

Roberta Elizabeth Folz August 9, 1940 – April 21, 2025

Cedar Church

3419 Broadway, Allentown, PA

Friday, May 23, 2025, 11:00 a.m.

The Rev. Candi L. Cain-Borgman, Officiant Judy Noll, Organist

A Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving for the Life of

Roberta Elizabeth Folz

"To live in the hearts we leave behind is not to die."

Thomas Campbell



Selected Preludes

Sentences



One: If your love mourns, come, and God shall hold you.

Many: We will not be alone in the pain of our loss.

One: If your heart grieves, come, and God's arms shall enfold you.

Many: Our tears of sorrow will mingle with God's.

One: We will trust in God and not be afraid.

Many: Our God has seen, and shall not turn away.
Our God has seen and shall always remain.



Opening Hymn

TRUST, GUIDANCE

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5 Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921, alt.

Unison Prayer

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you. One: Let us pray together.

Many: Holy God, whose ways are not our ways and whose thoughts are not our thoughts, grant that your Holy Spirit may intercede for us with sighs too deep for human words. Heal our wounded hearts made heavy by our sorrow. Through the veil of our tears and the silence of our emptiness, assure us again that ear has not heard, nor eye seen, nor human imagination envisioned, what you have prepared for those who love you; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Reading of the Scriptures

Old Testament Lesson

Ecclesiastes 3, Selected Verses,

Reading of the Psalm

Psalm 23, KJV

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

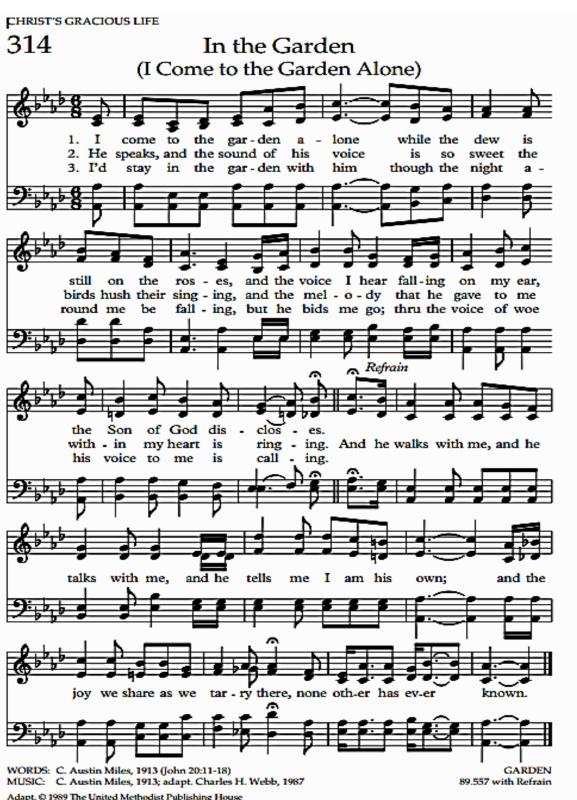
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Gospel Lesson

John 14, Selected Verses

Hymn



Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

Words of Remembrance & Homily

-Reverend Candi Cain-Borgman

The Affirmation of Faith

One: Let us affirm our resurrection faith using these words written to encourage the Roman Church.

Many: We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, and that we know that in everything God works for good with those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Many: Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Commendation

Song of Simeon

Many: Holy One, now let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled: my own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.



Benediction

Roberta Elizabeth Folz Obituary



Roberta "Bobbie" Folz passed peacefully on April 21, 2025 at her home in San Antonio, Texas surrounded by family. Bobbie lived a vibrant life, full of character and love. Known for her storytelling, charm, strength, idealism, adventurous spirit, and butternut squash soup, she was a powerful sorceress of words and life, casting spells of love and joy, all the while humming and singing Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah with Mr. Bluebird sitting on her shoulder.

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened"-Dr Seuss

Born on August 9, 1940 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Joseph James Folz and Dorothy Elsie Folz (Worman), Bobbie had the experience as a young child of living on a farm and having pet chickens and two dogs named Petey and Pan, before eventually moving to Upper Darby, PA and then Allentown, PA where she graduated high school. Bobbie would fondly regale with stories of a teen who would cajole her younger brother, Joe, to accompany her to dance at Bob Horn's Bandstand (the program that proceeded Dick Clark's "American Bandstand") at WFIL-TV in Philadelphia. She also had fabulous stories of attending Upper Darby High with singer/songwriter Jim Croce.

In 1967, Bobbie moved to Richmond, VA to earn her bachelor's degree in early childhood education at Virginia Commonwealth University and began her elementary school teaching career in 1970 at what turned out to be her favorite school in Allentown, PA, Muhlenberg Elementary. Bobbie continued to keep in touch with many of her students over the years both as personal contacts and via Facebook. Bobbie left an indelible mark as a talented and caring elementary school teacher. Her dedication to helping others was an embodiment of her philosophy to 'do unto others' and 'hurt no living thing'. These lessons are part of her ongoing legacy.

After raising her children, Bobbie moved to Port St Lucie, FL to indulge in her love of warm lapping waves and sand between her toes, and to continue her giving as a Social Security Claims Representative until she retired in 2010. Bobbie's gifts truly shined in this position, often telling stories of how happy she was to meet and befriend new clients and was very proud of how hard she worked to ensure each and every client received their well-deserved benefits.

Bobbie made the most of her retirement years, spending her free time with her close friends, children and grandchildren, traveling abroad, taking memorable cruises, and her relished gardening.

In 2024, Bobbie decided to move to San Antonio, TX to be near family.

"The song is ended, but the melody lingers on"-Irving Berlin

She was a woman of unique personality and enthusiasm, always marching to the beat of her own drum. Her belief that 'laughter is the best medicine' was reflected in her love for April Fool's Day and her tradition of coloring oatmeal green on St. Patrick's Day.

As an avid Scrabble player, she spent countless joyful hours strategizing over the game board. Beyond the fun, these games served as a platform for sharing her philosophical thoughts and astrological knowledge, adding another layer to her rich legacy.

Bobbie was a beacon of individuality whose spirit will continue to guide and inspire all those who were fortunate enough to know her. She will be deeply missed, yet her legacy of love, strength, and wisdom will continue to thrive in the lives of her children and everyone she touched.

"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die"-Thomas Campbell

Left to cherish Bobbie's memories are her loving children – Joanna Folz, Nicholas Peters (Gidget), Valerie Peters, Kassandre St. Ores, Alicia Moreau (Aubrey), Kerrick Peters, and Kristopher Peters (Kieu Oanh). Amongst all her achievements, she considered her seven children to be her greatest accomplishment, treasuring her role as a mother above all.

Bobbie also lives in the hearts of 13 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

The family will honor her wishes for cremation.

A Celebration of Life is planned for the future at Cedar Church in Allentown, PA.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Roberta's name can be made to Alzheimer's Association

Please also visit: everloved.com/life-of/roberta-folz to share pictures, memories, and stories

I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken
in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars
that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
am not there. I did not die.



-Mary Elizabeth Frye