



Beth Jones Breese

OCT 9, 1921 - SEP 21, 2010



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Beth Breese, of Abita Springs, Louisiana, a licensed clinical social worker, died of cancer in Covington, Louisiana on September 21, 2010.

She was born Eula Elizabeth Jones in Marshallville, Georgia on October 8, 1921, the daughter of John Frederic Jones and Louise Crocker Jones. She grew up on the family farm, known as Thronateeska Plantation, where her parents grew peaches. She was graduated from Georgia State Teachers College (now Georgia Southern) in 1942 with a degree in education. On October 27, 1942, she married Frank C. Breese, Jr., an army officer stationed at Camp Wheeler, Georgia. After the war, and after the birth of her first child in Georgia, Beth moved with her young family to Frank's hometown of Monroe, Louisiana. After the birth of her second child, she taught nursery school for several years and then began working in radio at local station KNOE where she hosted a talk/interview show each weekday morning. When Governor James A. Noe, owner of KNOE, started the city's first TV station, KNOE TV, in 1954, Beth hosted a live cooking show, Beth Breese's Pantry Party, each weekday at noon. In 1958, she left TV and began a career as a social worker at the Monroe Area Guidance Center. After a short time there, she accepted a state grant to attend the LSU School of Social Work from which she was graduated in 1961 with a Masters in Social Work. Legally separated from her husband, in 1961 she moved to Covington, Louisiana and became director of the St. Tammany Parish Mental Health Center. In the mid-'60s she accepted a position in the department of psychiatry at LSU Medical School in New Orleans where she taught aspiring physicians how to deal on a personal and emotional level with patients and their families and trained newly graduated clinical social workers. In the early '70s she left LSU and accepted the position of chief social worker at River Oaks Hospital, a new private psychiatric hospital in New Orleans specializing in the treatment of schizophrenia. In 1977, she started a private psychotherapy practice in New Orleans. She later moved her



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practice to Metairie, Louisiana and then to Mandeville, Louisiana and finally to her home in Abita Springs. She continued to see patients until eight weeks before her death. Beth Breese leaves as her legacy numerous former patients she treated in her many years of practice, many of whom contacted her during her final illness to tell her how much she meant to them and how she helped them transform their lives and relationships. She was predeceased by her parents, by her brother Robert F. Jones of Monticello, Florida and by a grandson, Frank C. "Chad" Breese, IV. She is survived by her son Frank C. "Kim" Breese, III and his wife Katie (Trimble) of Jackson, Mississippi; by her son Frederic C. Breese and his wife Suzanne (Tadlock) of Conway, South Carolina; by three grandchildren, Amanda K. Breese of Boca Raton, Florida, Frederic C. "Eric" Breese, Jr. of Abita Springs, Louisiana and Lila Elizabeth Breese of Vero Beach, Florida; by three stepgrandchildren, Graves Theus (Anna Smith) of Alexandria, Louisiana, Prentiss Theus McClendon (Hutch) of Gurley, Louisiana and Mary Howell Theus of Asheville, North Carolina; and by eight great grandchildren. She is also survived by her companion of 47 years, Dr. Richard P. Lesneski of Abita Springs. A memorial service will be held in a few weeks. Those wishing to attend may obtain information regarding the service by calling Kim at 601-832-1082 or Fred at 843-333-2411.

Memorial contributions may be sent to her favorite charity: Heifer International, One World Ave.; Little Rock, AR 72202.



Tribute Wall

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AF

Alice Benoit And Peter Franklin posted:

Condolences to all Beth's loved ones. Beth was a special person and skilled therapist that helped both of us. She helped many many people with love and insight. Her legacy of success will be felt long into the future as it has a positive influence on the individuals she guided and their families.

October 13 at 9:06 AM

RV

Regena Varvoutis posted:

Beth was a dynamic social worker, an inspiration to others, and so very well-respected in the field of social work. She will be missed. (I, too, was a LA social worker who obtained my MSW from LSU.)

