



Judy Nell Taylor

February 15, 1947 - March 26, 2016

Judith Nell Couch Taylor, daughter of Lewis C. and Mary Nell Poyner Couch, was born February 15, 1947, in Martin Tennessee. She departed this life Saturday, March 26, 2016 in her home, in Bolivar, Missouri, at the age of sixty-nine years, one month, eleven days.

On June 8, 1968, she was united in marriage to Dr. C. Pat Taylor, and to this union two daughters were born.

Her parents preceded her in death.

Judy is survived by her loving husband of forty-seven years, Dr. C. Pat Taylor, of the home; two daughters, Marijo Elizabeth Gronewold, and her husband, Tom, of Homer Glen, Illinois, and Dr. Charla Couch Austermann, and her husband, Dr. Adam, of Ellisville, Missouri; two grandsons, Drew and Luke; a sister, Jenny Dowell, and her husband, Billy, of Union City, Tennessee; a niece, Ginger Brasfield, and her husband, Jay, of Jackson, Tennessee; a nephew, Billy Dowell, Jr., and his wife, Meredith, of Orlando, Florida; a number of cousins; as well as a host of other relatives and many friends.

She lived her early years in Martin, Tennessee, where she graduated from Martin High School. She then attended the University of Tennessee, at Martin, where she earned her Bachelor's Degree. After she and Pat were married,

they first made their home in Marion, Kentucky, where Judy began teaching. She started her Master's Degree in Education at Western Kentucky University and completed her studies in 1971. Shortly after that, the family moved to Memphis where Judy taught second grade in the Memphis public schools and then first grade at the Southern Baptist Educational Center. After the family moved to Nashville, she became the Dean of Women for Belmont University and she and Pat were Resident Directors, "dorm parents", at Pembroke Hall for three years. They then moved to Jackson, Tennessee where she taught in the education department of Union University for seven years. In 1986, they moved to Shawnee, Oklahoma, where she taught fulltime and was Director of the Student Teaching Program at Oklahoma Baptist University. In 1996, the Taylor's moved to Bolivar, Missouri, where Pat became the President and Judy was the First Lady of Southwest Baptist University. Judy was an Assistant Professor at SBU from 1997 until 2006, and became greatly involved in ongoing campus beautification projects. She was the director of an English Institute for SBU's partnership with the state of Roraima in Brazil. Judy poured herself into the lives of SBU students throughout the years and was a gracious hostess to countless University events. She shared Pat's vision of making SBU the best it could be in every facet. In 2013, she was presented an Honorary Doctorate in Education Degree from Southwest Baptist University.

Judy professed her faith in Christ early in life, and was an active member of First Baptist Church in Bolivar. She was involved in all phases of church work, possessed a deep faith in God and lived her faith in home, church, and in her professional career.

She belonged to the PEO Club, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. She also loved music and was a gifted pianist. She was a wonderful and devoted partner to Pat in every facet of life.

Judy never met a day she did not like and always had a positive attitude. Her favorite saying was, "Bloom where you are planted everyday", which reflected her devout faith in God and her desire to serve Him to the fullest each day.

Judy was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and cousin. Her dedication and love for her family was a compass in her life and she always made sure her family was a priority. She adored her daughters and especially loved her grandsons. She will be fondly remembered for her devotion to family, education, church and to the students of Southwest Baptist University. Her footprint of faith and dedication to her Lord will follow her into eternity and no doubt she will be welcomed with "Well done thou good and faithful servant.....enter into the presence of the Lord."

