



## Vicki Held Burns

October 26, 1945 - March 24, 2025

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of Vicki Held Burns, a spiritually minded, gifted artist, who left this world on March 24, 2025, at the age of 79. Known as "Nonny" for the last 24 years by family and friends, she was a Proverbs 31 woman—an intuitive soul, deeply attuned to the movements of the Holy Spirit. Vicki was a constant source of encouragement to her family, always reminding her children, "Remember who you are and whose you are," as they left the house. Her children fondly recall waking up for school to find her already immersed in her daily devotion and prayer. She also took great care in nurturing her grandchildren's relationship with our Heavenly Father. Often referring to herself as "Tricky Vicki," she kept us all laughing with her treasure trove of one-liners, brightening every room with her wit and infectious sense of humor. Born in Dallas, Texas, Vicki was drawn to creativity from an early age. She attended Eastern Hills High School in Ft Worth and went on to graduate from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in Fine Art. She later pursued a second degree from Rollins College to teach art to children. Through her innate calling to explore the world through colors, textures, and forms, she was exceptional at inspiring young people to create. All three of her children and six of her

grandchildren were her students, and her legacy lives on through them—one grandchild is pursuing a career in art, while others are venturing into various creative fields. Vicki's art was not only a means of personal expression but also a vehicle for spiritual healing. After the heartbreaking loss of her son, Aaron, at the age of 19, her abstract landscapes, which captured the essence of peace, and her deeply moving portraits, which conveyed raw emotion, became profound reflections of divine tranquility, inviting others to connect with the spiritual realm. Throughout her life, she demonstrated an unparalleled ability to capture the divine presence in every brushstroke, sculpture, or canvas, with each piece reflecting not just skill but a profound spiritual connection. Though Nonny has left this earthly realm, her art and spirit continue to touch all who experience it, leaving behind a legacy of works that transcend time and space with an enduring message: that art, in its truest form, is a dialogue between the human soul and the Divine.

Vicki is preceded in death by her son, Aaron Cowan Burns; her husband, Collis Lamar Burns, Jr.; her parents, Elizabeth and Herbert Held; and her stepfather, Col. Charles H. Swift. She is survived by her brother, Gene Held and his family; her sister-in-law, Jenny Anderson, and her family; her daughter Kelly and Wade Kruse, along with their children, Reagan, Aaron, and Lane; and her son Zachary Burns and his children, Grayson, Leila, and Carter. They are comforted by the knowledge that they have witnessed the life of someone who not only saw the world differently but also helped others

see the divine within it.

A celebration of Vicki's life and legacy will be held on April 5th, 2025, from 4:30-6:30 pm at Piper Glen

Country Club, where friends and family are invited to gather and honor the profound beauty she brought

to the world. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Aaron Burns Memorial Scholarship at

Appalachian State University (Attn: Advancement Services; PO Box 32014, Boone, NC 28608). Please

include "Aaron Burns Scholarship" in the memo line. Giving link:

[https://www.givecampus.com/campaigns/54088/donations/new?designation\\_id=uni94490](https://www.givecampus.com/campaigns/54088/donations/new?designation_id=uni94490)

# Previous Events

## **Celebration Of Life**

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APR 5. 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM.

Piper Glen Country Club

# Tribute Wall



“ *RIP, beautiful Tooie, and handsome prince, Bud. Love, DooDah*

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**Susan Davenport** - January 09 at 06:10 PM