

Mary Beth Tanner

Mary Elizabeth Tanner (Mary Beth), born April 13, 1955, in San Diego, California, left this life on Sunday, October 12, 2025. A resident of Weaverville, NC, Mary Beth was married to Donald Thomas Landes for 35 years. Mary Beth and Don moved to Asheville in 2019 and were active members of Central United Methodist Church (CUMC) in downtown Asheville. Mary Beth was the daughter of the late Mary Jane Tanner and Charles Sayers Tanner, Sr. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her siblings, Charles Sayers Tanner, Jr. and wife Helen Johnston Tanner, William Kevin Tanner and wife Janelle Jaeger, and Jane Ellen McGill and husband Donald McGill; and several nieces and nephews.

Mary Beth spent the majority of her working years in the Washington, DC metro area where she accomplished a variety of occupations. Mary Beth was a member of the elite United States Air Force Singing Sergeants, after departing the military she went to culinary school and upon graduation worked as a culinary contractor and The Blair House, the President's Guest House while contracting with local catering businesses and office temporary companies. She completed her working career by returning to Federal service as a staff officer with the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency.

Mary Beth holds a Bachelor's of Music Degree from Wittenburg University in Springfield, Ohio and a Master's of Science of Strategic Intelligence from The National Intelligence University in Bethesda, Maryland. Mary Beth was a life-long singer, music lover and supporter. She was active in the Asheville choral scene as a member of CUMC's chancel choir, as a member of the Asheville Choral Society and of the elite Asheville women's choral group, the Blue Ridge Women's Chorale. Mary Beth and Don were season ticket holders of the Asheville Chamber Music Series and active supporters of many choral and orchestral offerings in Western NC.

Mary Beth was a life-time member of and an active contributor to the P.E.O. Sisterhood whose mission is to educate women through its many philanthropic projects. Mary Beth was initiated into P.E.O. in Chapter AI, Swarthmore, PA in 1977 and, over her life, joined chapters in Washinton, DC, Alexandria, VA, Spruce Pine, and Asheville, NC. She served in every local chapter office numerous times and with great pride on North Carolina's inclusion and belonging initiative Sisters Embrace EVERYONE (SEE). Mary Beth was an avid cook, enjoyed entertaining and sharing delicious recipes with family and friends. She and Don loved to travel, cruising frequently on the Holland America Line and making an annual Fall trip to Wrightsville Beach, NC to spend time with long-time friends at The Carolina Temple Island Inn.

A Service of Celebration for the Life of **Mary Beth Tanner** April 13, 1955 – October 12, 2025



Saturday, November 1, 2025 at 2:00 PM
Central United Methodist Church
27 Church Street, Asheville, North Carolina

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:
For thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Ministers

Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
Rev. Lisa Rettew

Organist

Corey Powell

Order of Worship

Prelude	Corey Powell
Greeting and Words of Grace	Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
Prayer	Rev. Lisa Rettew
Psalm 23	Rev. Lisa Rettew
Special Music “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”	J.G. Walther
New Testament Lesson Romans 8	Rev. Lisa Rettew
Sermon	Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
Commendation & The Lord’s Prayer	Rev. Lisa Rettew
Hymn 451 “Be Thou My Vision”	SLANE
Dismissal with Blessing	Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
Postlude	Corey Powell