

Ruby Jane Burke, 86, of Louisville, Kentucky passed away on Thursday, September 3, 2026. She was born on September 28, 1939, in Westport, Kentucky to the late Ernest and Nellie Brown.

Ruby's higher education journey began at just 15 years old with her receiving her degree from Georgetown College. Ruby continued her education at both Eastern Baptist Seminary in St. Davids, Pennsylvania and Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. Ruby's seminary education led her to a successful career serving others and traveling the world. She worked many years as an executive for the Baptist World Alliance and was even a trustee for the Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington DC where she resided for many years.

Through her work with the Baptist World Alliance, Ruby was able to travel to six out of the seven continents in the world. Her work took her to many different countries and cities that she otherwise would have never seen. Ruby loved every opportunity to travel and experience the world outside of her hometown.

When Ruby wasn't working diligently and traveling the world for the Baptist World Alliance or spending time with her wonderful, loving family; she could be found enjoying her multitude of hobbies and volunteer opportunities.

Ruby enjoyed serving others and was an avid volunteer with many organizations. She was dedicated volunteer for Habitat for Humanity as well as Hospas Health. Ruby also loved volunteering her time at Highland Baptist church, where she served as a Deacon and was a devoted member for many years.

Ruby's love for the outdoors was apparent in the hobbies she loved. She was lovingly referred to as "The Walking Lady" because of her love for her daily walks to achieve 10,000 steps and enjoy the outdoors. She loved the outdoors from the mountains to the beaches, but the Outer Banks held a special place in her heart.

Ruby is survived by her two sons; Robert Burke and Kenneth H. Burke (Dawn) and a host of extended family members and friends.

Ruby will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered as a loving mother, a great friend to many, and a devoted member of the Baptist faith. Her legacy will live on in the family she loved so dearly and in the many lives she touched.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Highland Baptist Church.



**The Worship of God**  
in celebration for the life of  
**Ruby Jane Burke**  
September 28, 1939 — September 3, 2026

Highland Baptist Church  
Louisville, Kentucky  
October 3, 2026 – 11:00 a.m.



**HIGHLAND  
BAPTIST CHURCH**  
*A thinking, feeling, healing  
community of faith*

Prelude  
George Shearing  
Prelude on Amazing Grace

Welcome  
Renee Purtlebaugh

Call to Worship  
Paul Henderson

One: God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

**All: Therefore we will not fear.**

One: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you;  
not as the world gives do I give to you.

**All: Let not your hearts be troubled,  
neither let them be afraid.**

One: As a father loves his children, so the Lord  
draws near to all people who mourn.

**All: As a mother comforts her child,  
so I will comfort you.**

One: The eternal God is your dwelling place,

**All: and underneath are the everlasting arms.**

Hymn (48) †  
Great Is Thy Faithfulness  
FAITHFULNESS

Pastoral Prayer  
Renee Purtlebaugh

Reflection  
Dawn Burke

Choral Anthem  
Hear My Prayer  
Moses Hogan

Scripture Readings  
Ginny Sims  
1 Corinthians 13:1-8a  
Philippians 1:27 - 2:4

Hymn (587) †  
Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound  
NEW BRITAIN

Eulogy  
Carol Harston

Hymn (630) †  
Look, You Saints, the Cloud of Witness  
EVANGELINE

Benediction †  
Carol Harston

Postlude  
Improvisation on EVANGELINE  
Joseph Parr

† For those who are able, we invite you to stand.

All are invited to a reception in the Fellowship Hall  
following the service.

### Worship Leaders:

Carol Harston, Senior Pastor  
Paul Henderson, Associate Pastor  
Renee Purtlebaugh, Associate Pastor  
Joseph Parr, Organist and Music Associate