



Frances "Franny" McClain Ray

July 20, 1944 - December 23, 2020

On December 23, 2020, Frances "Franny" McClain Ray, with pompoms shaking and pony tail bouncing, was met by her family, friends and several dogs and taken home to be with Jesus. The best Christmas party she ever threw happened just a day late. Her absolute faith and trust in God and His Son were unshakable. Even as dementia took her mind, her core strength and knowledge of God were evident. She was known far and wide as the best hoer in Monterey. A natural trouble maker, she excelled at practical jokes and led the community in rocking the boat while serving as an alderman. She was a born teacher and shared her knowledge of gardening, swimming and canning with legions of folks, often with a colorful word and a giggle. If you knew Franny, you got a glimpse of true southern grace and natural beauty. There were no strangers, no one hungry and no one without a full glass when she was in charge. And, if she was with you, she was in charge. She taught us: It is in fact – Good to be a Tennessee Vol, The first of May is a very special day, Christmas Cheer can make pink snow, You can always get a new dog at the dump, Mice don't eat much, There is always a reason to have a party, And most importantly, The Lord God will never give you more than you can handle, He will always pick you up and help you back on track. Franny was a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee. She was an active member of the Monterey United Methodist Church and many civic and social clubs. In addition to her parents, Bill and Mary McClain; she was preceded in death by her husband, W.T. Ray, Jr.; and her sister, Anne Steele. Many still

here will mourn her loss. A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting memorial donations be given to the Putnam County Animal Shelter, 2650 Gainesboro Grade, Cookeville, TN 38501 or to the Monterey United Methodist Church, 124 North Holly Street, Monterey, TN 38574.

Tribute Wall



“ *Frances "Franny" McClain Ray*

October 08, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *Susan Clark lit a candle in memory of Frances "Franny" McClain Ray*



Susan Clark - January 01, 2021 at 02:34 PM



“ *The fun began in junior high school and continued some sixty years. My relationship with Franny was that of respect and admiration. I was always impressed with her fun-loving personality and her ability to hostess the best parties! These began on Houston Ave. in Bristol and extended world wide.*

Franny brought out the best in people using her magic smile, genuine concern for others, and happy vibes. I never heard her brag about anything except the number of tomatoes she planted. Lord, thank you for Franny, for her love, her faith, and her zest for life. Bless her until the Fun Friends gather again. WORLD

Sally Derey Cross Stout - December 27, 2020 at 12:19 PM

SS

“ Precious memories from spending time in each other’s homes as teenagers, U.T. roommates and one of my bridesmaids. So grateful we were able to continue our friendship in our adult years by continuing to gather with high school and college friends. So blessed to have such a kind, lighthearted friend. Thanks for the memories ! WORLD!

Sandra Shumaker - December 25, 2020 at 03:34 PM

SS

The fun began in junior high school and continued for some sixty years. My relationship with Franny was that of respect and admiration. I was always impressed with her fun loving personality and the ability to hostess the best parties ever. These began on Houston Ave. and extended world wide. Franny brought out the best in people using her magic smile, genuine concern of others, and a happy countenance. I never heard her brag about anything except the number of tomato plants she planted. Lord, thank you for Franny, for her love of friends, her faith and her zeal for life. Bless her until the Fun Friends gather again... WORLD

Sally Derey Cross Stout - December 27, 2020 at 11:15 AM

VW

“ Franny was one of the first ladies I met at the Monterey Garden Club. She immediately made me feel welcome and took me upstairs to meet the pastor. Always, always, always loved Franny. I learned so many things about living in Tennessee from her. I will miss her greatly



Victoria Williamson - December 24, 2020 at 02:30 AM

MP

Franny was the quintessential southern lady. She treated everyone with kindness and respect. The room lit up when she entered. Rest now my friend you have earned your wings

Mary Phelps - December 28, 2020 at 01:50 AM

JT

“ Jeannie Templeton sent a virtual gift in memory of Frances "Franny" McClain Ray



Jeannie Templeton - December 24, 2020 at 12:01 AM



“ I remember going next door when I stayed at Elizabeth Ray's house next door!!! She was a beautiful and funny woman'n. She was absolutely loved by many!!

Gina Parker - December 23, 2020 at 11:40 PM



“ Regina Buckner lit a candle in memory of Frances "Franny" McClain Ray



Regina Buckner - December 23, 2020 at 08:44 PM



Janice Andrews

“ Franny certainly was "one of a kind". She never met a stranger and made everyone feel at ease. So sorry for the loss of this sweet lady.

Janice Andrews - December 23, 2020 at 07:23 PM

JK

“ So many good memories. RIP

Joey B King - December 23, 2020 at 05:05 PM