save my life and I never forgot it. God Bless you now and always,
Brad Brannon###imported-begin##Brad Brannon###imported-end##

October 06, 2010 at 09:32 PM



“ I will never forget Mrs. Hollingsworth's smile and encouragement when I was in chorus at Haynes Bridge. She pushed me to try things I would have never tried on my own and I owe her for my ability to persevere today. Little did I know it at the time, but Mrs. Hollingsworth managed to touch my life again many years later. Seven years ago, my husband was diagnosed with leukemia. As he fought and beat his cancer, our family was comforted by blankets from the blanket ministry she began - I never knew she started it until now. She will be missed -to the family, I am sorry for your great loss.##imported-begin##Amy Rusk Richardson##imported-end##

October 06, 2010 at 02:12 PM



“ To the Hollingsworth family, I am sorry for the passing of Jackie. She was an outstanding woman who had a huge influence on my life as well as others. Many fond memories of her during the years she taught me at Roswell high in the chorus.##imported-begin##Jeff May##imported-end##

October 06, 2010 at 11:09 AM



“ Mrs. Hollingsworth was one of my favorite teachers at Haynes Bridge Middle School! She will be dearly missed. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Tina Hoffman Stevens##imported-end##

October 06, 2010 at 10:54 AM



“ You will be missed! I remember your sweet, soft voice and the patience in that kind voice! You made middle school (Haynes Bdg) music so much fun! Prayers for strength to all of your family at this difficult time as I know this terrible pain after losing my own precious father at such an early age of 53 yrs! I know you will be smiling down from Heaven and watching over your family, just as my own dad still does 5 yrs later!!!##imported-begin##Daphne Smith##imported-end##

October 06, 2010 at 10:22 AM



“ It's hard to accept the reality... but I'm sure as Jackie looks at us from above she is smiling and happy to be relieved. Jackie, may you rest in divine peace. God bless your beautiful family! Love you all##imported-begin##Ksenia##imported-end##

October 06, 2010 at 07:30 AM



“ Dear Ben, Erin & Biff,
Jackie was an angel loaned to us for a short period. She was a fabulous lady with an infectious smile. She touched so many lives with all she did but especially the blanket ministry. I was so honored to be at the AGAPE meeting the day she kicked off this idea. I have tried very hard over the years to pass on her love for others by handing out as many as I can possibly get out. We are all better today for having had her as our friend. My prayers are with you during this tough time.##imported-begin##Patty Sisson-Maddox##imported-end##

October 05, 2010 at 01:36 PM



“ We're so sorry for your loss, and the loss of such a beautiful woman in her community. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.##imported-begin##Yves and Anita Salord##imported-end##

October 05, 2010 at 01:34 PM



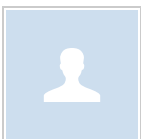
“ Jackie was my cousin and I hadn't seen her for many years, but I remember her dearly. She always had a kind heart and a big smile. Her family can be assured now that she is well and resting in the arms of her Lord, because Heaven is a real place. You and I will see her again someday.##imported-begin##Lynn Stafford##imported-end##

October 05, 2010 at 12:24 PM



“ This wonderful lady touched my life! You are a great family and have done a beautiful job taking care of Ms. Jackie. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Barbara Farrell, SW##imported-begin##Barbara Farrell, Social Worker @ Embracing Hospice##imported-end##

October 05, 2010 at 10:53 AM



“ May your grief be eased, knowing that the love and prayers of friends surround you at this time. May your sorrow turn to joy when you think of Jackie being pain free, with her Lord and Savior, all her troubles behind her. God bless you all. In His love, Mary Dilg##imported-begin##Mary Dilg##imported-end##

October 05, 2010 at 10:46 AM



“ My heart goes out to Jackie's family and all of you are in my prayers. I grew up at Van Winkle UMC in Jackson, Mississippi where Jackie's sister, Ginger Manchester, is a long time member and friend of my family. May God bless you and give you comfort during this difficult time.

-Paula (Ruffin) Roughen##imported-begin##Paula Roughen##imported-end##

October 05, 2010 at 09:38 AM



“ Your in our thoughts and prayers. May God fill your sorrow with happy memories of your sister, wife, mother, and grandmother at this time.##imported-begin##DJ Greer##imported-end##

October 05, 2010 at 08:01 AM



“ To all Jackie's family and friends my prayers and thoughts are with you. I am one of the many people touched by Jackie's life. I am a Roswell High grad and was involved for years in Chorus. Jackie made music fun and had the uncanny ability to infect others with her love of music. Even 34 years later she holds a special place in my memories. Rest in peace Jackie.##imported-begin##Debbie Abbott##imported-end##

October 04, 2010 at 08:34 PM



“ I never had the pleasure or privilege of meeting Jackie in person, but I know her little sister, Ginger quite well. I respect and adore Ginger and John and I know that Jackie was such a blessing to them. My family is praying for each of Jackie’s loved ones to be covered in peace.##imported-begin##Wendi Graves##imported-end##

October 04, 2010 at 12:44 PM



“ Ginger and all of Jackies' family.

I am so very sorry for your loss! I know Jackie meant a lot to her family as well as extended family and friends. She was a very loving and thoughtful person who I will miss. I only met her once that I recall. I am a music teacher and after she retired and started cleaning out she always thought of me and I know she did others as well. Please know that you are in my prayers and if there is anything I can do, please let me know. Ginger, have a safe trip home. I am looking forward to seeing you Monday. God Bless

*Much Love,
Mary Evelyn Harper##imported-begin##Mary Evelyn
Harper##imported-end##*

October 04, 2010 at 12:40 PM



“ We love ya'll, and I know that you are experiencing many emotions at this time, but what stands out to us is that Jackie is visiting with her mother and ours. What a blessed day for her and our mothers. Heaven is a real place and a permanent home.

Sammie and Barbara###imported-begin###Barbara Meisenheimer###imported-end###

October 04, 2010 at 11:37 AM



“ Jackie was born on my anniversary day, and died on my one and only sister's birthday--and now another precious event has been added to these days--the day Jackie was received into God's wonderful place for those who don't have to suffer or struggle any more. She was a beautiful, loving person who did God's work so faithfully here, and enjoyed many of her riches as she lived--because of her family and friends. Now she goes on to even more treasures. I pray for comfort and peace for all who loved her and will miss her earthly presence, but I say a thank you prayer for all the spiritual blessings she has left us all. Sing, Jackie! We love you.

Marijane###imported-begin###Marijane Whitfield###imported-end###

October 04, 2010 at 11:19 AM



“ I grieve with you all at the loss of Jackie, but I rejoice in the blessing of having known her since "W" days. She will be missed by me, her other Jester sisters, and college friends.###imported-begin###Nita Byrd Lumpkin###imported-end###

October 03, 2010 at 10:53 PM



“ Although I will be out of town for Jackie's services, I will have you all in my prayers. I loved Jackie, and will miss her tremendously. She was an inspiration to me and many others.##imported-begin##Nancy McBrayer##imported-end##

October 03, 2010 at 09:03 PM