



Casey Jacobus

November 12, 1945 - May 26, 2022

Carol Rae (Casey) Jones Jacobus, 76 of Cornelius, passed away on Thursday May 26, 2022 after a long battle with breast cancer. She was at home and surrounded by loved ones at the time of her passing.

Casey was a mother, grandmother, world traveler, theatre enthusiast, and avid reader. She was born on November 12, 1945, to the late Arthur Edwin Jones, Jr. and Rachel Evelyn Mumbulo. As an only child she was raised in New Jersey and summered at Lake Cazenovia with family. She graduated from Madison High School in 1963. As a young wife and mother, she graduated from Duke University with a B.A. Degree in History.

Casey went on to raise four children; Lyssa, Peter, Tara and Becky in Davidson, North Carolina. When she could not find a preschool for her young children, she opened The Children's Schoolhouse in 1973 which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. She was a talented actress and arts patron. She performed many roles with the Tarradiddle Players and the Davidson Community Players. Casey directed numerous plays and served on the board of the Davidson Community Players until last year. She was an instrumental part of the Davidson community for many years; as a marketing director for WDAV and as a freelance writer for several of publications.

Casey traveled the globe and opened a world of adventure to her children and grandchildren. She took trips with her children and grandchildren, and encouraged them to always look at the world as a series of places to be explored. She made many new friends on trips and created photo albums full of precious memories. Casey's favorite place in the world was closer to home at Holden Beach, NC where she vacationed since college. She had a second home called Sanderling built there in 1988. Family and friends were always welcomed. Somehow, time always seemed to stop at the beach as endless days of sunshine gave way to evenings filled with Demon (a popular Jacobus card game), Rummy Tiles, fresh seafood and red wine. Sanderling will always be filled with laughter and quality time as this is her legacy to her children and grandchildren.

Casey was an avid reader. She kept a box of note cards on her desk with every book that she read each with a letter grade from A to F. She was involved in several book clubs in her community including one that her mother founded. Casey always had at least two books with her at all times and was always available to give advice on what to read. She was constantly in search of books that would inspire her grandchildren to read, so much so, that she was known to have picked up a graphic novel or two for her youngest grandchildren.

Casey was an inspiration to all that she met. She treasured her family and her friends dearly, and all who knew her shared in her warmth, her wisdom and her wit.

Casey is survived by her four children, Lyssa Jacobus of Lachen, Switzerland, Peter Jacobus of Cornelius, NC, Tara Jacobus Coffey of Huntersville, NC and Becky Jacobus of Los Angeles, CA and their spouses; grandchildren, Raven Wolfe, Lucas Coffey, Logan Coffey, Carson Jacobus, Walker Storrs, and Zoey Storrs; and former husband and lifelong friend Frank Jacobus.

The memorial service will be held on Friday, June 3, 4:00 PM at James Funeral Home. For those who cannot attend, the funeral home will livestream from their facebook web page at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/JamesFuneralHome>

Memorial contributions may be made to The Davidson Community Players at www.davidscommunityplayers.org/support, or Hospice & Palliative Care of Lake Norman at www.hpccr.org.

James Funeral Home, of Huntersville, is serving the family and obituary lovingly written by the family.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 3. 4:00 PM (ET)

James Funeral Home
10520 Arahova Dr
Huntersville, NC 28078
<https://www.jamesfuneralhomekn.com/>

Tribute Wall

JT

“ I recently found out about Casey's passing. Someone commented on a play Casey and I were in many years ago. The memories of it had stayed with this person and they told me how much they enjoyed it. It was *The Cemetery Club* about three Jewish widows who visited their husband's graves on a regular basis. It was all the things you want in good theatre. It was interesting, funny and touching and we had a great time rehearsing and performing it with the Davidson Community Players. We made a good ensemble. I talked with Casey several years ago after her breast cancer diagnosis and treatment. She told me they gave her a year. Instead of waiting for that year to be over she decided to fill up her bucket list. I suspect she got it to pretty full because that year became three or more. Deepest Sympathy to the family. Rest in peace Casey.

