



Joan "Jo" Kelly Burch

January 6, 2019

On January 6, 2019 having struggled with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, Joan "Jo" Kelly Burch went to be with the Lord after 86 years of serving her husband, family, and friends. She lived in Cleveland, GA after Herschel's retirement for 22 years, before moving closer to her daughter in Buford, GA area 8 years ago.

Born January 20, 1932, Jo lived in Vienna, Georgia. While attending Vienna High School she was elected as the State President of Future Homemakers of America, representing Georgia at the first National FHA Convention in Kansas City. She attended Berry College 1949-1953. Upon graduating, she taught English at Adel High School before marrying and moving to Columbia, SC where she taught service men. After relocating to Atlanta, Ga, she became a full-time wife and mother and community service member.

Jo's legacy of love continues through her husband Herschel, their children Scott and Karen, and daughter and son in-law, Dawn Burch and Chuck Pardoe; their grandchildren Sarah Marietta, her husband Fisher, Griffin Carr, his wife Brittany, Rachel Burch, Regan McShane, her husband, Ryan and Brian Burch. She is also survived by her brother Steve Kelly, and his wife Nancy, and her sister-in-law Shirley Kelly, and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Fred and Eva Kelly, Sr.; brothers: Fred Kelly, Jr., Ben Kelly and her sisters Dean Kelly and Mozelle Kelly Smith. Jo epitomized a Proverb's 31 woman throughout her 65 years of marriage---- modeling to younger women how to love the Lord, by loving and honoring, her

beloved Herschel.

Jo loved reading, music, playing bridge, traveling and most of all her family, grandchildren and friends.

Jo served the Lord at Cleveland United Methodist Church where she loved singing in the choir, helping others through the Stephen's Ministry, working tirelessly at Mildred's Thrift Shop, the annual Fall Bazaar and mission trips to Honduras. Throughout her life, Jo was always willing to provide leadership and service through numerous community and church functions.

Friends and family all remember her treasured hand-crafted paintings and hand-painted Christmas ornaments, sharing plants from her garden and her heart to "lend a hand---and look for the good in others". Even in her 80's, she was still arranging and delivering flowers to shut-ins, making meals, and sending letters of encouragement to those in need.

Her grandchildren remember her as "grandmommy" who provided "exciting adventures" through time spent exploring the mountains, the thrift shop, the attic or the basement art and sewing studio. She loved passing on to them her passion for life and learning and they always knew "she was there for them", no matter what the need.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, January 12, 2019 at 2 p.m. at Hamilton Mill United Methodist Church in Dacula, GA 30019. A reception will follow. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the charity of your choice in her memory.

Tribute Wall



“ *Joan "Jo" Kelly Burch*

November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM



“ *Herschel, I was very sorry to hear about Jo. My prayers are with you and your family.*

Roger Mayhew - January 12, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *Herschel, I was so sorry to hear about your loss. May God hold you in His arms especially during your time of sorrow.*

Jean Kerr - January 11, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *Susan Hage 1/11/19*
Our family is so saddened by your loss Herschel. Jo was a dear sweet neighbor to me and my family. I thank you both. Jo's beautiful garden lives on in my favorite painting of Iris which is the centerpiece at my flower shop. I think fondly of her and her generosity in sharing her "pass- a-longs" from your beautiful yard and garden. Herschel, the neighbor has never been the same for me with out you as my neighbor. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.

Susan Hage - January 11, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MA

“Herschel, and your dear Family, there are not words in my vocabulary to adequately say all of the heartfelt feelings I would like to say to you. Jo was such a dear friend to us here in Cleveland. Whether it was in choir, cheerful greetings In Church, committee meetings, dinner parties, Christmas Bazaar, whatever, Jo was always eager to lend her hand always in making work seem like fun.

Earth without Jo will never be the same, but we know Heaven now is more glorious with her presence. May God lift you in His Arms Of Peace. I love you as I loved Jo.

Mary Anna

Mary Anna Allison-Houston - January 10, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KS

“Herschel, I am so sorry to here about your loss. My prayers are with you and your family, Kenneth

Kenneth Seabolt - January 09, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CC

“Herschel and family we are so very sorry for your loss. Jo was a wonderful, kind and friendly lady. We will miss her. I will always remember her with a smile on her face each Sunday as I greeted her in church. You have our deepest sympathy. May God comfort you with His love in the days to follow.

Candy Curtis - January 08, 2019 at 12:00 AM