



Hazel Rector

MAY 6, 1936 - DEC 6, 2024



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Hazel (Sandra) Thatcher Rector
May 6, 1936 – December 6, 2024

With heartfelt sadness and love, we announce the passing of Hazel (Sandra) Thatcher Rector, 88,

of Odessa, Florida, who peacefully passed away in her sleep on December 6, 2024.

Sandra was

a cherished wife, mother, grandmother, teacher, and friend, whose kindness and devotion

touched many lives.

Sandra was born in Greenville, South Carolina, on May 6, 1936, to Anne Louise Morrison and

Franklin Tomlinson Thatcher. Sandra met John Herbert Rector at Western Carolina University

where they both earned degrees in education. They were married on November 28, 1958 in

Davidson, North Carolina.

Sandra earned a master's degree in education from the University of Tampa and dedicated much

of her life to teaching. During the course of her thirty-five years as a school teacher she taught a

the following elementary schools: Essrig, Citrus Park, Lois, Egypt Lake and Mildred Helms.

Sandra touched the lives of countless students and demonstrated the ability to bring out the best

in each one of them.

Sandra was a devoted and active member of Keystone Presbyterian Church, where



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she served as an elder and faithfully contributed to her church community. Her faith was a guiding force throughout her life. A passionate gardener, Sandra found immense joy in nurturing her flowers, vegetables, and landscape. Over the years, she was also a devoted mother to her beloved dogs — Katie, Rosie, Scooter, Abby, Fritz and Angus —who brought her much joy and companionship. Sandra was predeceased by her beloved husband, John; her sister, Sarah Anne Ray; and her brother, William (Billy Mac) McInville. She is survived by her children, Susan Caroline Justus, Laura Crouch, and John Tye Rector; her grandchildren, Luisa Rector, Thatcher Crouch, and Andrew Crouch; and her cherished Fox family—Kim, Jon, and their children Taylor, Madi, and JJ and also their extended "village" of family and friends who cared for her in the later years of her life, offering her love, companionship and a bit of adventure. In addition, she is survived by Sarah Anne's children who grew up with Sandra: nephew, Parker Judy and niece, Margaret Zuefle; her nieces and nephews: Ronnie Rector Becky Rector, Terry Rector and Gail Shelton; and also her first cousins and dear family: William "Bill" Morrison Boppy McCrary Toledano, Billy Sumner, Kathy Sumner, Betsy Morrison James, Tommy Byrnes, Susannah Boykin McKellar, Louise Boykin Boone, Katie Boykin Sellers, Sally Holmberg, Jane Goodrum, and Carol McCartney.



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A memorial service to celebrate Sandra's life will be held at Trinity Memorial Gardens on December 20, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. Details are on the website: TrinityMemorial.com. Donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America in lieu of flowers.

The service will be webcast live, as well as recorded, and will be available to view during the service and for 90 days following the service at the following link:

<https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTczMzk0ODk1MzM0MDg5MiZvbmVyb29tLWFkbWluJmNvcHlfbGluaw==>



Events

Hazel Rector

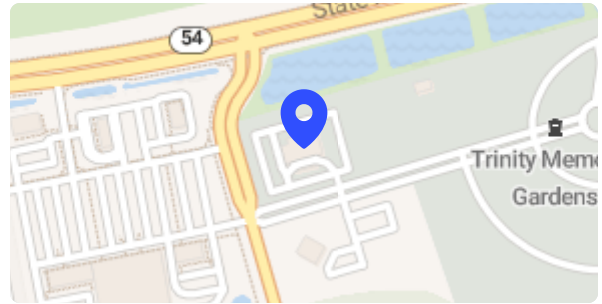
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Visitation

Friday, December 20, 2024

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM ET

Trinity Memorial Garden Funeral Home
12609 Memorial Drive, Trinity FL 34655

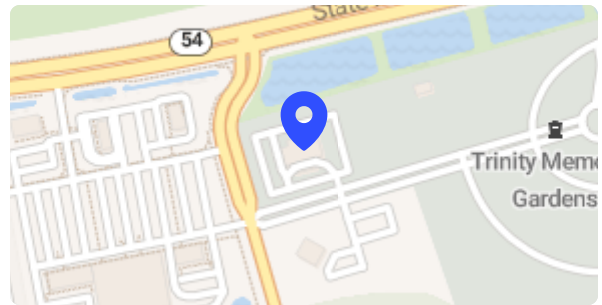


Funeral Service

Friday, December 20, 2024

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET

Trinity Memorial Garden Funeral Home
12609 Memorial Drive, Trinity FL 34655

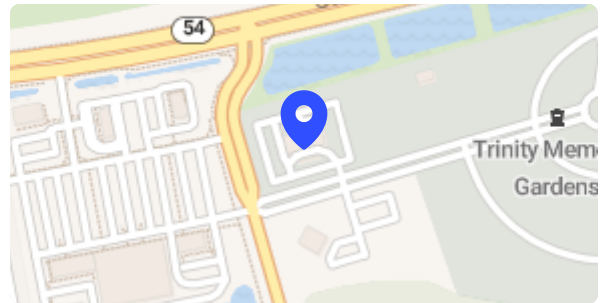


Graveside Service

Friday, December 20, 2024

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET

Trinity Memorial Gardens
12609 Memorial Dr., Trinity FL 34655

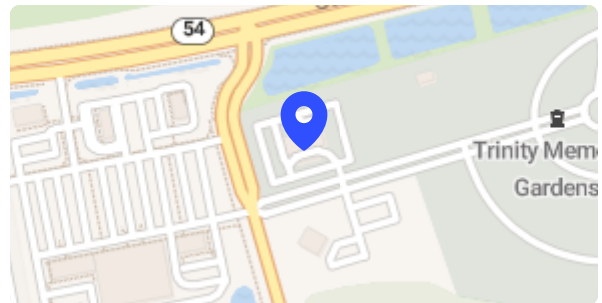


Reception

Friday, December 20, 2024

2:30 PM - 5:30 PM ET

Trinity Memorial Funeral Home
12609 Memorial Dr, Trinity FL 34655





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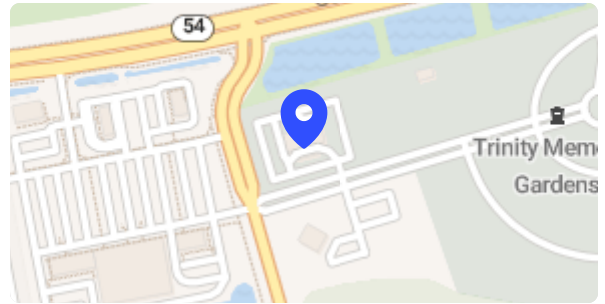
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Cemetery Details



Trinity Memorial Gardens

12609 Memorial Dr., Trinity FL 34655



Trinity Mem
Gardens



Tribute Wall

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Love, Bonnie Culbertson planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Hazel.



December 19 at 7:54 PM



Love, Bonnie Culbertson sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Rector family.



December 19 at 7:54 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Hazel by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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