

ANDREA GRIFFITHS'S spirit quietly and gently soared to Heaven on a snowy Monday morning, January 15, 2024. She had been battling Early Onset Dementia / Alzheimer's for over 13 years and while the disease, at this point, won the battle, Andrea won the war. Her husband and family were with her. Andrea was 77 years old.

Andrea was born and raised in the Boston, Massachusetts, area. Her parents were Dr. George E. and Mary A. (O'Toole) Quigley. She graduated from Newton Country Day School of the Sacred Heart and Newton College of the Sacred Heart, majoring in psychology. She earned a Master of Education degree from Boston State College, focused on early childhood development. This started a long career in education. She taught at several different school systems in Massachusetts before she married. After moving to Burke, Virginia (with her husband) in 1975, she continued teaching and providing tutoring focusing on "learning differences" for youngsters and young adults. Andrea loved teaching, especially pre-school and kindergarten (early childhood development) and 5th grade.

Andrea was married for over 48 years to her husband, "Stoney." Less than three months after they were married, they moved to Burke, Virginia, when her husband was transferred to the Pentagon. She lived in Burke this entire time save for her husband's four-year USAF assignment to Palm Beach, Florida, in the mid-80s (tough assignment but someone had to do it!)

In addition to teaching, Andrea supported the Staunton Farm Foundation in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for nearly 20 years. The Staunton Farm Foundation provides support to behavioral health providers in the southwestern area of Pennsylvania. Andrea served on the Board of Directors during this entire time. She was chair of the Projects Committee for many years and served as president of the Board of Directors from 2001 to 2005. Under her leadership, the foundation initiated a bi-annual Rural Behavioral Health Conference supporting rural behavioral health providers. The conference remains today a critical resource for rural providers.

Andrea will be remembered as a warm and caring wife, mother, and grandmother ("MiMi"). She had a wide circle of friends and was known for throwing great parties, seemingly at a moment's notice, ranging from baby showers, bridal showers, "first day back to school" coffees, and almost any event in-between. And who can forget "Andrea's Annual Holiday Party for the Girls" she held every December? Talk about the crowd, laughter, white elephant gifts, and most importantly, friendship!

In addition to her husband, Andrea is survived by her two sons, Bart and Mike, their partners, and grandchildren (including a "recent addition.") She also leaves her four brothers and their families. She was predeceased by her parents, her older brother, and her youngest son, Andrew.

We are grateful to the care and support team on the Reminiscence/Courtyard floor ("memory care") at Sunrise at Silas Burke House as well as the team from Capital Caring Hospice. Andrea lived at Sunrise for the past four plus years. It was a caring environment where we knew she was safe. Capital Caring Hospice provided care for Andrea over the last 14 months. They ensured she was comfortable despite the multiple/varied challenges of Andrea's dementia.

*St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
6509 Sydenstricker Road
Burke, Virginia 22015*

*(703) 455-2500
www.standrews.net*



**Celebration of Life
for
Andrea Griffiths
October 26, 1946 - January 15, 2024**

**February 9, 2024
10:30 a.m.**

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church † Burke, Virginia

PRELUDE

The Peace may be exchanged
from *Rubrics*

Dan Locklair (b. 1949)

All stand, as able.

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.
Whoever has faith in me shall have life,
even though he die.
And everyone who has life,
and has committed himself to me in faith,
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.
After my awaking, he will raise me up;
and in my body I shall see God.
I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him
who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself,
and none becomes his own master when he dies.
For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,
and if we die, we die in the Lord.
So, then, whether we live or die,
we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord!
So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

HYMN

I come with joy to meet my Lord

Hymn 304

THE COLLECT

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Andrea. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CLERGY

The Rev. William L. Packard, Rector

READERS

*Julie Morgan
Kathy Holley
Barbara Klix*

ORGANIST

Gabriel Rhys Simerson



*In lieu of flowers,
please consider donating canned goods or
other nonperishable food items to a local food bank.*

Our sister was washed in baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints.

Hear us, Lord.

She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

Hear us, Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our sister; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Silence may be kept.

Father of all, we pray to you for Andrea, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

All stand, as able.

HYMN

Amazing Grace

Hymn 671

THE COMMENDATION

BCP 499

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Andrea. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant: Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

COLLECT FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, deal graciously with Andrea's loved ones in grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The people are seated for the readings.

A reading from the book of Lamentations (3:22-26, 31-33).

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121

Prayed in unison

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The Lord himself watches over you; *
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

A reading from the first letter of John (3:1-2).

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that

it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand, as able.

HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today

Hymn 207

A reading from the Gospel of John (14:1-6).

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Officiant: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

REMEMBRANCES

THE HOMILY

The Rev. William L. Packard
Rector

THE APOSTLES' CREED

All stand, as able.

BCP 496

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively.

For our sister, Andrea, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Andrea, and dry the tears of those who weep.
Hear us, Lord.

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.
Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our sister eternal life.
Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of heaven.
Hear us, Lord.