Joan Tate

Joan Tate - August 15 at 12:15 AM

SS

“ We are very sad to hear this. Our heartfelt condolences to the family.

May her light always be by your side.

Sascha-Max, Nadja, Noel, Siva and Elin Steinegger



Sascha-Max Steinegger - June 06 at 09:09 AM

CS

“ Our loved ones will always be by our side, no matter where they are.”

The news of Casey Jacobus death greatly saddened us. Our heartfelt condolences.

Christian, Mikaela and Elias Steinegger

Christian J.A. Steinegger - June 06 at 06:36 AM

“ Reading Anne's memories of Casey sparked other memories for me. It was in 9th grade that I started getting to know Casey. Over the High School years our group did a lot together. Casey was my favorite bridge partner, whether at her house or Shawnee or elsewhere. There were lots of parties together; downstairs at her house dancing to Johnny Mathis, at others, or at my house around the pool or dancing in the big room across the yard. Great in the summer especially. I always enjoyed her warmth, enthusiasm, intelligence, and her willingness to have fun. Honestly I had a crush on her but she was always someone else's girl friend – usually one of my best friends (Don, Frank)...

After High School we slowly lost touch for several decades. At our 50th High School reunion (2013) we reconnected: a late night scotch with OX; wine and talk with the old group in the lobby of the hotel every evening; driving around with Anne and Emalee looking at our old homes and other places we'd loved. I was really pleased when I was able to convince Casey, Emalee, Anne, and Mimi, to come visit me in Japan the next year. Showing Japan to Casey and friends was a real treat for me. Her enthusiasm was infectious. We called ourselves "ducklings" after that trip: Casey pointed out how the others had to follow me in a line as we threaded through busy Japanese train station platforms; no one wanted to get lost — like ducklings imprinted on their mother.

In October 2015, Casey and I met for a day in Catania, Sicily, Italy. We walked too much and had way way too much food at a restaurant partly because neither of us could speak Italian. She had already been fighting cancer and we talked about her fears and strengths in beginning to face her death as we ate plate after plate after plate of great food making up their "lunch of the day."

A year or so later, 2017, the Ducklings got introduced to Holden Beach. A wonderful week there. Two weeks later Casey and I spent a week of exploring the Everglades and Keys — out to Key West. So glad we had that time together. She even "dragged" me to the Truman Little White House and Hemingway's house — both wonderful to see and learn about. Lots of time to talk over dinners and on the beach; her knowledge of history was breathtaking.

All of these wonderful times; and more with later visits to Holden Beach, France, and Cornelius... A rich tapestry of friendship and caring over the years. I've been honored and graced to know Casey; the many pleasures of friendship shared, the knowing of each other's histories, nostalgia for the fun we've had and the fun we have continued to have and share until now. I will miss her greatly. Love to Casey.

Jim McRae - June 03 at 11:57 PM



Jim, that is beautiful. I know that your friendship was very dear to Casey. One of the high points of Covid was for all of us to witness you and Pat's virtual wedding. Thank you for your kind words.

Amy Jacobus - June 04 at 01:40 PM

JM

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Jim McRae - June 03 at 11:55 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Casey Jacobus.*



June 03 at 03:38 PM

AP

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Anne Peplau - June 03 at 11:40 AM

PH

“ *Unlike most of you, Casey came into my life only recently. I met her through my husband, Jim McRae, who was an old friend of hers from Madison. I joined Casey and the 'ducklings plus' twice for a week of delightful camaraderie at Sanderling, and again in the Dordogne for more of the same. I knew when I met her that she was fighting cancer and that her life might be shortened prematurely, although it never felt like that. Casey lived her life with a joie de vivre that belied impending doom. I learned a lot from her about what it looks like to truly live until living ends. I will miss her friendship. My condolences to those of you fortunate enough to have held her close for so long.*

Patricia Hanna

Patricia Hanna - June 03 at 11:32 AM



Thank you, Pat. Like I mentioned to Jim, your wedding was one of the highlights of our Covid experience. Casey, Raven, Carson and I got dressed up and watched your wedding as if we were actually there. Thank you for including us.

