

Susan Lockamy Norman

March 8, 1951 - November 7, 2021

SUSAN LOCKAMY NORMAN

Susan Lockamy Norman died on November 7, 2021 at NOrthside Hospital in Atlanta, GA from pulmonary hypertension that became severe immediately after receiving Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine.

Born on March 8, 1951 at Crawford Long Hospital in Atlanta, Susan was the daughter of Edward A. Lockamy Sr. and Doris Jones Lockamy, both natives of North Carolina.

She spent the first five years of her life in a little brick bungalow on Warren Street in Kirkwood, where neighbors were like a loving extended family. She later attended Bayou View Elementary School in Gulfport, Miss., and Howard Drive Elementary School and Palmetto Jr. High School, both in Miami, Fla. She graduated with honors from Towers High School in Decatur in 1969.

She then attended Florida State University for two years and after moving to Athens, Ga., took a break from college and worked as that city's first female mail carrier from 1974-76.

Susan returned to college in the fall of 1976 and graduated magna cum laude in 1978 from the Henry W. Grady School of Journalism at the University of

Georgia. While a student, she was Executive Editor of the Red & Black, a summer intern for the Macon Telegraph, and features editor for the Athens Banner-Herald.

After graduation, Susan went to work in Virginia — first as a reporter for the Virginian-Pilot in Norfolk and then as assistant editor of the Daily Press in Newport News. After a family move to Northern Virginia in 1995, she worked for the Loudoun Times-Mirror in Leesburg, and the Fauquier Times-Democrat in Warrenton.

In 1998, Susan became a pioneer in Internet-based, local news coverage. Setting up a newsroom in her living room in Leesburg, Va., she published the Loudoun Daily News, which broke new ground in a county with no local daily newspaper. Her site later merged with that of Leesburg Today, and Susan became its editor of new media.

After a family move to the Atlanta area in 2000, Susan served as editor of the Forsyth County News in Cumming and then as an investigative reporter for the Macon Telegraph. Her final job in journalism was from 2008-2014 as government editor at the Barrow Journal in Winder, Ga.

Susan received multiple awards from the Virginia and Georgia press associations, and after discovering in the middle of the night a \$2 million budget error that saved Barrow County taxpayers a tax hike, she won second place in the National Newspaper Association's competition for the National Community Service Award.

Retiring from journalism in 2014 at the age of 63, Susan then worked as a political writer and in 2021 researched the history of Perry-Rainey College for the City of Auburn, Ga.

In-between her many jobs in journalism, Susan worked in public relations. She

was director of communications for the Piedmont Environmental Council, senior editor in the public relations department of the Christian Broadcasting Network, and wrote for several non-profit organizations.

Although what she accomplished in her career was deeply satisfying, the greatest joy of Susan's life was becoming a mother. She first became the stepmother of Michael Lloyd Norman, who at the age of 9 came to live with "Good Mama" and "Daddy" in Portsmouth, Va. While learning many valuable things from each other, she and this special son forged a priceless, eternal bond.

Her son Mark was born in 1980 and gave the word "love" a whole new meaning. Nineteen months later, Rebecca was born. She was a dream come true and has brought immeasurable joy to her mother's heart. That joy grew exponentially with the births of Rebecca's beautiful children.

Susan was predeceased by Jack R. Norman, her husband of 37 years. They met on Jan. 1, 1979 through an investigative piece Susan wrote for the Norfolk paper. Their last moment together on July 19, 2016 was sealed with a kiss. After Jack's death in 2016, Susan took his seat on the board of the Rockford Preservation Society and became a member of Rockford Baptist Church in Dobson, N.C., where Jack's great-grandparents in the 1800s were members.

Susan also was predeceased by her big brother, Eddie Lockamy Jr. of Athens. She is survived by his family: Denise Foster Lockamy, who provided priceless nursing guidance throughout Susan's illness; and by Ryan and Beth Lockamy.

Other survivors include Rebecca's husband, Brandon Engels, and his three precious children, Chaya, Braelyn and Aidan.

Susan also leaves behind deeply loved friends who have shared life's joys and softened its sorrows.

Susan was a devoted follower of Jesus Christ and is thankful now to be in the presence of His perfect love. Her service will be scheduled shortly at Rockford Baptist Church in Dobson, N.C., with Pastor Roy Ferguson officiating. Burial will be beside Jack in the church's historic cemetery.

Flanigan Funeral Home in Buford is handling arrangements in Georgia. Moody Davis Funeral Home in Dobson, N.C., is handling the burial.

Tribute Wall

TA

“ I believe that this is the right person, if not I hope that I do not offend.
I met Susan when my dad took me to their house in Gulfport, MS when I was 4 or 5. Susan was the same age. I fell in love with that little blond-haired girl and I have fondly remembered her at times throughout my entire life.
Goodbye Susan.

Tom Ackerson - December 24, 2023 at 09:56 AM



“ Susan Lockamy Norman

November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM

RO

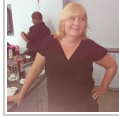
“ Susan was a close, loving friend for over 40 years. Our relationship was one of iron sharpeneth iron. She was “Dixie” and I was “Yankee”. We hung together through thick and thin. Susan was a brilliant journalist, a wonderful mother and friend. I will really miss her.

Roberta - November 13, 2021 at 11:13 AM

HB

Although we had lost touch several years ago, I remember this charming young woman as a loving family person, a devout Christian and a dedicated journalist. Condolences, may she rest in peace.

Helen Buffington - November 15, 2021 at 11:10 AM



Susan and I never met in person but talked on the phone, email and text. Our sons were roommates at one point so I did meet him. Susan gave too much of herself sometimes, just like I do. We cried over our sons and their situations. Susan is finally at rest and not wondering where her son is today. She never judged anything I told her was going on with my son. I loved her and I miss her very much but she deserved the peace she is getting right now. Love, Sabrina Green

Sabrina Green - November 16, 2021 at 08:24 PM



I miss Susie so much. We talked almost daily. She found me in the web. We talked through everything and I never had to be anything but real with her. We prayed through everything every time. I still reach for the phone to catch up. My dear sister is with God.

Cathy Wray - November 17, 2021 at 02:20 PM



Thank you so much to all who have poured their hearts out to my mom. I miss her tremendously, and it brings me comfort to see the kind of love and legacy she left behind. <3

Rebecca Engels - November 23, 2021 at 04:21 PM

“ Susan was a brilliant, loving, infectiousy courageous woman! She was a servant, a prayer warrior and a fierce mama bear! She loved her family with everything in her- when they hurt...she hurt! Susan loved the truth, whether it was the Word of God, which was the topic of most of our conversations or people she was passionate.

Susan always had a listening ear. When I struggles she was so empathetic that I knew she struggles too!

She was a protector, if you were blessed enough to be counted as a friend she would take the position of protector through; encouragement, prayer, and research she was ready to battle for you!

She was gentle, kind, giving, Christ-like.

I will greatly miss her and as is the case with friends and loved ones who are Christians, we look forward to our great reunion! Oh how Susan loved Jesus, I can see her now- beautiful, whole, healed, singing and dancing with her husband and Jesus!

I will miss her and my heart is heavy for me and her family and friends and so I will do what she wanted me to do when she passed from this world, her greatest desire was that every person that knew her would come to know and receive Jesus Christ as their Savior.

So, I end with these verses:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made. In Him was life and the life was the light of men.

John 1:1-4

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

Susan's life spoke of the love of God, the goodness of a Savior and she held fast to her anchor-Jesus the Christ! If she knew you, she

prayed for your salvation!

Linda Blechinger - November 13, 2021 at 08:09 AM