

Laura G. Williamson

Laura “Laurie” G. Williamson was born September 18, 1957, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and left this life to glory on October 23, 2023.

Laurie graduated from Spiro High School in 1975 and received a BS in Industrial Engineering from the University of Oklahoma in 1981. She moved to Houston and worked as an Engineer for the Federal Government for 32 years, retiring in 2015.

One of Laurie’s favorite vocations was Aunt Laurie. This job she took very seriously, spoiling every child that came into her life. She began this calling with Derek Kurth, her best friend, and sister of the heart Suzy Kurth’s son. She then perfected her skills with John Ransom, her nephew. As she mastered the art of Auntie, she blessed cousins’ and friends’ children with love, laughter, and attention.

Laurie loved to teach the Bible and taught many Sunday School classes at St. Luke’s United Methodist Church. She worked humor into her lessons as she believed people learn with humor. She often said that humor was the wine of hope.

Laurie traveled extensively in the US with her girlfriends Sue, Maggie, and Dixie. They traveled by car, giggling all the way to Maine, Florida, Seattle, Bakersfield, and Key West. She made other trips too, always inviting friends to visit wherever she lighted for a month or two. She traveled once by train from Oakland to Houston and said on her return, “I am glad I did it. But I don’t have to do that again!”

Her cousin Mike loves to tell this story on her. One of her friends was thinking of starting a surf camp in Nicaragua. She called Mike to ask his business advice on such a plan. When he answered the phone, he said can I call you back? She said yes, but remind me to ask you about a surf camp in Nicaragua. As she started to hang up, Mike said wait a minute, you had me at surf camp.

Laurie loved to cook. She teased her sister that she would spend all her money in retirement and that Mary Ann would have to sell a cookbook, Ms. Laurie’s Secret Recipes, in the back of the church after the funeral, to come out even. She said the highest compliment she ever received was on a peach cobbler she made for her friend Jimmy. When she asked how he liked it, he said, “You can’t put it on your head.” What do you mean you can’t put it on your head? she asked. He said, “If you did, your tongue would slap your eyeballs out trying to get to it.” One of her enduring legacies will be the smiles (and eye-rolling) she leaves behind.

Laurie is preceded in death by her parents, Gene and Ruth Williamson, and is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Mary Ann and John Lovett, her nephew John Ransom Lovett II, her St. Luke’s family, and countless faithful friends. Her legacy of faith, fun, family, and friends remain to comfort, strengthen, and encourage us all every day.

Memorials may be designated to St. Luke’s UMC Foundation
P.O. Box 22013, Houston, TX, 77227-2013

A Service of Worship Celebrating the Life

of

Laura G. Williamson



October 30, 2023

2:00 p.m.

Sanctuary
St. Luke’s United Methodist Church
Houston, Texas

Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. John 16:22

Order of Worship

Organ Prelude Jim Roman

*Entrance of the Family

*Word of Grace Dr. Tom Pace

*Hymn of Praise
#374 Standing on the Promises PROMISES

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer Rev. Bill Stell

Witness to Laurie's Life Michael McDaniel
Laurie's Prayer

Readings from the Holy Scripture Rev. Bill Stell
Psalm 62:1-2, 5-8
Romans 12:9-13

*Hymn of Praise
#451 Be Thou My Vision SLANE

Homily

Tom Pace

Reading from the Gospel
John 14:selected

*Hymn of Praise
#156 I Love to Tell the Story HANKEY

*Commendation
God of us all, your love never ends.
When all else fails, you still are God.
Keep true in us
the love with which we hold one another.
In all our ways we trust you.
O God, all that you have given us is yours.
As first you gave Laurie to us,
so now we give her back to you.
Receive Laurie into the arms of your mercy.
Raise her up with all of your people.
Receive us also, and raise us into a new life.
And to you,
with your church on earth and in heaven,
we offer honor and glory now and forever. Amen.

*Benediction

*Recessional

**Indicates congregation standing, if able*

The congregation is invited to greet the family at a reception in the Hines Baker Room following the service.