



## Norene "Rusti" Umphrey

June 30, 1935 - March 4, 2025

Norene "Rusti" Evans Umphrey, a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and pioneer in religious public relations, passed away peacefully on March 4, 2025, at her home in Woodbridge, Virginia. She was 89 years old.

Born on June 30, 1935, in Deming, New Mexico, Rusti led a remarkable life marked by faith, adventure, and a deep dedication to service. She built a career helping military chaplains share their message, traveling the world to teach them how to publicize their services. Through her work, she touched countless lives, ensuring that spiritual support was accessible to those serving in the armed forces.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Rusti was an active and cherished member of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Woodbridge, where her faith and generosity shone through in all she did. She found joy in traveling, exploring new places, and immersing herself in books.

In 1955, she married Robert H. Evans, with whom she shared many years before their paths diverged. Later, she found love again at age 66 with Jack K. Umphrey, a WWII bomber pilot and later Air Force Budget Director, whom she married on February 17, 2002.

Rusti is survived by her son, Robert Evans, Jr., of Lorton Virginia, and

daughter, Dana Simpkins of Woodbridge, Virginia. She was preceded in death by her beloved second husband, Jack, who passed away in 2016; and her oldest daughter, Laurie Lunt, who passed away in 2013. She also leaves behind nine cherished grandchildren: Brian Lunt of Las Vegas, Nevada; Alyson Griffith of Cedar City, Utah; Russell Lunt of Haslet, Texas; Courtney Segler of Enoch, Utah; Jessica Simpkins and Valerie Porter of Woodbridge, Virginia; and Sydney, Samantha, and Quinn Evans of Lorton, Virginia. She is also survived by 15 great-grandchildren.

Rusti will be remembered for her unwavering faith, boundless curiosity, and the warmth she brought to everyone she met.

A celebration of her life will be held at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Woodbridge, Virginia, on Friday, March 14, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. She will be buried alongside her beloved Jack at Arlington National Cemetery in the near future.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Rusti's honor.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAR 14. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul United Methodist Church  
1400 G. Street  
Woodbridge, VA 22192