Amy Jacobus - June 04 at 01:46 PM

RS

“ *"The people we love never leave us - they remain in our hearts forever."* ”

Dear Lyssa

I wish to express to you and your family my heartfelt sympathy in the loss you have gone through. May you receive comfort in the knowledge that you are not alone in your deep sadness but Markus and your family and friends share your great loss.

I will always remember Casey's happy and positive attitude in life in good and even in painful times. I will always cherish her memory.

My thoughts are with you and your family.

With love Ruth



Ruth Verena Steinegger-Benz - June 03 at 03:04 AM



“ *Love Everlasting Bouquet was purchased for the family of Casey Jacobus.* ”



June 02 at 11:22 PM

“ Long ago when my father died, a family friend wrote that he could count on one hand the number of people as fine and good as my dad. Now, almost 50 years later, I still carry the warm memory of that letter. Today I am writing the same words about Casey Jacobus. She is among that small count of the best people I've ever known.

Other friends have written so well about Casey's travels, love of books, love of family and her sharp mind. I keep coming back to her generosity. Again and again she gave the Ducklings, our group of old Madison friends (plus two splendid additions) wonderful times at Sanderling, her beach house. She was absolutely so delighted to share it with us. You can see that delight in the photo her children selected.

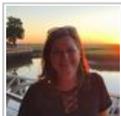
What fun we all had at Sanderling! We laughed, read, cooked, played games, watched movies and laughed some more. Sometimes we even made it to the beach. Exactly at 5:00 out came the cheeses with crackers artfully arranged by Anne in a grand display. Then came the highlight...the wine. Before and during dinner we spent hours on politics preaching to the choir while always managing to discover new insights.

I am so grateful that Casey's generosity made this all happen.

Now in my thoughts I see Casey sitting on the deck at Sanderling with her book and wine. Lily is at her feet bouncing up now and then to bark at a passing sea bird. Anne brings out the tray of cheeses. Scallops with a hint of garlic are sizzling and almost ready while Pat carefully watches the pan. Emalee is busy making the salad. Jim is busy making puns. Lynne decides to take Lily on a quick walk before we sit to eat. I am taking a deep breath thinking how happy we all are.

Mimi Blodgett Armstrong

Mimi Blodgett Armstrong - June 02 at 10:49 PM



You have captured the essence of my mom. Beautiful.

Tara Coffey - June 07 at 08:11 PM

FW

“ The Kansas City branch of the Holden Beach club, wish to send their love, thoughts, prayers to Frank, Lisa (Allysa if I remember correctly), Peter, Tara and Becky. We have many great memories of our first meeting at Cornell, Frank and I grad students, Casey and Faith nurturing at that time 2 kids each. Then we talked them into going to Holden and that whole adventure started. Once Becky and Brittan arrived we had 4 + 4 with lots of summer memories meeting in Davidson or at Holden. Wonderous Casey moments like having us stay in the house of a friend of hers, to have the family come home and find us in their beds at 3 AM. Sort of a classic Casey tale.

One year we took a friend to Holden pre-season, and were walking the beach. Casey was also there, but unsure it was us, approached the total stranger, and asked what our names were. Ever outgoing, albeit a little cautious, Casey found us. I last saw Casey about 8-9 years ago in Charlotte, where we had a delightful dinner with Tara. I'm not sure Tara enjoyed it as much as her mother and I, as we did have a lot of Tara and sibling stories. Lisa, Peter, ad Becky missed a good roast.

