



## Marcella Ann Mabe Poling

September 29, 1946 - March 1, 2025

Marcella Ann Mabe Poling died at her home at Westminster Canterbury on March 1, 2025.

Ann was born September 29, 1946 in Pulaski, Virginia to Alma Mae Newman Mabe and Lanzy Robinson Mabe. Maternal grandparents were Posey Lester Newman and Ada Ayers Newman; paternal grandparents were Rachel Lineberry Mabe and James Madison Mabe.

She is survived by her husband Harry Emerson Poling and sons John Robert Poling Winterbourne (Amber) and Mark Edward Poling (Kathryn Mara Richardson). Grandchildren are Winter Waln; Gaia, Fathom and Gideon Winterborne; Lucy and June Poling. Also surviving are sisters Betty Mae Mabe (Burton) and Janie Lee Mabe and brother Robert Eugene Mabe (Joyce).

Ann attended public schools in Carroll County, VA. She attended one room schools in Galax and Carroll County. Other schools were Oakland and Laurel Elementary. She graduated from Hillsville High School in the Class of 1964. At age 7, she was baptized by Rev. Ottie Utt and became a member of the Galax Church of the Brethren. Later the family moved to the Coulson Community and were members of Coulson Church of the Brethren where she was church pianist.

Ann graduated in 1968 from Bridgewater College, Bridgewater Virginia, with a BS in Music Education.

She married Harry Emerson Poling on June 2, 1968 in the Bridgewater

Church of the Brethren. They lived in Pittsburgh, PA for six years while Harry completed medical school and anesthesia residency. Ann was an elementary school teacher for Head Start and classroom music. John was born in Pittsburgh in 1972. Ann, Harry and John moved to Winchester in 1974 when Harry joined Winchester Anesthesiologists, Inc. Mark was born the following year.

Ann served as an organist, children's choir director and Bible School teacher at Calvary Church of the Brethren. When this organization sponsored Vietnamese

and Laotian refugees, she taught English as a Second Language. She later taught ESL and Kindergarten in Winchester Public Schools.

Volunteer activities were an important part of her life. Organizations in which she served were Congregational Church Action Project, American Association of University Women, Preservation of Historic Winchester, Hawthorne Garden Club and Hospital Follies. In 2005 she received the Volunteer of the Year award from Blue Ridge Hospice.

Ann (and Harry) sang in Arts Chorale of Winchester, under the leadership of Michael Main. With Wendy Oesterling's direction, they participated in the Piedmont Singers, a group which sang Evensong in British Cathedrals in Canterbury, York and Oxford.

In 1988 she was received into Christ Episcopal Church. She sang in the choir under the direction of Dr. James Kriewald, served on the Vestry and taught Sunday School.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday March 22 at 2:00 pm at Christ Episcopal Church with a reception to follow. Ashes will be interred by family members in locations that were special to Ann.

Instead of flowers, please make a contribution to a charity of choice or the Laurel Center (PO Box 14, Winchester 22601), Blue Ridge Hospice (333 West Cork Street, Winchester), or Nursing Scholarship Fund at the Shenandoah Westminster Canterbury Foundation (300 Westminster Canterbury Drive Winchester).



# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAR **22**. 2:00 PM (ET)


Christ Episcopal Church  
114 W. Boscawen St., VA 22601

# Tribute Wall

HJ

“ Ann - I tried to find you to contact you about my moms passing and found this instead. You were such an inspiration to her and she was so thankful to her you in her life. I remember as my mom would be cleaning your house, you invited me to read in the library in the window nook. You were so kind and gave me books to read that were passed down from your grown children. We loved dog sitting for you and spending time with sweet Pierre and Noel. I love you, Ann. Give my mom a hug from me...

Haley James - April 24 at 10:22 AM

 Suzan Herskowitz

“ I'm so very sorry to hear of Ann's passing. I loved speaking with her about books and even politics. She will be missed. May her memory be for a blessing.

Suzan Herskowitz - March 10, 2025 at 10:03 AM

SL

“ Harry and Anne were with me in the choirs of Christ Episcopal and Arts Choral of Winchester. Anne was such a warm and caring individual. I will miss her.

Sharon Loudenslager - March 07, 2025 at 02:44 PM

JF

My memories of Ann start when we were two little girls playing together with our dolls. Being only one month apart in age we always found fun ways to have fun or get in trouble together. As we got older life got in the way of our visits. She is the kindest, wisest most special lady I have ever known. The world will miss her kind, loving, wise person. I will always love her and our special connection

Judy Newman Fink - March 16, 2025 at 09:13 PM

DT

“ *Harry and family, so sorry to hear about Ann our hearts go out to you all. Ann was such loving person and I know she will be missed dearly. God bless you all. Michael, Deborah Teets and family.*

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**Deborah Teets** - March 07, 2025 at 05:22 AM

CC

“ *I sang next to Ann with Arts Chorale for a couple of seasons. She was a lovely person and I enjoyed her very much.*

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**Christine Crumpler** - March 06, 2025 at 08:35 PM