



## Paulette Mae Parker

July 22, 1947 - November 23, 2023

Paulette Mae Parker of Arcadia, Mo., entered into eternal rest on Thursday, November 23, 2023, at the age of 76 after winning her three-year battle with cancer.

She was born seven minutes after her best friend and identical twin sister, Pauline, on July 22, 1947, in Honolulu, Hawai'i. The twins joined their feisty older sister, April, and were later joined by their only brother, Nelson, and years later their baby sister, Debbie.

Daughter of Kenichi and Yoshiko Fukuhara, Paulette was raised in the small island community of Kekaha, Kauai, Hawai'i, where she learned hula, spoke pidgin, and first developed her longstanding relationship with Jesus. After graduating from Waimea High School in 1965, Paulette moved to Missouri to attend college at Southwest Baptist College where she earned her teaching degree.

She dedicated almost 40 years of her life to serving families as an elementary teacher and aide for Arcadia Valley Schools. Just as important to her were the 50 years she spent teaching children the stories and ways of Jesus at her church home, First Baptist Church of Ironton, where she served as a Sunday School and Vacation Bible School teacher.

Paulette was a creative and dedicated educator whose passion for teaching was only matched by her passion for learning about and serving Christ.

After beating him in bowling on their first date, Paulette married square dancing and parachute extraordinaire Ron Parker on July 15, 1972. They spent 51 years traveling, laughing, growing, and setting the perfect example of sacrificial and devoted love to all who knew them. Ron and Paulette welcomed their self-proclaimed favorite child, Jeremy, in 1978 and their much more humble daughter, Nikki Thomas (Steve) in 1981. In recent years Paulette's time was occupied along the sidelines and in the audience as the biggest fan of her grandchildren Lanie and Roman. She loved following their adventures and took great pride in being able to watch them grow up.

Paulette is lovingly remembered by special relatives Rosa Voyles and family, and many more loving family members, church family members, friends, and past students.

A visitation for friends and family to gather will be held on Friday, December 1, 2023 from 3-5 p.m. with a Celebration of Life beginning at 5 p.m., both at First Baptist Church Ironton. Friends and family are invited to stay immediately after the Celebration of Life for refreshments.

Pastor Ryan Nichols will be officiating the services.

In lieu of flowers, friends and family are encouraged to mail a supportive and uplifting card to someone on your mind in Paulette's honor and memory. This was a favorite hobby of Paulette's, and her family would love people to follow her footsteps in this small but meaningful gesture.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 1. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Ironton, MO  
111 N Knob St  
Ironton, MO 63650  
(573) 546-7596

## Celebration of Life

DEC 1. 5:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Ironton, MO  
111 N Knob St  
Ironton, MO 63650  
(573) 546-7596

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Paulette Mae Parker.* ”



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November 29, 2023 at 03:44 PM



“ *Stephanie Marshall sent a virtual gift in memory of Paulette Parker* ”



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**Stephanie Marshall** - November 27, 2023 at 11:45 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss, Ron, Jeremy, and Nikki* ”



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**Sherry Bennett** - November 27, 2023 at 10:30 PM



“ 60 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Cole Family Funeral Home** - November 27, 2023 at 02:04 PM



“ *The parkers were wonderful teachers, my prayers to Ron and the family*



**Jennifer Thacker** - November 26, 2023 at 07:37 AM



“ *Kim Benz lit a candle in memory of Paulette Parker*



**Kim Benz** - November 25, 2023 at 07:31 PM

PB

“ Peter B. lit a candle in memory of Paulette Parker



Peter B. - November 25, 2023 at 05:05 PM

HB

“ Heather B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paulette Mae Parker.

Heather B. - November 25, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Paulette Mae Parker.



November 25, 2023 at 04:18 PM

ET

“ Evon Turner lit a candle in memory of Paulette Parker



Evon Turner - November 25, 2023 at 11:41 AM



“ *Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paulette Mae Parker.*



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November 25, 2023 at 11:04 AM



“ *I did not know Paulette well, but I did see her cheering her grandkids on, hear stories of her kindness/greatness, and was the recipient of one of the best pineapples I ever ate that she brought back from Hawaii last year for her grandson to give his teacher for Christmas. I'm so deeply sorry for the loss the family will feel, but from everything I hear, hers was a life worth celebrating. Prayers of peace and comfort to her family and friends.*

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**Jennifer Waddell** - November 25, 2023 at 07:31 AM



“ *Mrs Parker was a beautiful soul. She was kind caring and loving. She came to me as a friend when I was a new church member and her kindness I will always remember and carry with me.*

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**katke king ivester** - November 25, 2023 at 03:29 AM