



Susie Arnall Thomasson

November 11, 1934 - October 3, 2015

Susie Arnall Mann Thomasson left her earthly home October 3, 2015 to become enveloped by those beloveds who preceded her. Born the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1934, she is cherished by her lifelong sweetheart and husband, Dr. James J. Thomasson, Jr. Sharing this love are their four children Myrtle Mildred Thomasson Gosch (Andy), Emeline Mann Thomasson Loughlin (Edward), James Jefferson Thomasson III (Jennifer), and Alton Arnall Thomasson.

Joyfully added to this number are her grandchildren Katie Arnall Sale Salsi (Beau), Ronald Steven Sale, Andrew Finley Gosch, Jr., Edward Christopher Forbes Loughlin, Jr., Evan Wirt Thomasson Loughlin, James Jefferson Thomasson IV, and Cheney Virginia Thomasson.

Susie's relatives were central participants in mills, manufacturing, and farming throughout Coweta County after the Civil War. Noted for their care and praise of mill employees, relatives modeled a love in caring for others, instilled most earnestly by her mother whose life purpose was serving her community and church stretching to missions abroad.

In this environment as an only child, living as a princess might have been an outlook for Susie as she was embraced by her mother's only sister, Mildred Arnall Penniston, and aunt Katie Arnall Freeman, who served as a mother figure to the sisters who lost their mother in early childhood. However, modesty and anonymity were the bedrock sustaining her path in life.

Reared in the public schools of Newnan, Georgia, her lifelong home, Susie

caught the eye of a fellow pupil at age five. Jimmy Thomasson was the only boy she ever knew romantically; and she found her way to the dance floor with him during lessons in elementary school, chatting with him despite the warning eye of the Newnan High librarian, wearing his corsage at proms, and proudly displaying his football on a neck chain. From the time of their meeting, they were always spoken of as "Susie and Jimmy."

Separated only by college, Jimmy at Emory, Susie at Breneau, the romance strengthened. Weekends Jimmy would take the bus to Gainesville and board across the street from the Delta Delta Delta sorority house. Susie served as president of the group as well as membership in the honor society HDH for two years.

After graduation, Jimmy and Susie married at her parents' home June 30, 1956. Until Jimmy left for medical school at Emory, they attended the couples' Sunday School class which her mother taught at Central Baptist Church, a central element in Susie's life. During Jimmy's time at Emory, Susie taught school for two years in Decatur. After surgical residency and a time in the Navy, the Thomassons returned to Newnan with their three young children, followed by Alton in 1972, thus beginning another phase of her life, service to her community.

With some reluctance Susie accepted her mother's declaration, "You have been asked to do something for your community," and chaired organizing the Pink Ladies of Newnan Hospital for several years. In addition to her support of her church, Susie was on the board of directors to establish Newnan's Mainstreet, Downtown Development Authority as well as the organizing board for Wesley Woods. Newnan's Sesquicentennial celebration in 1978 merited her participation in a quiet and efficient manner.

Perhaps her greatest allegiance and Jimmy's was the founding of The Heritage School along with friends Carolyn and Guy Arnall and Evelyn and Will Haugen. Since Susie and Jimmy had pleasant experiences in a private school in Jacksonville, they possessed insight of its value.

Susie's family touched the creation of the school by her aunt Katie Freeman's

gift of a pecan orchard to serve as its setting. Until her death, "Aunt Katie" had her chauffeur Aaron drive her to the school for the pleasure of watching the students.

The school opened in 1970, one of only seven in the country with tax exempt status. The first year boasted 11 teachers, 134 students and 8 grades. In addition to founding support, Susie headed up the Parents' Club to encourage and organize multiple activities to highlight her pride in Heritage.

Two relaxing sports punctuated her social time: bridge and fishing. She enjoyed bridge lessons in several locales as well as energetically participating in its play at least twice a week, even as her eyesight faltered.

Fishing could be traced to childhood as her aunt Mildred (Bunny) insisted that she bait her own hook and remove the captured fish. Later, her father instructed her in fly fishing. This pleasure was shared her grandchildren. Since she always landed the largest specimen, grandson Evan thought his mount the finer until his grandmother claimed prized space at their pond cottage.

