



Anne Marie Rodelius Wheeler

December 16, 1969 - August 19, 2019

Anne Marie Rodelius Wheeler

Anne was born on December 16, 1969 in Willmar, Minnesota, the youngest of six children, to LaVaughn and Doris Rodelius. She grew up in Willmar and graduated from Willmar Senior High School. She attended North Central Bible College, Ridgewater College, and completed her degree in Human Services from Tennessee Wesleyan University while parenting three young children.

After serving in the Department of Children's Services, Anne started her tenure in Special Education at Sweetwater High School and completed her Master of Special Education from the University of Tennessee.

Her marriage to Keith Wheeler in 1992 began years of ministry. The Wheelers directed Continental Singers teams all over North America and several foreign countries. Anne was known as being blessed with an absolutely beautiful singing voice. They served the Colorado Community Church in Denver where Anne served in Children's Music and Isaac and Ella were born. After this the family moved to ministry to the US military in Misawa, Japan where Mattie was born. They operated the Hospitality House which was an open home ministry serving approximately 150 military personnel each week. The Wheelers then moved to Sweetwater, Tennessee where they served in Missions at the First Baptist Church including ministry at the Valley Park Community Center. They directed mission trips to Nicaragua as well as the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. After the move to Tennessee the Wheelers fostered and adopted three children, Tyler, Shea, and Grace.

This was a loving choice in response to the gospel of Christ.

Anne was preceded in death by her father Vaughn Rodelius, her niece Emma Rodelius and mother-in-law Shirley Wheeler. She is survived by her husband, Keith Wheeler, son Isaac Wheeler, daughter Ella Vineyard and husband Will Vineyard, son Tyler Wheeler, daughters Mattie Wheeler, Shea Wheeler and Grace Wheeler; mother Doris Rodelius, father-in-law Bob Wheeler, siblings Karna Swanson and husband David Swanson, Kent Rodelius and wife Kitty Rodelius, Marty Rodelius, Mary Jo Smith and husband Greg Smith, Dan Rodelius and wife Kathy Rodelius; brother-in-law Kevin Wheeler, sister-in-law Trish Wheeler as well as numerous nieces and nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

Anne was known her entire life as being a champion of the underdog. She intentionally sought out those in society who were ignored, overlooked or underestimated. The people she served and her students are a living example of her loving generosity. She always desired to follow Christ's call even when it was unpopular or inconvenient in the eyes of others.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 24, 2019 at the First Baptist Church of Sweetwater at 11:00 am. There will be no visitation or receiving of friends. Anne's wishes were that finances should always go to help people. Therefore, in lieu of flowers, the family humbly requests that gifts go toward the following opportunities: First Presbyterian Church of Sweetwater, Memorial Fund; West Central Minnesota Youth for Christ (Isaac Wheeler); Anne Wheeler Memorial Fund to benefit Special Education in care of Sweetwater High School. Kyker Funeral Homes, Sweetwater, in charge of arrangements. www.kykerfuneralhomes.com

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

AUG **24**. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church Sweetwater
303 Wright St.
Sweetwater, TN 37874

Tribute Wall

GW

“ Keith and family,
we are so sorry to hear of the passing of Ann, She was such a special lady in so many ways, We feel blessed to have been able to get to know her when you all served at First Baptist, Etowah, I for one, will never forget her laugh and smile and beautiful voice. She was always so kind to everyone and we truly missed all of you when you left to go to First Presbyterian, Please remember that we will be keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers. We are so sorry that we couldn't attend the funeral on Saturday.

Our love,
Ginger & Lester Wheeler
Ruby Richardson
Lindsey & Heslie Powell

Ginger Wheeler - August 26, 2019 at 02:14 PM

“ Keith, Isaac, Ella, Mattie, Tyler, Shea, and Grace: I’m so sorry for your profound loss. I received the news of Anne’s death Monday morning just as I checked in for the Getty worship conference. I couldn’t help but filter the songs we sang through this shocking news. “...from life’s first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny”. I was grateful to have the balm of singing to meet me in a moment of grief. Which is something Anne would’ve appreciated, too.

As I’ve thought about her many times this week, I’ve been unable to recall her image without seeing her smile. She had such a warm, disarming smile. I also appreciate the way you’ve remembered her: “She always desired to follow Christ’s call even when it was unpopular or inconvenient in the eyes of others.” Oh, that we could all live a life worthy of those words! It is so true of her.

My prayer for you is this: Oh God, you promise to be close to the broken-hearted. So be near the Wheeler and Rodelius families, as well as countless others who have been impacted by the deep loss of our sister Anne. Help them take comfort in knowing that Jesus himself hated death so much that he grieved Lazarus’ death, even when He knew He would raise him again. Likewise, help us be comforted in knowing that she has joined the great cloud of witnesses and worshipers and we will see her smile again. But until that time, comfort us. Help us know that Jesus weeps with us. Comfort her family as they grieve. Comfort them as they face birthdays, graduations, anniversaries, weddings, and holidays without her. She will be so missed.

I also echo this prayer from Doug McKelvey:

*“We do not ask that this grief be erased,
but that the fingers of your grace
would work these memories
as a baker kneads a dough,
till the leaven of rising hope*

*transforms it from within,
into a form holding now in that same sorrow
the surety of your presence,
so that as we look at this loss,
we see you in the deepest gloom of it,
weeping with us,
even as we hear you whispering
that this is not the end,
but only the still grey of the dawn
before the world begins.*

*Do not waste our greatest sorrows, O God,
but use them to teach us to live
in your presence—fully alive to pain and joy and sorrow and hope—
in the places
where our shattering and your shaping meet.”*

In the name of the resurrected Jesus, Amen.


