



## Marcia Stephenson

November 4, 1941 - February 13, 2017

Marcia Speer Stephenson passed away on Monday, February 13th, 2017. Mrs. Stephenson was born November 4, 1941 in Atlanta, Georgia. She married Ralph Stephenson on March 15th, 1963. Mrs. Stephenson was a graduate of Georgia State University, Class of 1963. Mrs. Stephenson taught English for over 30 years, mostly in Rockdale County. After retiring from teaching in 1998, Mrs. Stephenson was active in RREA, Golden Gadabouts, BSF, and 2 Bunko groups. She is survived by her three children: Kim Gulbranson, Tina Buitrago and Rod Stephenson, as well as 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. Visitation will be at Scot Ward Funeral Services in Conyers, Georgia, on Friday, February 17th, 2017 from 2-4 pm and 7-9 pm. Funeral services will commence at Scot Ward Funeral Services in Conyers at 11:00 am on Saturday, February 18th, 2017 with a reception to follow. Mrs. Stephenson will be interred at Westview Cemetery following a short graveside service on Saturday, February 18th at 3:00 pm. Condolences may be submitted on-line at [www.scotward.com](http://www.scotward.com). Scot Ward Funeral Services, 699 American Legion Rd., Conyers, GA, 770-483-7216.

# Cemetery Details

## Westview Cemetery

1680 Westview Drive SW  
Atlanta, GA 30310

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 17. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Scot Ward Funeral Services at Green Meadow Memorial Gardens  
699 American Legion Road  
Conyers, GA 30012

## Visitation

FEB 17. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Scot Ward Funeral Services at Green Meadow Memorial Gardens  
699 American Legion Road  
Conyers, GA 30012

## Service

FEB 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Scot Ward's Green Meadow Chapel  
699 American Legion Road  
Conyers, GA 30012



# Tribute Wall

TR

“ *In the short time we had to know Marcia, one thing stood out she was one great lady who took no nonsense! Just wish we had more time to get to know this great mother and from the remarks a great teacher. Tom and Linda Reese*

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**Tom Reese** - February 17, 2017 at 10:09 PM

“ Rod has been an older brother to me since my brother Jesse Rowell and he were in 4th or 5th grade. As I have grown older, the brother/sister bond we share has grown stronger. I have such wonderful memories of Rod being at our childhood home. He will always be a member of our family.

When I became a student at Heritage High school, I couldn't wait to get to meet Rod's mom. I was pleased to get to know her during my four years as a student. I was fortunate to have her as an English teacher my senior year. She was a teacher that made learning fun. She was the teacher in charge of who wrote as Heritage voice in the Rockdale Citizen newspaper. Long before I became a freshman, I hoped to one day be one of the students that wrote for the Citizen. Before I became a senior, I spoke with Mrs. Stephenson about the position and she gave me the job. She allowed me to write by myself. She was very encouraging and proud of me. Mrs. Stephenson will remain in my memories as one of my favorite teachers and as a friend.

I have never had the opportunity to get to know Kim and Tina. I know Rod and they must have had an amazing childhood with the blessing of having her as their mom.

My heart aches for Rod, Tina, and Kim and their families. I hope you all can receive peace in knowing that she is no longer suffering. She is with God and your father. My thoughts are with each of you. I pray that in time, your pain will be lessened. I hope you will not be sad for your loss, but celebrate her life.

Mrs. Stephenson, thank you for inspiring me and making a true difference in my life. I know you have touched many lives and will remain in our hearts for always. I celebrate your life. You have a beautiful spirit that will live on in the hearts and memories of your family and friends.

God Bless,

*Julie Rowell Purser*

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**Julie Rowell Purser** - February 17, 2017 at 08:17 PM

JR

“ *Mrs. Stephenson was a friend's Mom first. Only later, did she become in my mind Mom + Teacher. But looking back now as a middle aged man, I now realize that she was a Mom, a Teacher and wickedly funny friend -- all in one.*

*I can only imagine what she was to those in her family that knew her as so much more. She was such a fun personality, inside and outside the classroom. What a legacy of learning, but also fun memories, she left a generation of students. You were one-of-a-kind Marcia.*

*I offer my sincerest condolences to the family, and pray that you all are given comfort in knowing she has rejoined her husband and is smiling down on you all.*

*Sincerely,  
Jesse Rowell*

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**Jesse Rowell** - February 17, 2017 at 04:07 PM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