Perhaps "mother" was her greatest pleasure and achievement. As Susie noted that her own mother was active, Myrtle Mann still found time for Susie and her interests, insisting on daily "life lessons" at the dining room table.

Susie continued that same care for her two daughters and sons. She listened for the door to open in the afternoon as they rushed in to describe the school day. She, too, insisted on fair play as well as sharp eyed attention to detail, be it proper manners or business matters. Later "Susie" and "Papa" found ample audience in their grandchildren, quietly insisting, often with humor, that they tow the mark.

As Susie founded the Myrtle Arnall Mann Mission and Scholarship Fund at Central Baptist Church, donations may be sent to the address: 14 Broad Street; Newnan, GA 30263 or the Katie Arnall Freeman Fund : The Heritage School, 2038 Highway 29; Newnan, GA 30263.

A private, family graveside service will be held. Condolences may be expressed online at www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home 770-253-4580.

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Cemetery

96 Jefferson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-3744

Previous Events

Service

OCT 4. 2:00 PM.

Private graveside service for family at Oak Hill

Tribute Wall

GS

“ We are so sorry to hear of your dear mother's passing away. May God's gentle love surround you with peace. All of you are in our prayers. Gene and Martha

Gene and Martha Secor - October 19, 2015 at 10:44 AM

KB

“ Dear Family, May Jehovah God comfort you during this time of loss. Though there may be little that can be said or done to ease your pain, may you find comfort in knowing that many care and sympathize with your sadness. Always know that Jehovah God is with you to strengthen and guide you. May your trust in his promise of a resurrection bring you peace. – Acts 24:15 Warm Regards, K. L. Banks

K.L. Banks - October 10, 2015 at 09:12 AM

GN

“ Dr Thomasson, may you find peace and comfort in knowing that Ms Susie is resting quietly in her heavenly home. Ms Susie will be greatly missed in the community she served for so long. Our heartfelt condolences go out to you and your family. George and Terry Nelms

George and Terry Nelms - October 07, 2015 at 04:43 PM

LS

“ Dr. Thomasson and family, You are in my thoughts and prayers. May God give you His comfort and peace during this sad time. Linda

Linda Sewell - October 06, 2015 at 09:08 PM

JB

“ On behalf of the Newnan-Coweta Historical Society, we are so sorry for your loss. We are keeping your family in our thoughts and prayers.

Jeff Bishop - October 06, 2015 at 05:38 PM

MB

“ The Thomasson Family, May God's peace with you during this difficult time. I hope you can focus on the joyous memories of all Miss Susie accomplished. She was a sweet, sweet lady. Now she is with her heavenly Father. God Bless you all. Much Love, Marla & Bryant Brandenburg

Marla Brandenburg - October 05, 2015 at 10:53 PM

JR

“ Thinking of you all. Peace to your family.

Jane and Don Randolph - October 05, 2015 at 06:06 PM

RH

“ My thoughts and prayers to the Thomasson family. Miss Susie was a wonderful, sweet "lady". She will be truly missed by all.

Robin Hart - October 05, 2015 at 04:40 PM

GH

“ Dear Dr. Jimmy and all the family. We are so sorry about the passing of Miss Susie. She was truly a wonderful lady. We are praying for you all in this time of loss. Blessings to you all. George and Jeanne

George and Jeanne Haugen - October 05, 2015 at 02:57 PM

NF

“ D. T. I am sorry for your loss. Seems the older I get, the more people I know are passing on. I know the grief you are feeling now. This won't ,mean much right now, but it will get better. I'm praying for God to give you His peace and comfort. Please give me a call if I can help you in any way. Dr. T remember God loves you and so do I. Your old friend, Norman

Nornan Ferrell - October 05, 2015 at 01:04 PM

AB

“ Dear Jim, Ryan and I just want you to know we are thinking about you during the loss of your Mother. We cannot express enough how sorry we are for your loss. We do know she was a wonderful woman and Mother because you are such a fine man. We have really enjoyed your friendship over the years. Just know we are thinking of you and your family during this very difficult time. Sincerely, Ryan and Alexis Brooks

Alexis and Ryan Brooks - October 05, 2015 at 11:18 AM

FF

“ We are so sorry to hear about Miss Susie's passing. She was a fine and generous person. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of the family during this difficult time. Sincerely, Frank and Melody Farmer

FRANK AND MELODY FARMER - October 05, 2015 at 10:15 AM

MV

“ The Vandersluis family is so sorry to hear of the loss of this incredible lady. We would like to send our love to all of her family members during this difficult time. May you all find strength from her many accomplishments.