Friends since 1969, corresponded poorly on our end, but when seen, conversations picked up where the previous one left off. She was a beautiful, determined, strong, somewhat stubborn soul, who made our lives better for the knowing, The world lost a great person and friend. May she rest in peace now but surrounded by the love of her whole family, including us.. Love Faith and Dick Wilson

Faith and Dick Wilson - June 02 at 01:06 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Casey Jacobus.



June 01 at 07:44 PM

LO

“ Lynne O. purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Casey Jacobus.



Lynne O. - June 01 at 04:24 PM

“ I was delighted to first make acquaintance with Casey on a cruise in the Mediterranean in 2011. By the end of the 2 weeks, we had begin to establish a friendship that continued to grow in so many ways. I was intrigued to learn what an avid reader she was, the variety of subjects that interested her, and was always happy to take her recommendation of books to read.

Over the years, we began traveling together - a trip to Cuba in 2012. A long held dream for both of us. In 2014 we took a central Caribbean cruise starting in Honduras, then on to Guatemala, Belize and finishing up in Mexico. seeing some of the least -visited Maya sites. Casey's love of history began to rub off on me as we travelled to other places, such as a cruise around Sicily in 2015. It's a fascinating place with almost the highest number of Greek temples outside of Greece. Here again, being with Casey made visits to the various sites on the island unforgettable. in 2016, I had the yet another pleasurable week with Casey, this time on my home turf in Massachusetts. We spent a wonderful week visiting the cities of Lexington and Concord, both of them on Casey's wish list. She was so delighted that we were able to visit 4 of the most famous historical houses in Concord in one day, in particular Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House. Little Women had been a longtime favorite. Museums were another passion of Casey's and a trip to the Isabella Gardner Museum proved to be a big hit. Our final overseas adventure was the 2 weeks in France in 2018. We accomplished another long held dream to 'live in Paris". Well maybe only for a week. but what a treat! We rented an apartment, ate wonderful meals in various restaurants and filled our days with visits to the many fascinating and historically interesting places. Our visit to the Conciergerie, France's oldest prison and where Queen Marie Antoinette was imprisoned in 1793 before being sent to the guillotine, was another highlight we crossed off our list. Following that week we travelled to the SW of France to stay at a villa in the Dordogne, where I was delighted to meet and spend the week with some of her dear high school friends.

In between all of these travels were wonderful visits at her lovely lake house, or her beautiful beach house 'Sanderling'. Casey loved being there. We enjoyed walking on the beach, making and eating delicious 'fresher than fresh' seafood meals accompanied with our favorite wines, and talking about everything under the sun, and solving the worlds problems, at least to our satisfaction!

Knowing Casey has brought such joy to my life. She will always be with me.

I miss you my dear friend.



TC

Thanks Lynne. You were a dear friend to Mom!

Tara Coffey - June 02 at 01:55 PM

AP

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Anne Peplau - June 01 at 01:10 PM

AP

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Anne Peplau - June 01 at 01:06 PM

“ I met Casey in 5th grade when my family moved to Madison, New Jersey. I have treasured her friendship ever since. I was attracted by Casey’s warmth and friendliness, and perhaps also because we were both only children. Throughout school Casey was a “doer,” somehow juggling way too many activities, getting honors grades and still always finding time for her friends and social life.

Throughout junior high and high school we developed a close circle of friends. Casey’s parents welcomed her friends into their home. Young girls had slumber parties there. Teenagers spent Saturday nights in the basement rec room talking, playing bridge, dancing, or listening to albums by Johnny Mathis and Tom Lehrer. We munched on Triscuits and frequently discussed politics and world events. At that time Casey, like most people in Madison, was a Republican who supported Nixon in the 1960 presidential election. Emalee and I supported Kennedy. Fortunately, in those days, we were able to watch the presidential election without animosity between those for different candidates.

