



## Mary E Miller

July 14, 1936 - January 24, 2021

Mary E. Miller, 84, of Surfside Beach, passed away on January 24, 2021.

She was born to the late Charles and Clara Cochrun, July 14, 1936 in Champaign Illinois. She married the love of her life Raymond E. Miller Sr. in 1954 and were married until his death in 1990. Mary is survived by three children: Lynn Miller, Julie Clanton and Raymond Miller. She is also survived by two grandchildren: Kim and Raymond Miller.

Mary was an accomplished writer and wrote for various newspapers and magazines during her career including the position of Vice President and Operations Manager of Resort Publications, Myrtle Beach SC. She published her first book *Baroness of Hobcaw The Life of Belle W. Baruch* in 2006. This book is now being turned into a screenplay.

Following the death of her husband she was invited to act as a resource person for the RCIA process, facilitating classes on prayers at St. Michael's Catholic church. A few months later, she was offered the Director of Education position at this church. Following a pilgrimage to Fatima she found that she was called to develop a deeper relationship and a new direction with God. Mary received a M.A. in Pastoral Studies with a focus in Spiritual Direction in 1999 from Washington Theological Union, Washington, D.C. She then spent a year working with the spiritual director at Loyola House at the Guelph Centre

of Spirituality in Ontario. She returned to SC and began providing individual spiritual direction and facilitated and directed centering prayer retreats. In an article about Mary published in the March 2008 issue of Coastal Business Life she stated "The greatest satisfaction for me is helping people come to the realization that God truly loves them just as they are...You see such a beautiful, beautiful interior change with the realization that they're loved unconditionally. That makes it so much easier for them to turn around and love them unconditionally." In 2014 she earned a Doctor of Ministry from Washington Theological Union, Washington, D.C.

When her husband died, she shared with her children something she had read in September by Rosamunde Pilcher that I would like to share with you. It reflects the way Mary thought.

"Death is nothing at all. It does not count. I have only slipped away into the next room. Nothing has happened. Everything remains exactly as it was. I am I, and you are you, and the old life we lived so fondly together is untouched, unchanged. Whatever we were to each other, that we are still. Call me by the old familiar name. Speak of me in the easy way which you always used. Put no difference in your tone. Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow. Laugh as we have always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be ever the household word that it always was. Let it be spoken without an effort, without the ghost of a shadow upon it. Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was. There is an absolute and unbroken continuity. What is this death but a negligible accident? Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight? I am but waiting for you for an interval, somewhere very near, just around the corner. All is well."

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Mary will be cremated, and her ashes will be placed with her husband at Hillcrest cemetery in Conway SC. A Memorial Mass will be held on, Saturday

September 11, 2021 at 10:00 AM at St. Michael's Catholic church.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Mass

SEP **11**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Michael's Catholic Church  
542 Cypress Ave  
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576  
(843) 651-3737

# Tribute Wall

DF

“ Daryl Faulkenberry and I, Donna Raye Skeen Faulkenberry both worked with Mary at Coast Magazine where she was Comptroller for Bill Darby. We had a wonderful cast of characters in that office and there was never a dull moment. We only learned today 10/13/2022 of Mary's passing. We both intend to read her book.

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**Donna Raye Skeen Faulkenberry** - October 13, 2022 at 05:02 PM

PA

“ To all of Mary's children and other family members, my deepest condolences on the loss of a kind, sweet soul, you were blessed to have as a mother. I knew Mary briefly, through a summer job at Coast Magazine, in the mid 1970's, doing the Reserv-Ease line for the magazine. I have memories of her lovely, soft voice and a pleasant smile on her face. As soon as I saw her photo, I recognized her. It sounds as if she continued on, making a wonderful footprint in the world.

*Paula Vaught Adams  
Fairfax Station, VA.*

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**Paula Vaught Adams** - September 06, 2021 at 04:22 PM

LC

“ Thank you so much for letting me know about Mary's moving on. My husband and I lived in the dorm room next to Mary at Washington Theological Union. One cannot know Mary without being aware of her intelligence, talents and spirituality. I have kept in touch with her over the years and she always answered my emails. I emailed a few months ago and did not get a response. I suspected that she was ill. Mary's book is one of the few books I read two time, it was that good!! Peace to her family. One can see how many lives she touched by the all the email addresses above. Thanks for including me.

