



Roslyn Stephen

April 6, 1937 - April 8, 2025

Roslyn Langkilde Stephen, age 88, passed away on April 8, 2025, with her family by her side. A devoted wife, mother, grandmother, auntie, godmother and friend, Roslyn dedicated her life to God and her family - including her extended “aiga.”

Born on April 6, 1937 in Savalalo, Apia, Samoa, Roslyn was the daughter of Jane Suluafi’aulama (née Fruean) and Wilhelm “Willy” Hans Langkilde.

Roslyn began her studies at St. Mary’s Catholic School for girls in Savalalo, and completed her primary school education in Fiji. She then enrolled in Commercial studies and was one of the first recipients of the Apia Scholar award in 1953. Later she pursued religious studies in Australia before embarking on a secretarial career which took her to New Zealand, the United States, and American Samoa.

Notably, Roslyn was the first woman to ever work for the police department in Samoa (as secretary to the police chief), managed the typing pool at Wells Fargo Bank in San Francisco, and eventually rose to the position of Secretary to the Governor of American Samoa. Much later in life, she went back to school to complete her GED at Delaware Community College in Pennsylvania, USA.

A natural athlete, Roslyn played netball in her youth, and represented Samoa in netball at the first South Pacific Games held in Fiji in 1963. She was an avid tennis player for many years, but got greatest enjoyment out of playing sports and games - especially board games - with her grandsons.

In 1968, Roslyn married Norman Stephen, a native of Scotland. They started a life together raising their three children, Scott and Kelsie, born in American Samoa, and Therese, born on Guam, before moving to Indonesia. The family later emigrated to the United States in 1983, living in New Jersey and Pennsylvania before settling in North Carolina in 2003.

Over the years, Roslyn expressed her devotion to her Catholic faith and served the Church in many ways. She was a founding member of the Expatriate Catholic Women's Association in Indonesia, taught CCD to school children, and sang as a Cantor and Choir member at various parishes in Indonesia and the US.

Roslyn joined the Legion of Mary at St. Monica's in Berwyn, PA, visiting the sick and elderly of the parish. She helped expand the Legion of Mary to St. Isaac Jogues Church in Valley Forge, PA and continued to serve as an auxiliary member of St. Matthews Legion of Mary in Charlotte, NC.

Roslyn's many travels gave her treasured opportunities to visit and speak with relatives all over the world whose stories she committed to memory, becoming a keeper of knowledge about her and her husband's family histories. Genuinely curious and compassionate, she made deep and lasting friendships that she kept up for decades through her love of letter writing.

Roslyn is survived by her husband of over 56 years, Norm; and her three children: Scott (Jennifer) of Waxhaw, NC; Kelsie of Holly Springs, NC; and Therese "Tressa" of Holly Springs, NC. She also leaves behind her siblings:

Lavender "Vicki" Gentles of Sydney, Australia; and Agnes Jane "Tanki" Ili (George) of El Monte, CA; and her four grandsons: Jack, Campbell, David and Marcus; along with many nieces and nephews, extended family and many dear friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, and three siblings who did not survive childhood: Valdemar Hans, Gary, and Roslyn Therese.

Roslyn will be missed by many who were blessed to truly know her.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held on Wednesday, April 16th, 11:00 am, at St. Andrews Catholic Church, 3008 Old Raleigh Road, Apex, NC 27502. Following the mass will be a Committal Service at Wake Memorial Park 7002 Green Hope School Road, Cary, NC 27519.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to a charity of your choice in Roslyn's honor.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

APR 16. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St Andrew The Apostle Catholic Church
3008 Old Raleigh Rd
Apex, NC 27502

Committal Service

APR 16. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Wake Memorial Park
7002 Green Hope School Rd
Cary, NC 27519
(919) 465-0888

Tribute Wall

TG

“ 1 file added to the album Aunty Roslyn



Troy Gentles - May 14, 2025 at 11:31 AM

NF

“ Nita, Vicki, And all the family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Roslyn Stephen.

Nita, Vicki, And all the family - April 17, 2025 at 05:35 PM

NF

“ Nita, Vicki, And all the family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Roslyn Stephen.



Nita, Vicki, And all the family - April 17, 2025 at 05:35 PM

YC

“ Your PTT and Team Builder Colleagues purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Roslyn Stephen.



Your PTT and Team Builder Colleagues - April 15, 2025 at 11:29 PM

YO

“ Yoko O. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Roslyn Stephen.

Yoko O. - April 15, 2025 at 07:25 AM

OJ

“ Ozawa family from Japan purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Roslyn Stephen.



Ozawa family from Japan - April 15, 2025 at 07:03 AM

TC

“ Roslyn will always hold a special place in my heart. I remember the very first time I met her in Pago in the 60's. She has always been very spiritual and kind. The most important gift she gave was to introduce me and my sisters to a niece and nephews of ours that we didn't know existed when we were at a Langkilde Family Reunion in New Zealand in 2013. Thank you Roslyn, God speed - much Alofa, Tiare Chanel



Tiare Chanel - April 15, 2025 at 06:29 AM

AC

“ A loving, kind and gentle soul. I will always remember you waiting at the airport with Tressa and uncle Norm for my husband and I on our first ever visit 🤔 even when you weren't 100 well. Thank you for the beautiful memories aunty Roslyn. Rest in love ❤️

Alailevao Crowley - April 14, 2025 at 07:26 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Roslyn Stephen.



April 14, 2025 at 05:57 PM



“ I always remember your Mum's kindness to me when I visited Philadelphia 25 years ago. It is one of my dearest memories. May she rest in peace. Sending my love to you all from London. Toni. Xx

Toni Malone - April 14, 2025 at 03:03 PM



“ Antoinette (. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Roslyn Stephen.

Antoinette (. - April 14, 2025 at 03:00 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Roslyn Stephen.

April 14, 2025 at 03:00 PM



“ Love- The Smith Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Roslyn Stephen.

Love- The Smith Family - April 14, 2025 at 02:27 PM

LF

“ Love- The Smith Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Roslyn Stephen.



Love- The Smith Family - April 14, 2025 at 02:27 PM

WI

“ 3 files added to the album Aunty Roslyn



Willhans - April 14, 2025 at 11:13 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Roslyn Stephen.



April 14, 2025 at 11:12 AM

PP

“ Pucky & Budi Pringgosusanto purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Roslyn Stephen.



Pucky & Budi Pringgosusanto - April 13, 2025 at 08:59 PM