



## Mrs. Rita Barden

June 19, 1947 - July 17, 2020

The family of Rita S. Barden, age 73, announces her passing. The Lord called her home after a year and a half battle with cancer and gave her rest, relief and victory on Friday, July 17, 2020 at Duke Hospital.

Rita was born in Mt. Olive, NC on June 19, 1947 to Eddie and Kirk Sampson. She attended primary school there and later finished her education in 1968 at NCCU in Durham, NC, but never stopped learning.

After a love of all thing's children, Rita began work in 1977, in the Adolescent Psychiatry Dept at Duke University. After roughly 15 years there, she returned to her love for art and joined the Duke Art Museum/Nasher Museum of Art also with Duke University and retired in 2009.

Rita was an avid gardener, loved to travel and meet people, and loved to sit and discuss all things God. She always had a kind word of encouragement for those in need and joyously offered her testimony of how God has worked in her, and through her life. Right up until the end, she professed her love for God and her life's devotion to him. She was an exceptional mom, wife, sister, and friend.

Rita is preceded in death, by her parents, her husband (Larry Barden), brothers-in-law(Walter Barden and Vernon Barden), sisters-in-law (Elizabeth

Barden and Dorothy Barden), and her son (Lawrence A. Barden).

Mrs. Barden is survived by her daughter (Atir K. Barden), and sister and brother-in-law (Barbara and Charlie Felton), as well as a host of nieces and nephews and extended family and friends.

Funeral services are incomplete at this time.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Rita Barden*

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October 05, 2023 at 11:31 AM