**Sandra Campbell** - February 17, 2017 at 02:16 PM



*Three good friends on Kids Day in senior year of high school*

**Sandra Campbell** - February 17, 2017 at 02:17 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Sandra Campbell** - February 17, 2017 at 01:24 PM



*Marcia was Drum Majorette and voted Most Talented in her high school senior year*

**Sandra Campbell** - February 17, 2017 at 02:15 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Scot Ward Funeral Services** - February 17, 2017 at 12:38 PM

BS

“ We're so sorry to hear about Marcia, and extend our condolences to family and friends. She was always one of my favorite cousins. I have such fond memories of her and our childhood growing up around Grant Park. I especially remember our trips to Gadsden, AL, to visit our grandmother every 3 months. Marcia, Johnny, and Aunt Carolyn would go with us and our family of 5 in a 1949 Ford coupe. With 5 people (10 legs mind you) in the back seat, and on more than one occasion, I received a misplaced slap on the leg for misbehaving that was meant for Marcia Lee. And, imagine my surprise when walking into my senior English class at Roosevelt High School and learning that you have Marcia for a student teacher! Thankful for the memories, she'll surely be missed.

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**Benjamin "Benny" Smith** - February 16, 2017 at 07:16 PM

JB

“ *My heart is heavy for Rod and his two sisters Kim and Tina and their entire family. I knew Marcia first as a parent to her son, Rod, who grew up as a close personal friend of my son, Jesse Rowell. I've always thought of Rod as one of my children as he is very special - and I knew he had great parents for him to turn out as well-rounded, caring & likeable.*

*It was not until the boys reached high school did I know Marcia as an educator through Heritage High School. I know that my daughter, Julie (Rowell) Purser enjoyed working with Marcia as she was the HHS Advisor for "reporter Julie" submitting articles to the Rockdale Citizen about Heritage activities and news stories. She was such an excellent mentor and teacher. How fortunate for her students.*

*Marcia was many things to many people and was always loved, valued and appreciated by those who knew her. Those of us whose lives she touched - are better for having known her and our children benefited from her as an excellent teacher. She loved all that life had to offer and lived her life to the fullest.*

*Wishing you comfort and peace during this time of sadness and sorrow while you celebrate the wonderful life she led and for having been a part of your lives.*

*Judy (Rowell) Berry, North Carolina*

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**Judy (Rowell) Berry** - February 16, 2017 at 05:52 PM



“ 48 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Scot Ward Funeral Services** - February 16, 2017 at 04:02 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage* was purchased for the family of Marcia Stephenson.



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February 16, 2017 at 02:15 PM



“ *Maria Fernanda Tejada* lit a candle in memory of Marcia Stephenson



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**Maria Fernanda Tejada** - February 16, 2017 at 01:32 PM



“*Mrs. Stephenson was one of my very favorite teachers, and one of the two that had the greatest impact on me in high school. I still think of her fondly when I am deciding which grammar rule to use or when the MacBeth soliloquy that I mostly still remember comes to mind. She was a special lady, and my prayers go out to the family.*

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**Kimberley Patterson** - February 16, 2017 at 08:47 AM



“*Marcia was one of those people, that no matter how far apart we were, we always kept in touch. She was a wonderful friend and neighbor for the 4 years we lived in The Reserves at Bear Creek and both Joe and I will miss her. She was loved by so many people.*

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**Debbie Rodriguez** - February 16, 2017 at 07:17 AM



“*Ms. Stephenson was one of my faves. She was my English Teacher at HHS class of '81. She has a sharp dry wit and kept up with us tic for tac.*

*Lee Ament*

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**Lee Ament** - February 15, 2017 at 10:06 PM



“*Carol and I send our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Stephenson's family. She was an outstanding English teacher for the Rockdale Schools for many years.*

*Ellis Dunbar*

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**Ellis Dunbar** - February 15, 2017 at 08:08 PM

KR

“ Dear Family,

*It has been my honor to know Marcia for the past few years. We met at BSF after being in classes together. We always sat together on Wednesday mornings and got to know each other over a period of years. At BSF this morning, I wanted her to walk in and take her place beside me. I will miss her friendship. She was one classy lady.....she in her high heels and dressed to a tee. I will never forget her. God bless you all. I am praying that God will bring you peace and comfort.*

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**Kathy Reese** - February 15, 2017 at 07:30 PM

GR

“ *Marcia was warm, gracious, and generous. She was also really smart, lots of fun, talented, and pretty!*