Leslie Ann Curry

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Leslie Ann Curry - August 25, 2021 at 04:12 PM

CH

“ I was lucky to study with Mary at Washington Theology Union where we both earned our Doctor of Ministry Degree. Mary was wise, kind, insightful, passionate about service, and she had a delightful sense of humor. I always found her to be supportive of all of us in the program. She was a true blessing. Sister Carol Higgins

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Carol Higgins - August 24, 2021 at 04:08 PM



“ My sincere condolences to the Miller Family. I will be with you in Spirit on the occasion of Mary's Memorial Mass. I met Mary at Washington Theological Union. She not only was a gifted writer of articles and books, she was a very insightful writer of theological issues. Her dedication to the art of spiritual direction was admirable. I know she found great joy in accompanying others on their spiritual journey. I am missing her loving friendship.

Carol Goodman

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MC Goodman - August 24, 2021 at 03:24 PM

BT

“ Conolences to the family of Mary Miller.  
*Mary was my spiritual director for the time I lived in SC. I am just now learning that she died in January. I read the book she wrote about Belle Baruch. She was multi-talented and a living and caring person. I know she has been sick for some time. May she rest in peace.*  
*Bernadette Tourtual*

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**Bernadette Tourtual** - April 06, 2021 at 04:19 PM

LH

“ *Mary Miller's biography of Belle Baruch provided the foundation for my additional research at Hobcaw Barony. She was so very generous with her own research and subsequent interviews. What a great gift she offered to me and my students at Francis Marion University, and what a thoughtful, ethical writer she was! I can still hear her voice during one of our visits. She described her struggle while writing "Baroness of Hobcaw," worrying over what to put in, what to leave out. Then she told me about a dream, in which Belle Baruch appeared behind her at the top of the staircase in Bellefield. And Belle said, "Just tell the truth, Miller. Just tell the truth." The next morning, Mary moved forward, doing exactly that. I hope her work will inspire others as it did for me.*

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**Lynn Hanson** - February 09, 2021 at 10:30 AM

LB

“ *To the family, it was my great honor to work with your mother and to celebrate the publication of Belle's biography. She was such a friend to the Baruch Foundation and to me. I would live to write a letter with more fond memories of Mary. Much love, Lee*

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**Lee G. Brockington** - February 08, 2021 at 04:30 PM

DS

“ *Mary was a jewel.  
I interviewed her on TV for her book on Belle Baruch.  
She was such an incredible historian and writer and never wasted  
the great talent that God gave her.  
Prayers for Mary's family.*

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**Diane DeVaughn Stokes** - February 05, 2021 at 01:35 PM

JG

“ *to the miller family what such a wounder  
women i work at the palmettos my name is  
jackie i certainly enjoyed taking care of her  
she aways joked with me and called me  
speedy i will forever miss her especially our  
evenigs laugh condoleses to your family*



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**jacqueline gamble** - February 02, 2021 at 11:02 PM

AD

“ *Mary was a gift to us all!! Kind and understanding !! I am a better  
person from having her in my life!! She will always be with us in  
spirit! She could serious AND she could be funny. I will miss her  
dearly!! Rest well, Mary!!*

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**Anne Daniels** - February 01, 2021 at 11:18 AM

DS

“ *Mary was a kind friend to our Mother, Joan Smith, during their stay  
at the Palmettos Assisted Living. They shared many stories at  
mealtimes that lifted up our Mother's spirits. We will always be  
grateful for the friendship she extended to our Mother. May you rest  
in peace, Mary, and many blessings on your loving family. Dale  
Smith*

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**Dale C Smith** - January 31, 2021 at 01:21 PM

JK

“*Mary indeed was a gentlewoman. Thoughtful and kind, will be dearly missed. Saint Michael Church is a better place because of her.*



*Rest In Peace Mary.*

*Jo Krucelyak*

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**Jo Krucelyak** - January 30, 2021 at 09:24 PM