

A SERVICE OF DEATH AND RESURRECTION

for

Marilyn Carter Thompson Casey

April 27, 1934 – June 9, 2026

June 14, 2026 4:00pm

Williamsburg United Methodist Church

Williamsburg, Virginia

ENTRANCE

WORDS OF GRACE AND GREETING

*HYMN *How Firm a Foundation* UMH 529

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who gave us birth, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray.
**You know our needs before we ask, and you know our ignorance in asking.
Give us now your grace, that, as we shrink before the mystery of death,
we may see the light of eternity. Speak to us once more your solemn message
of life and death. Help us to live as those who are prepared to die, and when
our days are accomplished, help us to die as those who go forth to live,
so that living or dying, our life may be in you.**

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 43:1b-3a

PSALM 23

**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.**

REMEMBRANCES

*HYMN *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go* UMH 480

SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 13

SERMON

*AFFIRMATION FROM ROMANS 8:35, 37-39 UMH 887

*HYMN *This Is a Day of New Beginnings* UMH 383
(verses 1-4)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

**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 forever.
Amen.**

*HYMN *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* UMH 557

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*HYMN *O Thank We All Our God* UMH 102

**Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

*SPECIAL MUSIC *O When the Saints Go Marching In* Ryan Staggs, Lew Mabie
trumpets

Following the service, you are invited to a
reception in Fellowship Hall.

Marilyn Carter Thompson Casey

Marilyn Carter Thompson Casey died June 9, 2026, surrounded by family at home in Williamsburg. Born April 27, 1934, in Easton, MD, she was the eldest of three daughters of Sue Lovelace and Claude Thompson. She was predeceased by her parents, her sister Mary Sue Thompson Stevenson, and her brother- and sister-in-law Lewis and Ercil Casey. She is survived by her husband of nearly 69 years, Robert Tewning Casey, son Brian Casey (Julianne), daughter Helen Casey-Rutland (Randy), grandchildren Elizabeth, Robert, and Carter Casey-Rutland and Isabella, Zachary, and Alexandra Casey, sister Nanci Youngblood (Bill), cousin Ellen Bell, brother-in-law Chuck Stevenson, brother-in-law Carlton Casey (Beth), nieces Gaela Youngblood (Jeff Lawley), Carolyn Casey (Scott Fassbach), Catherine Casey Nottingham (Chip), and nephews Derek Youngblood (Lara), Charles Stevenson (Anna), Ben Casey (Loan Lieu), Cole Casey, and Winston Casey, and numerous other in-laws and friends.

Marilyn attended public schools in six states, completed two years at Asbury College, and graduated from Emory University as one of a dozen women in Emory's first coed undergraduate class. As a Methodist US-2 missionary, she served as houseparent for preschoolers at Harpst Home in Cedartown, GA, before marrying and moving to Virginia as the lifelong partner of her husband in ministry. Together they lived in nine different Virginia communities before retiring to Robert's hometown of Williamsburg in 1996.

Marilyn invested herself in family, church, and people, making room in her home and her heart for neighbors, newcomers, and strangers alike, including and especially those who were marginalized. Her smile and welcome extended to everyone. Across her life she stood up for inclusion and justice even when her stance was unpopular. She worked for desegregation during the civil rights movement in Virginia, and in more recent years was a consistent advocate for LGBTQ+ inclusion in church.

Her lifelong love of children extended beyond her family. She supported and volunteered with Child Development Resources and the Early Childhood Music School at WUMC. She taught generations of children in Sunday School. She maintained a collection of toys for kids of all ages long after her own descendants had outgrown them, but they were never out of use for long. The children of relatives, friends, and neighbors found in her an attentive and playful friend.

A lifelong reader, she encouraged her children and grandchildren to read widely, and, if she heard discussion about banning a particular book, she considered the controversy a ringing endorsement and promptly ordered it. She appreciated the power and beauty of words, and found joy in phrases that were clever, and in those that were amusingly not quite right. She will be deeply missed by those who knew her, and her absence will be felt in all the places she brightened with her gracious hospitality and care for the person in front of her.

Memorial donations may be made to Williamsburg United Methodist Church (williamsburgumc.org) or Child Development Resources (cdr.org) so that many more people can experience the welcome and love she cultivated wherever she went.

Her funeral followed by a reception will be Sunday, June 14, 4 pm, at Williamsburg United Methodist Church. Burial Monday, June 15, 11 am, Cedar Grove Cemetery, Williamsburg.

Pallbearers are Alexandra Casey, Zachary Casey, Isabella Casey, Brian Casey, Carter Casey-Rutland, Robert Casey-Rutland, Elizabeth Casey-Rutland, Helen Casey-Rutland



Marilyn Carter Thompson Casey
April 27, 1934 – June 9, 2026