*She was dedicated to her family and had a long, happy marriage to my late cousin Ralph. We will all miss her.  
Gail and Buddy Roos*

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**Gail Roos** - February 15, 2017 at 06:12 PM

LA

“ *My condolences to the family. We were together many times at Soccer with Rod and my son, Terry Sharpe. She was always so supportive and you could tell how much she loved Rod.*

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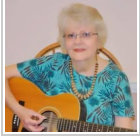
**lana alexander** - February 15, 2017 at 11:12 AM

 Amy  
Wilson

“ *Mrs. Stephenson was absolutely the best English teacher! Her gift for proper grammar was amazing and is being passed down to my children.*

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**Amy Wilson** - February 15, 2017 at 07:49 AM



“ So sorry to learn of Marcia's passing. I was the art teacher at Heritage for a few years and had the privilege of getting to know her. She was delightful.

Sharon Degonia - February 14, 2017 at 07:18 PM



“ Deanna Nance Wallace lit a candle in memory of Marcia Stephenson



Deanna Nance Wallace - February 14, 2017 at 06:07 PM



Such a huge influence on my life. God bless your family. Love you, Ms. Stephenson. Rest in peace, sweet angel.

Deanna Nance Wallace - February 14, 2017 at 06:09 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marcia Stephenson.



February 14, 2017 at 04:23 PM

DA

“ We first met when we in the 8th grade at Hoke Smith. Then Marcia was also in in Dianne's Sunday School class at Grant Park Baptist. She was always a very special person and friend. Our heartfelt condolences and prayers go out to her family in this time of grief. May God bless all of you. Dianne and Doug Aiken

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**Doug Aiken** - February 14, 2017 at 04:09 PM

DS

There are no words sufficient to praise the many, many life long friendship/sisterhood that Marcia and my entire family and hers shared from kindergarten, high school and long, long afterward as adults. May Kim, Tina and Rod know that they remain family. Both Ralph and Marcia, George and I will cherish our good years together. Rest in peace for your memory will be ETERNAL. May God bless you always.  
Diane Sharple Saad and George Saad

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**Diane Sharple Saad** - February 14, 2017 at 06:08 PM

CC

“ Kim, Tina, and Rod, we were so sorry to hear about your Mom, Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Your Mom was a very special, sweet lady, that made an impact on many lives. We remember many wonderful visits with her and your Dad. Rod, we especially remember wonderful memories with you and Barry on the Soccer field. Memories are to be cherished for years to come. Love to all of you.

*Charles and Jean Crews*

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**Charles and Jean Crews** - February 14, 2017 at 03:30 PM

JS

*Kim, Tina and Rod. All of my prayers are with you as you grieve. Your mom was a special lady loved by many. Marcia and I became friends because of Rod and my son Brad. So many memories of conversations we had about our sons. My love to you all. Joyce & Dennis Sorrow*

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**Joyce Sorrow** - February 14, 2017 at 06:32 PM

SC

*Marcia and I became best friends in kindergarten and remained friends ever since. I even sent my granddaughter's reports for her to critique. Marcia was smart, beautiful, and veery talented. She will be missed by all who knew her. Thank goodness, you no longer will suffer from pain.*

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**Sandra Glover Campbell** - February 15, 2017 at 06:57 AM

LS

*Our thoughts and prayers are with Marcia's family. We both grew up in the Grant Park area and knew Marcia as a friend; attended grammar school and church with her. Marcia made a lasting positive impression on all that knew her or were fortunate enough to cross her path. We have fond memories of Marcia, growing up at a slower pace and with a childhood blessed with people like Marcia. She will be missed - A life remembered.*

*Lynda and Sam Thurmond*

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**Lynda And Sam** - February 15, 2017 at 11:47 AM

SG

*I, too, remember Marcia from living in Grant Park. She lived down the street from us on Grant Street and I remember seeing her in her majorette outfit.....I was just a little girl 6 years younger than her and I thought she was so beautiful and wanted to be just like her...*

*Sandra Roberts Greene*

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**Sandra Roberts Greene** - February 17, 2017 at 07:33 AM

CR

*Sad to learn of the passing of Mrs. Stephenson, She was a GREAT TEACHER , J.P. Carr and Heritage High , I will keep the family in my prayers, God Bless You*

*Clark Rice*

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**Clark Rice** - February 23, 2017 at 12:09 PM

KL

“ *Tina, yall are in my prayers. Love you.* ”

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**Kathleen Lowder** - February 14, 2017 at 02:00 PM