



Theresa Mays-Albanese

January 24, 1955 - February 23, 2016

Mary Theresa Mays-Albanese died on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at home in Peachtree Corners. The cause of death was a complication from ovarian cancer. Born Mary Theresa Thomas to Mary Ann and Edward A. Thomas in Atlanta, GA in 1955, Theresa was the second of four children. Her parents moved to Conyers, GA when Theresa was in elementary school. Her first love was her high school sweetheart Richard C. Mays, whom she married in 1977, after attending the University of Georgia. Theresa and Richard were blessed with three children, Richie, Nolan, and Amy. Richard was diagnosed with lymphoma in 2002 and died less than year later. After several years, Theresa again found love with Jack Albanese, who shared her wonderful sense of humor, love for family, and strong faith. She and Jack married in 2011 and enjoyed a new chapter in their lives, which included the arrival of four cherished grandchildren. Theresa was an accomplished artist and educator; she earned BA degrees in art and in education from UGA and a MA in education from Piedmont College. Theresa had a profound impact on young artists for over 20 years, including hundreds of high school students at Wesleyan School in Norcross, GA and George Walton Academy in Monroe, GA. Theresa earned a number of honors and recognitions for her contributions to education in the fine arts, including her recent induction into the Fine Arts Circle of Honor at Wesleyan School in Spring of 2015. In 2012 Theresa was diagnosed with Stage IIIc ovarian cancer. She faced every challenge, from chemotherapy to surgery, with a strength that her doctors

found amazing. The joy she found in being with her four grandchildren continually rejuvenated her in body and soul. Her faith, dedication to teaching and mentoring, love and caring for family and friends, and joy for life made her an inspiration to everyone who knew her. Theresa is remembered with love by her husband, Jack Albanese; son, Richie Mays (wife, Greta); son, Nolan Mays (wife, Mackenzie); daughter, Amy Smith; grandchildren, Allison Mays (daughter of Richie and Michelle Mays), Beau and Luke Mays (sons of Nolan and Mackenzie Mays), and Lauren Smith (daughter of Amy and Mark Smith); mother, Mary Ann Thomas; sister, Rebecca Heim (husband Steve); sister, Anna Karls (husband Russell); brother, Edward A. Thomas, III (wife, Denise); uncle, James L. Shipp, Jr., aunt, Nancy Shipp; cousins, Chuck Shipp, David Shipp, Andy Shipp, and Laura Barber; and many other adoring family members and close friends. A visitation at 11 a.m., followed by a Memorial Service at noon, will be held on Saturday, February 27th at Peachtree Corners Baptist Church, 4480 Peachtree Corners Circle, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the American Cancer Society (www.cancer.org) or Peachtree Corners Baptist Church. Condolences may be submitted on-line at www.scotward.com. Scot Ward Funeral Services, 699 American Legion Road, Conyers, GA 30012, 770-483-7216.

Previous Events

Graveside

FEB 24. 12:00 PM (ET)

Green Meadow Memorial Gardens
677 American Legion Rd NE
Conyers, GA 30012

Memorial

FEB 27. 12:00 PM (ET)

Peachtree Corners Baptist Church
4480 Peachtree Corners Circle
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092

Visitation

FEB 27. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Peachtree Corners Baptist Church
4480 Peachtree Corners Circle
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092

Tribute Wall

CH

“ I'm deeply sorry for your loss. I hope the words found in the bible at Isaiah 25:8 brings comfort. God promises to "swallow up death forever". No more will we have to suffer heartache for God says he will "wipe away the tears from all faces". Such a joyous time it will be; reunited with our dead loved ones!

Cheyenne - March 15, 2016 at 08:32 AM

SR

“ My sincerest sympathies to Theresa's family and loved ones. God be with you all and wrap his loving arms around you.

Susan Vinson Ricker

Susan Vinson Ricker - February 29, 2016 at 07:58 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Theresa Mays-Albanese.



February 27, 2016 at 08:25 AM

MV

“ Jack,
We were so sorry to hear of Theresa's death. We offer our prayers and condolences to you and your family. May the strength of your faith, prayers of your friends and family, and fond memories lift you through this difficult time.

Mark & Kathy Volker

Mark Volker - February 26, 2016 at 04:15 PM

RD

“ *Rich, Tara, Blake and Mackenzie Dennis purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Theresa Mays-Albanese.*



Rich, Tara, Blake and Mackenzie Dennis - February 26, 2016
at 04:01 PM

RH

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



Rebecca Heim - February 26, 2016 at 12:40 PM

BJ

“ *Jack, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and Theresa's family. I know she made a lasting impression to many people in the Wesleyan community and will be missed dearly.*

Sincerely,

B.J. & Leah Dekreek

Bj - February 25, 2016 at 04:29 PM

BD

“ *Jack,
So sorry to hear of Theresa's passing. Vicky and I remember fondly
the evening we spent together having dinner at Amalifi's. Our
prayers are with you and Theresa's family.
Sincerely,*

Bill & Vicky Delmont

Bill Delmont - February 25, 2016 at 07:07 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family
of Theresa Mays-Albanese.*




February 24, 2016 at 07:52 PM

EN

“ *My sincere sympathy to Theresa's family. She was a beautiful and
inspirational woman who touched many lives. Her strength and
courage in dealing with adversity reflect her deep love for family and
friends. My heart goes out to those she leaves behind.
Ellen Neidle*

Ellen Neidle - February 24, 2016 at 06:44 PM

 Clare
Heeps
Utter

“ *Mrs. Mays was my art teacher in high school. She introduced me to watercolour and I still love to paint to this day. Richard gave me my first job at his dry cleaning business when I was 17. Seems like a lifetime ago. What an impact they both had on me as a teen. I will be forever great full for having crossed paths with both of them.*
Clare (Heeps) Utter.

Clare Heeps Utter - February 24, 2016 at 05:38 PM

MG

“ *I am so sorry to see that Theresa has gone. She fought so hard to stay with us all and especially her family. I will miss her so much. She was such a great friend and the most wonderful person I knew. Our thoughts, prayers and sympathy are with her family now. God Bless*
Mary Garrity and family

Mary Garrity - February 24, 2016 at 04:09 PM