



## Christina Burns

March 18, 1947 - October 27, 2019

Christina Burns, age 72, of Beverly Hills, passed away on October 27, 2019. Born in Wheeling, WV March 18, 1947, she was the daughter of the late Martha Kittle Wood and Samuel Crayton Wood, II.

Chris Burns was an "Army Brat" who attended eighteen different schools and lived all over the country and in foreign lands. This upbringing taught her the meaning of being a good citizen, patriotism, and the importance of good friendships. While in Germany, she was a cheerleader on the Elvis Team in the army. As a child, Chris lived in West Virginia. Married life took her to Pennsylvania, Florida, and Michigan among other places in her lifetime. She was always passionate about volunteering as her mother taught her and involved her in helping people and the communities in which she lived. She always lived by this belief in all three states she lived in as an adult and as a GFWC member. She shared her time, talent and support (physical and financial) wherever and whenever needed. Since she firmly believed that being a participatory member in any organization was the key to its good works and viability, she was always promoting membership and leadership of others in her volunteer activities and continued to serve as a mentor to many. As the mother of a handicapped (spina bifida) child, this was her number one priority which got her involved in organizations that helped the handicapped and getting passage of the ADA Act- she continued to be a champion for the disabled. As a GFWC club member for 45 years, she grew from a shy and quiet person into a strong and confident woman. It took courage and fortitude

to run for public office. Many of her skills were learned from her involvement in GFWC activities- leadership, fundraising, technology, communication, and the importance of teamwork. The GFWC "Think Like a Leader" became her guide. She learned to set goals and work diligently toward their success. Chris was a loyal member and Past State President and current Parliamentarian of GFWC MI, and Past Club President of Royal Oak Woman's Club, GFWC Woman's Club of Leesburg, FL, GFWC Intermediate League of Butler, PA and GFWC Butler Junior Woman's Club. Chris was Past Regent of Piety Hill Chapter, NSDAR in Birmingham, MI, and a past member of Bertha Hereford Hall Chapter, NSDAR in Leesburg, FL and General Richard Butler Chapter, NSDAR in Butler, PA.

Chris took her skills and commitment to her other organizations and helped whenever and wherever they were needed. Whether it be leadership, training, raising funds for specific projects making things better for children, women, and seniors, Veterans, the family or the abused, Chris was involved from the bottom to the top in service. The leadership positions she held and the honors she was awarded were the result of her caring, sharing, and tenacity.

Chris worked for 17 years as a Title Abstractor and later was appointed Deputy Prothonotary for Butler County, PA. Chris' community work outside of GFWC was a result of her commitment to the aims and goals of making her community better. Whether it be to NSDAR for citizenship and patriotism, or the National Association of Parliamentarians for good leadership skills, or other organizations such as Easter Seals, Spina Bifida Association, March of Dimes, or other community projects, something was always accomplished for the better.

In a nutshell, Chris was a leader, a teacher, and a person who made a difference in her community and in the lives of those who worked with her and knew her.

Beloved wife of Robert J Burns, Jr. (Bob or Burnsie). Loving mother of the late Robert J Burns, III (Bobby). Dear sister of the late Samuel Crayton Wood, III, and Dr. Blair Kittle Wood. Memorial contributions to St. Jude Children's

Research Hospital are appreciated. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Share a memory at [www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com](http://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com).

# Tribute Wall

CJ

“*Burnsie, Thank you so much for taking the time to go out of your way to visit my mom ( Beverly Jones ) at Woodhaven in Livonia today. My mom adored Chis ( and you ). She always looked forward to your visits and meals together. I am not sure who mentored who in this relationship, but i do know that it was a mutual admiration society! We are both so sorry for your loss and pray that you find peace and comfort in the fact that she is resting comfortably now in God's presence.*

*Love,  
Beverly Jones and Craig*

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**Craig A Jones** - November 02, 2019 at 12:22 PM

SS

“*When it came to GFWC, Chris always told me that "no question was ever a dumb question," and the wonderful thing was that she usually had the answer. If she didn't, she found out the answer and was always kind to share it. Her guiding presence will truly be missed by so many ROWC members, young and old alike. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Burnsie. May the good memories sustain and comfort you.*

*Sylvia Sopata*

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**Sylvia Sopata** - October 30, 2019 at 02:07 PM

SL

“ I am so very saddened. Chris was a wonderful GFWC member and friend. She and Burnsie came to my aid more than once. She was always so helpful, when I was a new member; and as I held other offices, she was a grand mentor. The memory of her little chuckle will always make me smile and also, bring tears to my eyes. Rest in Peace, Chris. My thoughts and prayers go out to you, Burnsie. You will need your faith and strength in the times ahead. Loving prayers,  
Sheila Lambert, GFWC Marlette

