



## Naida Rowell Speed

February 13, 1935 - February 4, 2021

Naida passed away peacefully on Thursday February 4th, 2021 at the age of 85. She was born February 13, 1935 in Alabama. Her lively, caring spirit, and strong faith in Christ will be greatly missed by her family and all those who knew her.

Naida grew up in Selma, Alabama. Being the only daughter with four brothers she learned to be strong and stand her ground. She had a love for ballet as a young child and danced through high school, with plans to pursue dance as a career. Plans changed after falling in love with her soulmate and high school sweetheart and decided to get married after graduating high school in 1954. She helped support Bill through college by teaching ballet at The University of Alabama and afterwards opened her own ballet studio in Selma, where she taught for many years.

In June of 1973, she and the family moved to Buford, Georgia where she helped in starting Prince of Peace Catholic Church on Lee Street in Buford. Being one of the original thirteen families, Naida loved her church and played a vital role in helping build it to what it is today, with over 4,000 families. She will always be remembered for her love for her church and her Catholic faith.

Naida was preceded in death by her son, Mark Speed, her parents, Robert Rowell and Nadine Rowell, and three brothers, John Rowell, Larry Rowell,

and Mike Rowell. Naida is survived by the love of her life, William E. Speed married 66 years, one remaining brother Robert Rowell residing in Birmingham, Alabama; sons and their wives Brian and Marla Osburn Speed, Keith and Lynne Shomake Speed; seven grandchildren, Jessica Thrasher(Kyle), Kali Arcega(Josh), Shea Speed(Brittney), Leah Speed, Kacie Waters(John), Ryan Speed(Sarah), Anna Chelena(Jonathan) and seven great grandchildren. She will be greatly missed.

Funeral Mass will be Wednesday, February 10, 2021, 2:00pm at Prince of Peace Catholic Church, Flowery Branch, GA. The family will receive friends beginning 1:30pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St Vincent de Paul Society Georgia. Checks may be mailed to Prince of Peace Catholic Church, 6439 Spout Spring Rd, Flowery Branch, GA 30542.

# Previous Events

## The family will receive friends

FEB 10. 1:30 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Prince of Peace Catholic Church  
6439 Spout Springs Rd  
Flowery Branch, GA 30542

## Funeral Mass

FEB 10. 2:00 PM (ET)

Prince of Peace Catholic Church  
6439 Spout Springs Rd  
Flowery Branch, GA 30542

# Tribute Wall



“ *Naida Rowell Speed*

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November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM



“ *My parents purchased the Speed family home in Selma in 1973. Mrs. Speed was my ballet teacher and, to this day, the reason that I have such great posture! She taught us to stand tall, be confident and to love all forms of dance. Amazing how someone can have such a dramatic impact on your life. God bless you Mrs. Speed.*

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**Karen Curry Sindel** - February 14, 2021 at 08:41 AM



“ *Billy, I was so sorry to read of Naida's death. It's many years since we have visited but wanted you and your family to know that you are and will be in my prayers.*

*Much love,  
Boo McMilion*

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**Boo McMilion** - February 10, 2021 at 08:47 PM



“ So sorry to hear of the passing of a friend Naida Rowell Speed. I guess I have known her all my life. She was the sister of one of my friends John Harvey Rowell who I knew from my school years. Naida was older by 7 years than John. I also knew Bill Speed her precious husband through my brother Kenneth H. Haughton. Bill, Naida and Ken were all in Albert G. Parrish High School together in Selma, Alabama our hometown. My prayers are with the family and my love to all. She was a wonderful friend to anyone that knew her!  
Jobeth Haughton Nelson, Selma, Alabama

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**Jobeth Nelson** - February 10, 2021 at 07:19 PM

RD

“ Our prayers for Deacon Bill and his family.  
Randy and Lynn Doty

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**Randy Doty** - February 10, 2021 at 11:23 AM

SR

“ I've few words to console your heart today, Bill. I cried when I learned of Naida's death. I've known her and you for more than 26 years. I remember Naida's joy on the day of your ordination to the deaconate. She was so proud of you! I treasure the many times we chatted together, she opening her heart to me and I to her. She always had a sweet smile and a kind word for everyone and about everyone.

