



Mrs. Lora Lorraine Counts

June 1, 1961 - September 16, 2021

Lora Lorraine Counts, 60, of Alturas, Florida, born on June 1, 1961 in Bremerton, Washington, went home to Jesus, September 16, 2021. Lora was a member of Alturas First Baptist but served in many churches over the years. Lora spent her life serving others. Aside from being a wonderful mother and wife, she also worked in housekeeping, group home settings for physically and mentally disabled individuals, fostering children in her home, ministering alongside her family in churches in South Dakota and Florida, and spent the last eight years working and serving families through Geico. If you knew Lora, you knew two things for certain: she loved Jesus and she loved her family. Lora was a shining example of God's love to everyone she met. She was known for her "award-winning" hugs and for always being ready to offer loving, biblical advice to anyone in need. Lora was preceded in death by her parents, James and Elizabeth Kesterson; brothers, Charles Wilson, and Donald Wilson; and granddaughter, Lily Johnson. She is survived by her beloved husband of 41 years, Richard M. Counts Jr.; her mother and step-father, Gloria Wilson and Rick Sanders; her sister, Judy Morris (Bernard); her children, Jacquelyn Johnson (Eric), Kristina Croft (Gavin), Richard Counts III (Claire), Khyla Counts (Doug), Julian Counts, Darian Counts, Josiah Counts; her 17 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, and many more wonderful relatives and friends that are too many to name here. Lora was loved by so many and will be truly missed. A funeral service will be held in her honor on Monday, September 27 at 11:00 A.M. at Alturas First Baptist, 7690 Pointsettia

Ave, Bartow, where the family will receive friends beginning at 10:00 A.M. Graveside committal to follow at Oak Hill Burial Park, Lakeland. A reception meal will follow at Webster Memorial Baptist Church, 1135 N. Chestnut Rd, Lakeland. Expressions of condolence at HopewellFuneral.com

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Burial Park

4620 US Highway 98 South
Lakeland, FL 33812
<https://www.lakelandgov.net/parkrec/cemeteries>

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Alturas First Baptist
7690 Pointsettia Ave
Bartow, FL

Funeral Service

SEP 27. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Alturas First Baptist
7690 Pointsettia Ave
Bartow, FL

Tribute Wall

“ I met Lora in 11th grade English class at Heritage high school. She had moved to Lynchburg, Virginia as a high school senior- and had to take 11th grade English to graduate. We quickly became inseparable best friends. As I attended public school there were few who attended my church. I never had a girlfriend that went to both my church and school with me

We had some of the most wonderful times together as friends and I knew I always could rely on Lora and she was always so calm. Our youth group went on a Mission trip to Haiti. Haiti has scorpions that come out at night and our accommodations were at a camp with cement bathrooms with very scarce electric lighting. Every night Lora and I would go with a flashlight to the bathroom and I would take my sandal off and hold the flashlight while Lora would kill the scorpions. She was an always so calm, even killing scorpion.

Richard also went to Haiti as part of the group. We were told that we had to go in groups of one boy and a girl. At this time Lora had started dating Danny. I forget his last name, but I just did not think he was the person for her. Richard hung out with me to be close to Lora. He admitted this to me and I knew this and told him he would make her a better boyfriend than Danny. So what Danny sang in the Sounds of Liberty?

Lora had some rough times after she graduated high school and lived at my house for a short period of time. I was an only child and this was new for me- I loved having her there. Her mother encouraged her to come and live with her in California. She left my house in late summer/early fall of 1979 driving a 1957 Cadillac that was packed to the brim. Richard came by my house on Dec 31, 1979 and told me he was going to California to marry Lora. I said good-bye to him that night and little did I know how long before I would have contact and see Lora and Richard again.

As the Internet evolved – Richard finally found me and we saw each other again in 2005. My husband and my two daughters stopped to

see them on our way across the country when they lived in South Dakota. It was like we never parted and Lora in all those years had only grown more in her love of the Lord, wonderful wife of a minister and always a true friend. Since then we had chances to visit with each other and in all those years when we would see each other it was like we never parted – such true dear Christian friends. Lora had such a listening ear, and was an encourager, a heart of a Christian loving the person where they were at and yet seeing how the Lord could use them. She had a calming presence with prayerful intercession. Lora took the hard knocks life had given her and allowed the Lord to use her in a mighty way. She was a virtuous woman and I and so many others were blessed in knowing her and I look forward to seeing her again in Heaven.

Richard and family you are in our prayers as the grief is one of the hardest things we as humans do but the Lord is there to carry you. Much Love in HIM

*Natalie (Wood) , husband David, daughters Sara and Ruth Leonard
Roanoke, VA*

Natalie Leonard - September 27, 2021 at 11:47 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Lora Lorraine Counts.*



September 24, 2021 at 03:41 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Lora Lorraine Counts.*



September 24, 2021 at 03:14 PM



“ *L C Bird High School Special Ed Dept. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Lora Lorraine Counts.*



L C Bird High School Special Ed Dept. - September 23, 2021 at 07:48 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Lora Lorraine Counts.*



September 23, 2021 at 07:14 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Mrs. Lora Lorraine Counts.*



September 23, 2021 at 03:53 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Lora Lorraine Counts.



September 22, 2021 at 03:32 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Lora Lorraine Counts.



September 21, 2021 at 08:52 PM



“ These are pictures from Loras mom side of family. The first pic is her stepdad and mom. The second is niece Anna and nephew Destin. The third pic is Loras brother walking her down aisle. Fourth picture Lora and mom paying cards. Fifth picture is Gloria the 6th pic is Lora they look alot alike. Seventh picture is h er t brother Charles. The 8th picture is her brother Donald.



Millie Rainer - September 21, 2021 at 06:43 PM

MR

“ This is Lora's grandmother Anna and her mother Gloria.



Millie Rainer - September 21, 2021 at 06:35 PM

LW

“ Linda & Bob Wermuth purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Lora Lorraine Counts.



Linda & Bob Wermuth - September 21, 2021 at 11:07 AM

LY

“ Laura York lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lora Lorraine Counts



Laura york - September 21, 2021 at 10:47 AM

LY

Lora was a wonderful person she always made people feel welcome in her home ,heart always ready to talk and help in anyway she could Lora even took me in and my kids 26 years ago till we got on our feet I married her little brother back then Charles while living there I was there when Jackie and Eric started to date and when their first daughter was born and when she got married She will be missed by so many my heart goes out to the family There all amazing people my condolences 🌸

Laura york - September 21, 2021 at 10:51 AM

BA

“ *What a wonderful servant of the Lord! Lora made everyone feel special! She has reached her destination to be forever in the presence of her Lord! She left a legacy & will be missed! Thanks for loving & telling about Jesus!*

Bill & Sybole Anderson - September 21, 2021 at 07:57 AM

MR

“ *Millie Rainer lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lora Lorraine Counts*



Millie Rainer - September 20, 2021 at 10:40 PM

MR

“ *I wanted to add Lora's nephews Scooter and Destin. Lora helped raise them when they lived in Florida. They were both apart of Webster Memorial church because of their Aunt Lora and her mom Gloria. These boys love their Aunt Lora and she will be greatly missed .*



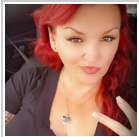
Millie Rainer - September 20, 2021 at 10:39 PM

MR

“ This is Lora's mom and stepdad in this picture. Loras mom took me in for over 28 years. Lora was always good to me.I cant believe she is gone.



Millie Rainer - September 20, 2021 at 10:13 PM



“ 63 files added to the tribute wall



Eric Jackie Johnson - September 20, 2021 at 07:45 PM