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**Sheila Marie Lambert** - October 29, 2019 at 04:50 PM

JU

“ one of a kind, Sadness has fallen on to my soul with this devastating tragedy. Proudly served as a district President when she was GFWC mi state President. She made learning easy with her expertise. We have lost one of our finest . Hugs



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**Judy** - October 29, 2019 at 04:01 PM

DO

“ Chris was a beautiful friend. I will miss not sitting beside each other at our lunch bunch. I was lucky to call her my friend. I will miss her a lot. Dottie

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**Dottie** - October 29, 2019 at 02:19 PM

DB

“ Chris was GFWC Michigan President when I worked closely with her in the GFWC Great Lakes Region. I enjoyed working with her and knowing her as she was so much fun to be around. She was a dedicated clubwoman and I am proud to have known Chris. She will be missed by all who knew her. My deepest sympathy goes to her husband and family.

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**Debbie Bach** - October 29, 2019 at 10:27 AM

GC

“ Chris was the wife of my cousin Burnsie. I was always impressed by his emails about what all they were doing to get ready for this or that GFWC meeting--powerpoint slides, double-sided printing of programs and flyers, whatever was necessary for a successful event. If I didn't get an email for a few days, I knew preparations were in the works. I always learn things from obituaries and I must say I had no idea her connections to Women's Clubs went so far back and to so many places. And 18 schools. Probably a record for even most military families. I hope someone as dedicated as Chris takes up the charge for GFWC, and honor her hard work.

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**Greg Caruth** - October 28, 2019 at 07:03 PM

RP

All members of GFWC-Gun Lake Area join in wishing Christina's husband and family, and all of her GFWC family, condolences. Christina was well known to many of our members who participated at district and state levels while she was state president of our club. She was so respected and such a role model. She will be so missed. Rest in peace, Christina.

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**Ruth Perino** - November 01, 2019 at 07:50 AM

LB

“ Chris was a kind and devoted member of GFWC MI. Her and her beloved husband "Burnsie" were staples at any GFWC MI event You will be sorely missed Chris. God's Blessings.  
Lisa Belisle - GFWC RJWC

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**L Belisle** - October 28, 2019 at 06:41 PM

Cyndy Sweeney

“ Chris was a friend and mentor to so many in both GFWC and NSDAR. Her love of her country was expressed through her red, white, and blue. However, the color purple always shall remind me of our dear Chris. She touched so many lives -- always giving, always sharing. She made our lives and our world a little brighter. She was One in a Million.

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**Cyndy Sweeney** - October 28, 2019 at 06:13 PM

Cyndy Sweeney

“ Cyndy Sweeney lit a candle in memory of Christina Burns



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**Cyndy Sweeney** - October 28, 2019 at 06:09 PM

JW

“ Chris loved GFWC and wanted to share her vast knowledge with everyone. I benefited greatly from her power point presentations at State Conventions. Her beloved Burnsie was always close by in the background.

*Within ROWC, I had the pleasure of working with Chris on various committees and projects. She always gave me helpful suggestions and believe in my abilities. Thanks to Chris, I grew into a leader with qualities I never thought I had.*

*Chris - you will always be a gem, radiating to all of us.*

*Jean Watson*

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**Jean Watson** - October 28, 2019 at 05:50 PM

JD

“ Chris made a difference in my life by always being a true friend.

*Our "Lunch Bunch", with Dee and Dottie, after getting together once a month for the last 17 years will miss you so much. It was always a special bonding time and to solve the problems of the world.*

*My deepest sympathy to her beloved "Burnsie".*

*Jan Dean*

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**Janet Dean** - October 28, 2019 at 04:26 PM

LG

“ Chris was a one-of-a-kind woman who generously shared her knowledge and passion for so many important things in the world of volunteering. She was a great mentor whose lessons will live on for generations to come, and she will be deeply missed.

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**Laurie Geraldts** - October 28, 2019 at 04:21 PM

CH

Chris was one in a million. One of a special friend and mentor to me in my officer position. Chris I will miss you so very much and love you as much. Be in peace my dear friend.

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**Connie Hopkins** - October 28, 2019 at 05:16 PM

LR

“ Chris was a wealth of information and willing to share it. She will be greatly missed.  
Linda Rough

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**Linda Rough** - October 28, 2019 at 04:14 PM

KL

“ Chris always told me "You will learn something new everyday if you are open to it!"  
Very quickly is realized just how true her words are.

Kathy Lewis

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**Kathy Lewis** - October 28, 2019 at 03:44 PM