October 3 at 11:38 AM

CM

Candace Cooper Metz posted:

Beth was my lifeline in 1996-1997. I am very saddened by her passing. As a therapist, she had an amazing loving but firm way about her. I can't imagine having to survive the ordeal I did without her guidance. I can only imagine how she was with her family. A true loss.

October 1 at 5:15 PM

MM

Mechelle G. Martinez posted:

I enjoyed working for Beth at her Metairie office and will always remember her. She was a very sweet Southern lady with a kind heart. All of her patients loved her dearly. I've never forgotten what she once told me... that almost everything we do in life relates back to your childhood. My deepest condolences to Richard, Fred, Kim and all of her extended family and friends.

October 1 at 10:35 AM

TM

Tom And Charlotte Mabry posted:

Beth taught us how to live life with the simple virtues of LOVE, laughter, truth, and faith...trusting that life was filled with abundance! She lives on more expansively, eternally. Her Spirit is ALIVE within us now, only to be experienced/felt in a different way. Thank you Beth for being His instrument of Peace.

September 29 at 11:33 AM



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SK

Sid And Darlene Kennedy posted:

There's a big hole in our hearts !

September 28 at 4:54 AM

RT

Richard Taylor posted:

Beth was a wonderful person! She was my therapist for 6 months due to a car accident I had back in 1993. She helped me get through a very rough time.

September 25 at 11:12 AM

LB

Lavonne Badeaux posted:

I was forever changed by my association with Beth. Beautiful, charming, gracious and loving...She inspired me to live a fuller and more generous life, and I will be forever grateful.

September 24 at 3:13 PM

KH

Kate Hoffman posted:

Thank you, Beth, for being in my life. I cherished having you as my friend, a most wonderful, nurturing friend. All my sympathy and love goes out to your family and friends. I know you will be so greatly missed.

September 24 at 6:53 AM

DL

David J Lesko posted:

Mrs Breese will be greatly missed and she has made the world a much better place with all her contributions and huge heart. Mrs Breese and all her family will be in our prayers Dave Lesko

September 24 at 5:36 AM

JC

Jean Carpenter posted:

Kim, I saw your mom's obit in the Clarion Ledger yesterday. I am very sorry for your loss. My mother passed away in March so I know how difficult it can be. You and your family will be in my prayers. Please accept my condolences.

September 24 at 4:51 AM



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KP

Kris Pottharst posted:

Beth had a presence. Her graciousness, warmth, and wisdom were special, healing, and hopeful to me. My deep sympathy to her family. There was only one Beth Breese.

September 23 at 3:43 PM

JH

John Halkias posted:

With very many fond memories

September 23 at 3:24 PM

SH

Sharon posted:

I am so sorry for your loss. Words are not enough to express this grief. I was fortunate enough to feel Beth's presence in my life for over 40 years --- she was my friend and role model. I know that will not go away, but I will miss her deeply every day. I hope that you will find comfort in knowing that Beth made so many lives happy by her warmth and caring. Her light will always shine brightly in our hearts. My prayers are with you.

September 23 at 12:50 PM

DG

Dorothy Breese Grant posted:

With much sympathy and love to Beth's family. Dot

September 23 at 10:52 AM

BH

Bennie Breese Grant Hall posted:

I will miss a wonderful aunt and a great lady. Love, Bennie

September 23 at 10:51 AM

AL

Allison posted:

Ms. Breese (despite her prodding that I call her Beth, I always called her Ms. Breese) changed my life. I wish I had been able to tell her so before she passed. She made an indelible mark on my life and my happiness, and I am ever grateful to her.

September 23 at 8:38 AM



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Jack L. Smith posted:

Kim, I was fortunate enough to have worked with your Mother when I was a Disc Jockey @ KNOE radio in the early '50's! And, also The Little Theater! Thourghly enjoyed knowing both your Mom and Dad! "Classy" people! I also followed your career at the WSJ, along with Gilbert Faulk. Best to you and your family. Jack

September 23 at 6:06 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Beth by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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