



Maureen Heffernan Liberto

March 6, 1936 - February 21, 2022

Maureen Heffernan Liberto, age 85, of Oxford, Ms. passed away Monday, February 21, 2022, in Oxford, Mississippi.

A native of Montreal, Canada, she moved to Laurel in 1958 as the bride of the late V. A. Liberto.

She received her bachelor, master and doctorate degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi. She was retired as assistant director of admissions and guidance at Jones County Junior College. She organized and served as counselor of Council on Drug and Alcohol Awareness at JCJC. She also served on the Mississippi State Council of Alcohol and Drug Prevention.

She was past president of the Pine Belt Counselors Association, a past member of the Citizens Advisory Committee, a board member of the Economic Development Authority, a member of the Laurel Arts League, Northwood Garden Club and life member of the Laurel Junior Auxiliary and was selected as the Humanitarian of the Year. She also served as member of the Lauren Rogers Museum board and museum docent.

One of the founders of the Christian Food Mission, she had also been a member of the Mississippi and National Press Women. She served as a member of the YWCA board of directors. She received the Diana Award in

1979 and the DAR Americanism Medal of Honor.

Always an active member of her church, she has served on the Diocesan Ecumenical Committee and past president of the Women of the Church. She served on the state board of Catholic Charities. She moved to Oxford in 2003 and was associated with the University of Mississippi as director of the Ole Miss First Scholarship program. She was active as Eucharistic minister at St. John's Catholic Church in Oxford.

Not to be overshadowed by her many accolades and civic contributions, first and foremost, she was a dedicated wife, mother, sister, grandmother, friend and community volunteer. She was a loving and caring woman, always giving her time to others, but at the center of her soul, and of paramount importance, were her children, whom she loved dearly. Maureen's love for education and community allowed her to touch many lives through her years and her beautiful and gentle spirit will be missed by many.

She is preceded in death by her second husband, Stephen Joseph Sura from Montreal, Canada that she married in 2008 in Oxford. She is also preceded in death by her parents Mr. and Mrs. Fintan Heffernan, her brother, Fintan Heffernan (Louise) of Canada and her first husband Vincent Anthony Liberto and sons, Vincent Anthony Liberto. Jr., Thomas David Liberto (Delane), Richard Fintan Liberto and grandson Tony Liberto. She is survived by her daughter, Lee Ann Boyette (Gary) and grandchildren Lee Boyette (Aleza), Margaret Kleiber (Ryan), Alex Boyette, Amanda Liberto, Lance Liberto (Chelsey) and Nicholas Liberto, and great grandchildren Anthony Boyette, Elliott Boyette, Noah Liberto, LaRue Liberto, and Jude Liberto.

Funeral services will be held at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Oxford at 11:00 AM Saturday, February 26, 2022, following the visitation at

10:00 AM at the church.

A graveside service will be held in Laurel, Mississippi on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 11:00 AM.

The family would like to express our thanks for wonderful help and care given by The Magnolia and Hospice of Oxford.

In lieu of flowers, friends may make memorial donations to the Christian Food Mission in Laurel, Mississippi and St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Oxford Mississippi.

To sign the online guest book, please visit www.memorychapel laurel.com

Cemetery Details

Hickory Grove Cemetery

Corner of Old Bay Springs Rd and 15th Street
Laurel, MS 39440

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 26. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
403 University Avenue
Oxford, MS 38655

Service

FEB 26. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
403 University Avenue
Oxford, MS 38655

Graveside Service

FEB 28. 11:00 AM (CT)

Hickory Grove Cemetery
Corner of Old Bay Springs Rd and 15th Street
Laurel, MS 39440

Tribute Wall

JD

“ *My sympathy to all of Maureens family and friends. Our family met Maureen through the Sura family in Montreal. She always graced the room with warmth and engaged in caring meaningful conversation. We enjoyed her company and it filled our hearts to see her and Stephen so happy together.*
Jody and John Duncan

Jody Duncan - March 06, 2022 at 04:43 PM

SC

“ *Dear Family:*

Sending sincere condolences from Montreal to All of Maureen's dear family in Mississippi and Montreal.

I cherish many happy memories with Maureen & Stephen and Jamie, Louisa and family at the Duncans' family home - celebrating after Midnight Mass with caroling and making merry.

Rest in God's Peace dear Maureen.

Sharon Tobin Cazemiro

Sharon Cazemiro - March 06, 2022 at 04:35 PM

JB

“ *Maureen was the epitome of womanhood.*



Jo Ann Bucklew - March 01, 2022 at 08:46 PM

ER

“ So very sorry about Maureen. Love Jolene Rahaim Eddie Rahaim and The Rahaim family.

Eddie Rahaim - February 27, 2022 at 10:09 AM

NJ

“ I met Maureen when I went to work at First National Bank in 1970. Mr Liberto was on the board of directors for the bank and I loved them both dearly. I got to know her more after Mr Liberto passed and she was my customer for many years. Even after moving to Oxford, she would bring caramel cake to us from a bakery on the way to Oxford. She was a beautiful lady inside and out. Prayers to the family! 🙏❤️ Nancy Jernigan

Nancy Jernigan - February 24, 2022 at 08:58 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Maureen Heffernan Liberto.



February 23, 2022 at 09:17 PM



“ Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Maureen Heffernan Liberto.



February 23, 2022 at 07:11 PM

GR

“ *Maureen was a gracious Southern lady, even though she was born well North of here. I worked with her at JCJC. She always had a smile and a kind word for anyone who crossed her path. God bless you as you mourn her loss.*

Geri Richie - February 23, 2022 at 05:15 PM

JH

“ *Maureen always radiated kindness at St. John's in Oxford. Her concern and affection for the university's students extended into her retirement. May she rest in peace in the company of her loved ones. With sympathy to her family in Canada and in the U.S.*

Joan Wylie Hall - February 23, 2022 at 12:55 PM

AC

*RIP Maureen we will miss you.
Angie & Luke Corum*

Angie Corum - February 23, 2022 at 08:09 PM

AB

Dr. Liberto was my advisor when I was a student at JCJC. She was always available, kind and helpful, and made me feel as though I were her only student. At one point my family was in crisis and I needed rest and quiet to prepare for upcoming exams. She actually let me stay overnight in her own home and brought me breakfast! An incredible lady, I only wish we had reconnected before her passing. Love and prayers to her family.

Angela Bullen - February 25, 2022 at 12:30 PM