Mark and Paula Vandersluis - October 05, 2015 at 12:49 AM

PS

“ i pray for the glorious celebration by her children and their families and most importantly, Dr.Jimmy Thomasson of the remarkable and extraordinary life of Mrs.Susie Mann Thomasson. She Made a Difference for others through her example, always. God bless your family as the grief turns to great joy as you continuously acknowledge her gift of life through you.

Paula Smith - October 04, 2015 at 11:52 PM

RW

“ Dr Thomasson and family, I was so sorry to hear of Miss Susie's passing. She was such a wonderful lady and a very special friend to Moma and Daddy. They will miss her very much. My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time. With much love, Ruth Jones Warren

Ruth Jones Warren - October 04, 2015 at 11:10 PM

DF

“ Jimmy, Thinking of you with sincere sympathy. Thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Dell Young Felton - October 04, 2015 at 08:23 PM

BO

“ Dear Thomasson Family, The Word of God tells us, "Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands." The Word of God also instructs, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." May your thanksgiving to God for the life of Miss Susie, and your faith in God's promise of peace, bring comfort to your hearts during this time of sorrow, and celebration for the life of Mrs. Susie Mann Thomasson.

Barbara Osborne-Harris - October 04, 2015 at 02:29 PM

MS

“ Cliff & I are so very sorry for your loss. Losing your special loved one is so hard. You will continue to be in our prayers. (Cliff & Martha Smith)

Martha Smith - October 04, 2015 at 01:53 PM

RM

“ Knowing Miss Susie has been one of the greatest gifts of my life. Her birth brought joy into this world; her death surely robs the world of a large measure of joy. To her family: always remember, she is always with you- just beyond your sight and hearing.

Rhonda D McClendon - October 04, 2015 at 11:52 AM

BD

“ i am so sorry to hear the news about Ms Susie. She was such a remarkable woman. I am blessed to have known her while she was on this Earth with us. I want to extend my sincere condolences to Dr Thomasson and all of the family. My thoughts & prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Betty Dalton - October 04, 2015 at 11:15 AM

GB

“ Words are insignificant at at time like this. Know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Ginger Beckom - October 04, 2015 at 11:06 AM

MB

“ Dear Dr. Jimmy and Family, May the Lord Bless you all in your time of grief. Miss Susie's generosity touched many lives in her community and she will forever be remembered and beloved. With Sympathy, Mike, Leigh-Anna, Jack, and Madeline

Mike and Leigh-Anna Butler - October 04, 2015 at 10:45 AM

BR

“ Jimmy, My sincere sympathy in your loss as well the rest of us, especially the class of '54. May the Lord Hold You in His Hands until You can stand on your own feet in this time of grief and loss. Susie impacted many lives with her smile and kind manner. Betty Reese Reisinger

Betty Reese Reisinger - October 04, 2015 at 10:19 AM

AM

“ Jim, I am so sorry for your loss. May God be with you in this time of sorrow.

Art Murphy - October 03, 2015 at 09:04 PM

LS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you in your time of loss. Asking God to bless you with His peace and with happy memories of the very special lady who was your mother. Lynn and Winston Skinner

Lynn and Winston Skinner - October 03, 2015 at 05:05 PM

GD

“ So very sorry for your loss. Miss Susie meant so much to do many. Prayers and love to all

Glenda Davis - October 03, 2015 at 03:28 PM

DJ

“ Dear Jimmy and Family, It is hard to express our feelings over Susie's going to be with her Heavenly Farther. She served Him well and walked in the foot steps of her Mother. Susie was a Godly person and was everybody's friend. She was a loving Wife, Mother, Grandmother and Friend. She along with her Husband was a cornerstone of our community. Newnan and Coweta County lost a wonderful Citizen. May the Good Lord give you and your Family peace, love and understanding during this very difficult time. God loves you and we do too, Don and Mildred Jones

Don and Mildred Jones - October 03, 2015 at 03:21 PM