Memorial Contributions may be made to the, Judy Taylor Beautification Fund,
1600 University Avenue, Bolivar, MO 65613

Cemetery Details

Greenwood Cemetery

S. Dunnegan Ave.
Bolivar, MO 65613

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 29. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sells Administration Building
1600 University Ave
Bolivar, MO 65613
<http://www.sbuniv.edu>

Funeral Service

MAR 30. 2:00 PM (CT)

Mabee Chapel
1600 University Ave
Bolivar, MO 65613
<http://www.sbuniv.edu>

Tribute Wall



“ *Judy Nell Taylor*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Judy Nell Taylor*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Dear President Dr. Pat Taylor and family,
We want to send our condolences. We are so sadden to hear of your beloved Judy. Our prayers are with you. May the Lord Jesus comfort your hearts and bring peace to your minds as you go through this difficult season in your life. Our son, Paul, is a Junior at SBU and we are so grateful for such a fine school. Thank you for your leadership and godly example.
God's blessings on you and your family.
Sincerely, David, Marcella, Angela, Paul, Jessica, Steven Kramer*

Marcella Kramer - April 01, 2016 at 01:26 PM



“ *I fondly remember Judy and Pat from my days at Oklahoma Baptist University, where I worked in public relations (many moons ago). Southwest Baptist University is blessed to have been touched by the Taylor presence for the past two decades. I know Judy will be sorely missed. Holding you close in my prayers, President Taylor and your precious daughters.*

*Much love,
Sharon Bourbeau*

Sharon Bourbeau - March 31, 2016 at 10:11 AM

AG

“ I was so blessed that Judy called me to sit with her after the passing of their beloved dog Ricki. Pat was out of town and Judy needed to talk and cry. She loved her family so much and that includes the canines they adopted. Ricki had her own book and had been such a part of the SBU family. We cried, and laughed and told dog stories all afternoon. Crying took up the most part. She said there would be other dogs for them, but Ricki was so special. I agreed. I know that Judy is finding Ricki again up in heaven. We will miss you dear friend.

Anne and Kelly Grant

Anne Grant - March 30, 2016 at 01:39 PM

HS

“ Pat and daughters, what a wonderful wife and mother you have had for these years, but just not long enough. She was a gracious co-worker and President's wife, one of the best we have ever known. Our hearts go out to you in your loss. -Harlan & Joann Spurgeon

Harlan E. Spurgeon - March 30, 2016 at 09:42 AM

KG

“ Marijo and Tom, my condolences to you and your family.
Kim Greco

Kim Greco - March 30, 2016 at 09:41 AM

BM

*Pat and Family, We want to extend our sympathy and let you know we are praying for you.
Bob and Jo Ann Miller
Retired, Missouri Baptist University*

Bob and Jo Ann Miller - March 30, 2016 at 11:39 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Judy Nell Taylor .*



March 30, 2016 at 08:43 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Judy Nell Taylor .*



March 29, 2016 at 09:54 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Judy Nell Taylor .*



March 28, 2016 at 08:17 PM



“ *Dr. Taylor and family,
I was deeply saddened when I learned of Judy's passing. You certainly have my sympathy and prayers for peace and comfort during these difficult days.
May God bless in His perfect way,
Janice Dodson*

Janice Dodson - March 28, 2016 at 07:45 PM

TA

“ *The Payton family and Celebrity Attractions purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Judy Nell Taylor .*



The Payton family and Celebrity Attractions - March 28, 2016
at 05:18 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Judy Nell Taylor .*



March 28, 2016 at 01:49 PM

DC

“ *Dr. and Mrs. Mark Milioni, Baptist Bible College purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Judy Nell Taylor .*



Dr. and Mrs. Mark Milioni, Baptist Bible College - March 28,
2016 at 01:00 PM

ST

“ *SBU Bookstore - Carol, Scott, Claire and Tami purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Judy Nell Taylor .*



SBU Bookstore - Carol, Scott, Claire and Tami - March 28,
2016 at 12:40 PM

JM

“ Steve and I have so many wonderful memories with Pat and Judy - many surrounding trips to bearcat games or St. Louis Cardinals - but many other too. Judy was so sweet and we will miss her. Our prayers are with Pat, Maryjo and Charla.

