

Elizabeth Carpenter 'Libby' Poppe

A Teacher of Excellence and Macon County native

Elizabeth Carpenter "Libby" Poppe, 56, of 403 Colchester Drive, died Monday, June 9, 2003, at her home. She was born January 27, 1947 in Kokomo, Ind., to Senator Robert Clarence Carpenter and the late Ruth Cope Carpenter. She graduated from UNC-G in 1969 and taught for thirty-two years with the Wake County Public School



System at Lockhart Junior High School, Vaiden Whitley Middle School, East Wake High School, and Southeast Raleigh High School.

During her career, she was chosen by her peers as "Teacher of the Year" four times, initiated the Future Teachers Program for North Carolina, and served on the N.C. Board of Directors for Social Studies. She also was chosen as a National Teacher of Excellence Member and participated in the inaugural teacher exchange program

to Japan. As well as guiding her students in the classroom, she understood the value of support and encouragement in all areas of life. She devoted countless hours to helping with community projects, mentoring fellow teachers and assisting students.

Surviving, in addition to her father, are her husband, Len Poppe; three daughters, Jennifer Poppe Congleton and her husband, John, of Raleigh, Anna Christine Poppe of Charlottesville, Va., Melissa Catherine Poppe of Raleigh; two sisters, Jane C. Gullett of Clayton, Ga., and Christine Carpenter of Waynesville; four brothers, Robert D. Carpenter of Sylva, Tom Carpenter of Conyers, Ga., Dale R. Carpenter of Waynesville, and Edgar G. Carpenter of Weston, Fla.

In addition to her mother, she was preceded in death by her sister, Deborah L. Carpenter.

A rosary service was held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, at L. Harold Poole Funeral Service Chapel in Knightdale.

A memorial mass was held on Thursday, June 12, at Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Raleigh with the Very Reverend Jerry Sherba officiating.

Graveside service will be held in Franklin at Woodlawn Cemetery, one mile west of Franklin, at 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 14, with Father James Cahill officiating. Serving as pallbearers will be Tom Carpenter, Bob Carpenter, Ed Carpenter, Bruce Cuilla, Henry Baldwin, Jr. and George Poppe.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, Southeast Division, Wake Unit, 11 South Boylan Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27603-1839.

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