*I will always remember Naida as a woman with deep faith, especially during trying moments. She is now eternally with her beloved God. I believe she is with us as we grieve our loss of her and celebrate her life together.*

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**Sister Susan Arcaro, r.c.** - February 10, 2021 at 07:47 AM

JF

“ *May the peace of God be with your family deacon Bill. We will miss Nadine and we love you. ❤️🙏  
Nadine pray for us.  
Julie and Tony Bugg and family*



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**Julie and Tony Bugg and family** - February 10, 2021 at 12:11 AM

JH

“ *Deacon Bill, so sad to hear of Naida's death. You and your family are in my prayers. Let His loving arms surround you with His peace and comfort. I'm sure Jesus took her hand and guided her to his Kingdom of glory.*

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**Jean Hodge** - February 09, 2021 at 07:45 PM

JN

“ *Deacon Bill,  
We were shocked and saddened to hear about Naida's death. She was always so kind and dedicated to serving our Lord....and her family. The first time I met her, I'll never forget how easily she shared about her life. I immediately felt like she was my big sister. (Although Naida was tiny!) Our hearts are with you, and please know that she, as well as your wonderful family, are in our continued prayers. Naida, we know you are at peace and in a place where you can now pray mightily for all.  
May God grant you his eternal gifts of peace, love and joy!  
God Bless!!  
Nick and Jan Nichols*

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**Jan and Nick Nichols** - February 08, 2021 at 04:44 PM

KS

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Keith Speed** - February 08, 2021 at 09:42 AM

CD

“ I am saddened to hear of Naida's passing. Deacon Bill and family, you are in my prayers. You all are part of my memories of Prince of Peace as far back as I can remember, and Nadia has always been so lovely, positive, and welcoming to all. Her examples she set as a mother, a lady, and Christian did not go unnoticed. I know that she will hear Him say, "Well done, my good and faithful servant!" God Bless.

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**Colleen Davis** - February 07, 2021 at 10:26 AM

BD

“ Deacon Speed and Family  
So very sorry to hear of the passing of your beloved Naida. She was such a sweet and kind lady. She will greatly be missed. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May God be with you in these sad times.  
Brian and Pat Dennis

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**Brian & Pat Dennis** - February 07, 2021 at 09:54 AM

GM

“ Deacon Bill and Family,  
Naida is now at home, in Heaven, and forever in our Hearts! A beautiful woman in all ways, she was one of the first to welcome us to Prince of Peace almost thirty years ago. Her kindness will never be forgotten!  
May your Faith, your Family, and your Friends help you today, and in the days ahead.  
Ready to help you, Gerry and Joe

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**gerry and joe metzger** - February 07, 2021 at 03:46 AM

LF

“ Deacon Bill and family,  
Both my mom and I are with you during this very difficult time. Our hearts go out to you in every way! We loved Naida so much. Mom saw her at the store 3 weeks ago and had a nice conversation. She always lit up a room with her smile and her eyes! I have some pictures, one in particular, that showed how much you two loved each other and always will! Both of you have always been special to me (Lori) throughout these 18 years that I have been at Prince of Peace (and also to my mom, Gloria). Our thoughts, prayers and love will always be with you, especially now. If y'all ever need anything, please don't hesitate to let us know!! God bless you now and always!

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**Lori Fugere** - February 05, 2021 at 10:49 AM

CW

“ *Our hearts were so heavy when we heard the news last night. Deacon Bill, please know that you and all of the Speeds are being lifted in prayer. Naida was one of the sweetest women we have ever known. May she Rest In Peace in the arms of Our Prince of Peace. Caroline, John, Julia & Starr Whitten*



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**Caroline Whitten** - February 05, 2021 at 08:45 AM