Jean Morrow - March 28, 2016 at 11:07 AM

HG

“ Judy was a great lady and will be missed but not forgotten. We have the family in our thoughts and prayers. Harlie and Nancy Gallatin



Harlie and Nancy Gallatin - March 28, 2016 at 10:51 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Judy Nell Taylor .



March 28, 2016 at 10:38 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Judy Nell Taylor .



March 28, 2016 at 10:23 AM

MM

“ Dr. Taylor, so very sorry for your loss, I know this is a difficult time for you, I enjoyed going to Southwest Baptist University and meeting you and your wife. I was a student in the Physical Therapy program and truly enjoyed being a part of the SBU family. My prayers are with you as you go thru this time of loss. Maureen (Brock) McVeigh, Class of 2013 (DPT program)

Maureen A McVeigh - March 27, 2016 at 04:37 PM

VB

“ My sympathy to Dr. Taylor and family. I remember the year of my 25th class reunion the Taylors invited my classmates to their home for a get together. They were so nice and made everyone welcomed. Judy will truly be missed by many.
Velma (Norris) Batesel
Class of 1973

Velma Batesel - March 27, 2016 at 01:35 PM

JS

“ We heard of Judy's passing today and we pray for her sweet family. During their days at Union University they were some of our closest friends. We have shared many good times together. So many funny stories as we sat around the table! She is healed and home with Jesus now. Our love to Pat and the girls! Linn and Judy Stranak

judy stranak - March 27, 2016 at 03:57 AM

PB

“ Sad to hear of Judy's passing. Growing up in Martin and all through college there at UTMB, Judy was a fun, wonderful, talented friend. Sympathy to Pat and all the family and friends. - Pam Spikes Baird

Pam Spikes Baird - March 27, 2016 at 12:38 AM

JA

“ Pat, I was very sorry to hear of the passing of Judy. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers. Jerald L. Andrews

jerald andrews - March 26, 2016 at 08:12 PM



“ We send our Deepest Sympathy to Dr. Taylor and his family, along with the the Southwest Baptist University Family. Our son graduated in 2005 and our daughter in law in 2015. God be with you Dr. Taylor, we will always hold a special place in our hearts for you and your beautiful wife.

Jeanie and Gary Creath

Lyda Creath - March 26, 2016 at 03:52 PM

DW

“ So sorry to learn of Judy's passing today. So many wonderful memories of our childhood growing up together in Martin, Tennessee. David Warren, Charleston, SC.

David Warren - March 26, 2016 at 12:14 PM



“ You know, Pat, Marijo And Charla how I loved you mom and this family.... My heart is broken But I Know we shall meet again. In Beulah Land
I'm here if you need me
Love you all

Terri Cotter - March 26, 2016 at 11:54 AM

GW

“ Geri and I first heard of Judy as the search committee for SBU was interviewing prospective candidates for the position of President of the University. During the interview process the question was asked of Dr. Taylor, "What do you see as your greatest strength? Without hesitation Dr. Taylor answered, "My wife Judy"

Subsequently Dr. Taylor was selected as the President and his statement during the interview became a reality.

Our interaction, both professional and personal, with Judy grew and we became fonder of her and Pat whether it be digging in the dirt and flowers, on a mission trip to Brazil, sharing experiences in their home, her making "knock off" cookies after a board meeting or just enjoying her company.

Judy will be missed but the wonderful memories we have of her will live on as long as we are allowed to live.

Geri and Graham Williams

Geri and Graham Williams - March 26, 2016 at 11:53 AM

JH

“ I got to know Judy when they first came to SBU at an SBU Development party at the Carl Singer farm. Everyone played Croquet in the spacious yard. Judy was friendly, vibrant, personality plus, and I remember she was competitive. I think she got that from Dr. Taylor. They were a perfect couple. We will miss her. Blessings to Dr. Taylor and his total family.

Jack & Katy Hays & family

Jack L. Hays - March 26, 2016 at 11:24 AM

YF

“ *Your HSI family purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Judy Nell Taylor .*



Your HSI family - March 26, 2016 at 10:34 AM