



## Yvonne Churchwell

December 27, 1935 - May 27, 2017

Yvonne R. Churchwell passed away Sunday, May 28, 2017, in St. Louis, Missouri. She was born December 27, 1935, as the only daughter of Ernest Ransom and Elsie Tolden of Fort Worth, Texas. After the death of her mother, Yvonne was raised by her aunt, Roberta (Ransom) McBay and treated as a sister to her cousins of the McBay family of Mexia, Texas.

Yvonne married her husband Charles D. Churchwell in 1957 in Texas and was a dedicated wife and mother of two. Yvonne was a remarkable woman who greeted everyone everywhere with a cheerful smile. Well loved and respected by members of her many professional and social communities, she has left us all much happier from knowing her. Affectionately known as “CoSisMoFri,” Cousin-Sister-Mother-Friend, and “Champ,” because she embodied different roles for each of us as she saw fit.

Yvonne is survived by her husband of nearly 60 years, Charles D. Churchwell, eldest daughter Linda L. Churchwell-Varga and granddaughter Oona Yvonne Varga of St. Louis, younger daughter Cynthia D. Churchwell and son-in-law Steven J. Duede of Belmont, MA, and daughter-in-spirit Angela A. Roberts of St. Louis.

In lieu of flowers, please consider honoring Yvonne's memory with a donation to the James E. McLeod Scholars Fund, named after a dear family friend who

helped welcome the Churchwells to the St. Louis community. This fund supports rising minority scholars in advancing their education. A donation to Forest Park Forever towards a tree in her honor is also appreciated. Forest Park is a place Yvonne enjoyed spending time and she felt it was a unique place to reflect and enjoy.

#### Scholarship Fund

Please make checks payable to:

James E. McLeod Scholars Fund  
Washington University in St. Louis  
One Brookings Drive  
Campus Box 1082  
St. Louis, MO 63130

(In Memory of Yvonne R. Churchwell in the memo)

#### Forest Park Forever/Tree Tribute Gifts

Please make checks payable to:

Forest Park Forever  
c/o Erin Eisenhard  
Dennis & Judith Jones Visitor and Education Center  
5595 Grand Drive in Forest Park  
St. Louis, MO 63112

(In memory of Yvonne R. Churchwell in the memo)

<https://www.forestparkforever.org/tribute-donations>

For Family & Friends:

Memorial Service Sunday, June 11, 2017, 1PM

Unity Christ Church

33 N Skinker Blvd

St. Louis, MO 63105

Parking available at and nearby

Repass Following Memorial, 3PM

Sunrise Senior Living

7920 Clayton Road

St. Louis, MO 63117

Parking available

Family and friends can review and share stories, photos and condolences online at [www.stlfuneral.com](http://www.stlfuneral.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN 11. 1:00 PM (CT)

Unity Christ Church  
33 North Skinker Blvd  
St. Louis, MO 63105

# Tribute Wall



“ Yvonne Churchwell

January 06, 2023 at 10:46 PM



“ *I have such fond memories of the time Yvonne and I shared at Central Institute for the Deaf when we worked together there. Yvonne became one of my dearest friends and even after we both left CID, we continued to stay in close touch with one another. I will miss our frequent phone conversations, her wonderful laughter, her caring spirit and concern, and being able to keep up with one another on family news. She loved her girls and Charles so dearly. Thank you Yvonne for your love and friendship, and for helping me keep my head of straight when life seemed confusing. I will miss you terribly and look forward to seeing you again in our next life. I will love you always.*

*Your Friend,  
Deb Timko*

Deb Timko - June 13, 2017 at 09:15 AM



“ NYLE'S GANG... *purchased the Rose Tribute for the family of Yvonne Churchwell.*



NYLE'S GANG... - June 10, 2017 at 02:36 PM

MG

“ Whenever I saw Yvonne in public I always saw Linda and Oona, smiling, caring, loving... the three amigos. What a sight, what a group, what a memory. Precious.

Monette Gooch-smith - June 09, 2017 at 05:00 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Yvonne Churchwell.



June 09, 2017 at 10:12 AM

RD

“ Yvonne was wonderful and sweet. I met her a few times at Cynthia's parties and gatherings. She was so proud of her whole family--I really remember that. This is one good woman who was a light in the world. I am so sorry for your your loss.

Rebecca D - June 07, 2017 at 04:04 PM

JJ

“ My Cousin was always so joyful and a Ransom thru and thru....so many memories and she will always live on in all of our hearts. What an upbringing we had and that love carried us all through out our entire lives. It is my prayer and hope that we will all see her again in Heaven. We can rejoice then for eternity. Rest in Peace, Yvonne, we will see you again on the other side !!

Jackie

John D Jackson Jr - June 07, 2017 at 12:39 AM



“ 5 files added to the album New Album Name



John D Jackson Jr - June 07, 2017 at 12:31 AM



*I found these cherished pic's the other day and wanted to share. We are all the original "CoSisMoFri's"....AMEN*

John D Jackson Jr - June 07, 2017 at 12:41 AM



“ Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Yvonne Churchwell.



June 04, 2017 at 07:44 PM

JP

“ *Mrs. Churchwell was like a second mother to me when my own mother was not present. During times of sorrow and joy, she always had a wise word to share and a hug. I will never forget that smile of hers. I will never forget the kindness she showed to me over the years, especially a Christmas where I would have been on my own without my family or a place to go. To the entire Churchwell family, my thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. Mrs. Churchwell will be sorely missed. Juliet A. Perrault*

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**Juliet A. Perrault** - June 04, 2017 at 03:45 PM

CA

“ *Yvonne was like a second mother to me during the critical developmental years of early adolescence. She was always practical and wise. Sending love to you all. -- Corinne Alfeld*

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**Corinne Alfeld** - June 03, 2017 at 11:06 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Yvonne Churchwell.*



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June 02, 2017 at 08:47 PM

JS

“ *The Churchwells and I met each other while Charles and I were in library school at the University of Illinois. In fact, we lived down the hall from each other and always enjoyed each other's company. This was before you beautiful daughters were born. We have met but that was some time ago. I want you and Church, as I called you, Charles, to know how much I regret having to lose one who meant so much to me in my life. I m confident that all of you do, too. To paraphrase a passage from the bible, may the peace of God that passes all understanding be with you at this time and from now on. Certainly you had a blessed and wonderful mother and wife. I will keep you in my warmest thoughts and prayers.*

*Jessie Carney Smith  
Dean of the Library and  
Camille Cosby Distinguished Chair in the Humanities  
Fisk University  
Nashville, TN 37208  
615.329.8731*

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**Jessie Carney Smith** - June 02, 2017 at 04:09 PM