

Virginia Susan Ethridge Trask

January 2, 1943 (Rockford, IL)

December 26, 2023 (Westminster, CO)

Susan Trask was born January 2, 1943, in Rockford, Illinois to David Foster and his wife Virginia. In 1945 her father was killed in action during World War II. Susan and her mother lived with her grandparents, John and Grace Foster, for the first few years of her life. They were very kind and became the stabilizing influence in Susan's life until she was seven years old. Virginia met and married Donald Ethridge in 1950, and Susan was adopted by Donald.



With this marriage came two of Donald's three children, Janice and Danny. Once, when Danny was being picked on by a couple of older boys, Susan took after them with her umbrella; proof of the severity of the beating was a bent stem! Those boys never bothered Danny again!

Susan attended nearby elementary schools and went to West Rockford High School, participating in the school orchestra playing first chair flute. In addition to the flute, Susan also played the piano. She graduated in 1961 and was awarded membership in the National Honor Society.

In 1961, Susan left home for Pasadena California to attend Pasadena Nazarene College. There, in her second year, she met Steve Trask, the man she was to marry. Since his car was not running at that time, they dated by taking long campus walks.

They were married in June of 1963 and lived in Southern California for about ten years. All three of their children were born in the same medical facility, Pasadena's Huntington Memorial Hospital. They attended the Montrose Church of the Nazarene, serving in various capacities. Susan was the church pianist, and enjoyed playing with her good friend Faye, who played the organ. They had a special arrangement of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" that brought the house down!

They moved to Colorado in 1977 and served in the Westminster Church of the Nazarene. In addition to playing the piano, she served in a Wednesday night children's ministry called Caravans.

She loved her grandchildren and counted it a privilege to care for some of them when they were infants. She was always there for days off school or sick days for the kids. She was a mom that stood up for and defended her kids in school and on the playground. She took time to have her grandkids over to play games, have tea parties, and play the piano while everyone sang. She made sure to attend the kids' activities whenever possible and frequently hosted family in her home.

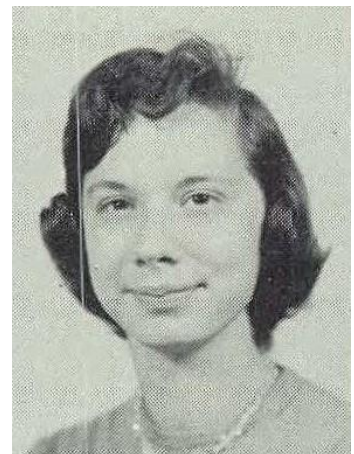
She wore a gold necklace with a small metal purse which could be opened. As they grew up, she would place tiny notes in the little purse for her grandchildren to find. Typically, the note would read, "I love you." or "I'll always love you." The first thing they would do when they visited is run to her and open the purse to read the note. They still remember the joy this brought them!

Susan loved watching football and got caught up in Broncomania in 1977, the year the team went to the Super Bowl. She watched every game she could. She got so excited, she would scream at the television, urging a player on and scaring the dog. Susan was an avid seamstress, sewing clothing for herself and her family. She also enjoyed knitting, crocheting, and quilting, which she did for most of her life. She made baby quilts for mothers-to-be in the church and later, for each of her grandchildren. One of her quilts was placed on display at a quilt show in Longmont!

In 1996, she and Steve joined Beth Eden Baptist Church. Susan continued her children's ministry by serving in AWANA, helping kids with their Bible memorization.

Susan was a strong spiritual influence in her family, encouraging each of them to live rightly and to honor God. In the last days of her life, she would talk about Jesus and her love for Him. She was a wonderful Christian lady and will be greatly missed!

Susan is survived by her husband, Stephen, her children, Gregory Trask and his wife Julie, Garret Trask and his wife Jill, and Ruth LaRocque and her husband John. She had 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.



Reference:

[Obituary | Susan E Trask | Catholic Funeral & Cemetery Services Colorado \(cfescolorado.org\)](https://cfescolorado.org/obituary/susan-e-trask)