In retrospect, many themes in Casey’s life were nurtured in Madison. Casey loved to read and one of her very favorite books was "Little Women." Casey always said she wanted to have a large family. Casey was a gifted writer and not surprisingly she was the literary editor of our high school yearbook, the co-editor with Frank Jacobus of the school newspaper, and an editor of the school handbook (all in one year!). She also wrote articles for the Madison Eagle, our hometown newspaper. Casey was passionate about the theater. In “Two Crooks and a Lady” she played an old woman who outsmarted thieves. In “Time Out for Ginger,” she played a high school student who circulated a petition to abolish gym for girls. The play seemed appropriate since Casey, Emalee and I disliked Physical Education and our ugly one-piece gym suits.

After graduation we moved to different parts of the country but kept in touch with letters. When Casey and Frank married and started a family, she wrote glowing letters about her great love for her children and for being a mother. She also wrote about her love for her young husband – the skinny, smart soccer player from Madison -- and the fact that parenthood encouraged him to “grow up” and become a more serious student.

In recent years, with more leisure time, our group of friends has reconnected in person. We’ve been fortunate to spend memorable together abroad, in California and in North Carolina, most notably at Casey’s “happy place” – her Sanderling beach house. I miss my very special friend with all my heart.

Anne Peplau



Anne, that's beautiful.

Amy Jacobus - June 01 at 02:54 PM

NS

Although I had not kept contact with Casey after high school I am saddened to hear of her death but happy to know that she lived such a full life. The first thing that popped into my mind is a black and white picture of the bunch of us girls, including Anne and Emalee, in our curlers at Casey's home during a sleepover. Her parents were so patient putting up with a bunch of giggling girls so that Casey could hostess the best "slumber" parties.

The next thoughts are of a thoughtful, intelligent friend who was a wonderful member of a group of us who hung out together starting early in our high school years. Plays, operettas, classes, dances...so many wonderful memories.

Nancy Cook Sawyer

Nancy Cook Sawyer - June 01 at 06:19 PM



I did not arrive in Madison until the start of our junior year. Almost immediately, Casey and I became good friends. We both attended the Methodist Church and her dad and mine worked at Drew University.

One of her passions was acting and frankly, I was bored watching most plays. Kind of ironic that I became the professional actor.

By the end of our junior year, we were going steady. Casey was the first girl with whom I went steady and the only one in Madison.

That summer, my family took a trip to Europe. I bought a cuckoo clock, in Switzerland, for Casey...carried it through several countries. I thought this was a terrific gift. Her parents wanted to kill me. Every 15 minutes, it sung out loud enough for the neighbors to hear, On the hour, it cuckooed the number of the hour hand. They finally took the weights off, so the bird was silenced.

Towards the end of that summer, she came up to our lake place in New Hampshire. First time I saw Casey in a form fitting bathing suit and my eyes popped wide open. WOW!

I remember going to parties, in someone's basement, and the lights were turned down, so we could all make-out to Johnny Mathis songs. It was all fairly innocent, but still quite exciting.

Last time I saw Casey was our 50th Reunion. What a nice lady. What great memories!

*Thank You Casey!
OX (aka Phil Oxnam)*

OX OX - June 01 at 10:44 PM

TC

Thanks for sharing!!

Tara Coffey - June 02 at 01:59 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Casey Jacobus.*



May 31 at 03:37 PM

TM

“ *As students and neighbors in Poplar Apts in Durham we were very close, and remained friends ever since. Early years together were spent playing Demon, sharing meals and raising our 1st children together. After Duke we moved to WV but always stayed in touch. She was always a sweet friend, deeply involved in her community, totally dedicated to family and a traveling historian. She made the world around her a better place.*
Bill and Ellie Miller

the Millers - May 31 at 03:23 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Casey Jacobus.*



May 31 at 03:16 PM

TT

“ *The Mossy Oak Properties Team purchased the Fiery Lily and Rose for the family of Casey Jacobus.*



The Mossy Oak Properties Team - May 31 at 09:37 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Casey Jacobus.*



May 30 at 10:22 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Casey Jacobus.



May 30 at 01:12 AM