*Here are some pictures from our wedding, which we were so
privileged to have almost the entire Wheeler clan a part of! I will
treasure that day even more now. One of the songs Anne sang was
“The Sands of Time Are Sinking”. The lyrics of the 4th verse are
especially poignant:*

*4. The bride eyes not her garment,
But her dear Bridegroom’ s face;
I will not gaze at glory
But on my King of grace.
Not at the crown He giveth
But on His pierced hand;
The Lamb is all the glory
Of Emmanuel’ s land.*

*Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again!*



Tori Raby Clark - August 25, 2019 at 06:44 PM

 Shelly
Ceasar

“ 1989...the year Anne helped with youth group at FBC in Willmar MN. She saw I didn't feel like I fit anywhere & she wasn't out of her way to remind me Who's I was. She is a huge reason I love Jesus even when people who claim to love Jesus don't act like it!!! She invited me to go on a Continentals Tour even though I didn't have a lick of musical talent, so in 1993 I did it...& ended up meeting my future husband. So I guess I can thank her for him & my two beautiful boys!!! She always saw the best in me. I will miss her greatly!!! ❤️❤️❤️

Shelly Ceasar - August 24, 2019 at 02:17 PM

TE

“ Keith, you and your family have been on my heart and in my prayers this week. I am so sorry for your loss. Praying you feel the presence and comfort of Christ. Tim Earl

Tim Earl - August 24, 2019 at 10:04 AM

KB

“ Sending love, prayers for comfort and strength to Keith and your children, and family. Anne, you became my best friend while seated across from each other in 9th grade Algebra. Your laughter and smile, and love for everyone, lit up a room! We shared our faith in Christ, friends, boyfriends, so many sleepovers, speech team, breakups, your lake cottage, life transitions, prayer, and so SO much more. High school wouldve been impossible w/out you. You had the voice of the purest angel. In the words from the hymn, *In the Garden*, you sang at my Dads funeral, "and He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own...and the joy we share, as we tarry there, none other has ever known." See you on the other side. ❤️

Kara Frederickson- Borke - August 23, 2019 at 11:51 AM

SW

“ I have so many precious memories of our time in Japan with the Wheelers and the Hospitality House they ran there and we would go every Friday night for potluck dinners, bible study, worship and just visiting and playing board games. I was so shocked and saddened to hear of Anne's passing. Please know you all are in my prayers. Anne touched so many lives with her big heart and sweet spirit. God bless you all and may the Lord comfort you and be near. Love from the White family.



Sandra White - August 22, 2019 at 03:23 PM

VJ

“ Vickie, Crystal, April, Billy and Joanne purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Anne Marie Rodelius Wheeler.



Vickie, Crystal, April, Billy and Joanne - August 22, 2019 at 08:20 AM



“ Mrs Wheeler, wow dont even know where to start, what a amazing woman!!!! I am so blessed to have had her in our lives! She, Ella, Will, Mr Wilkens, n Mrs Vineyard touched my family's life so much! Stuart and we all just love them all!!!!!! Mrs. Wheeler (Ann) you are greatly missed but I just know you are sitting in Heaven with Jesus, Stuart and other loved ones!!!! The best part is live a life like she did love Jesus and we will see her again one had soon!!! Thank you Mrs. Wheeler (Ann) for being part of our lives!!!!

Vanessa Smith - August 21, 2019 at 09:10 PM

RP

“ Keith, I'm so sorry to hear of Anne's passing. I will always cherish the memories of the mission trips on Sweetwater. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the kids.

Robyn Pedigo - August 21, 2019 at 06:53 PM

DC

“ Mrs wheeler was an amazing women ! Looking back on it now I would have never made it through school without her or I would' of graduated , she was on top of me with my grades she was a good listener when you needed her the most .she was there for my mom on many occasions we couldn't of been more blessed❤️ No one could ever replace a beautiful soul like hers fly high I love you mrs wheeler❤️🙏

deziree chavez - August 21, 2019 at 03:31 PM

KL

“ My heart goes out to Anne's family and I pray for comfort. Anne was my daughter's (Ingrid) college roommmate and what a blessing she was. I heard more about Anne than any other friend and she was such a positive influence in Ingrid's life. We are thankful for Anne's life but sad to see her leave early. It helps knowing she is in Heaven and we'll see her again.

Kirsten Limpert - August 21, 2019 at 02:31 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Anne Marie Rodelius Wheeler.



August 21, 2019 at 02:09 PM



“ ASON International's President and Board of Directors are praying for all of Anne's family, and for her many friends during this very difficult time. Might God pour out His peace that exceeds our understanding in the hours and days ahead. Anne lived an incredible life of love and service! (Anne's sister Dan is one of our Directors)

Ellen Abramson - August 21, 2019 at 01:40 PM



“ Keith, I am so sorry to hear about Anne. You and your family are in my prayers. Janet Dalton

Janet Dalton - August 21, 2019 at 12:52 PM



“ Anne always had her ears and arms open. She listened comforted and hugged, I will remember her with great fondness. Regretting that I could not be there for her when she needed comfort . Peace and healing to the family for your great loss.

gale inman - August 21, 2019 at 08:19 AM