

Pat Gardener Collins "Meme"

July 31, 1943-June 9, 2020

Pat Collins was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother (Meme). She graduated from Columbia High School in Lake City, Florida in 1962 and in 1964, married the love of her life and husband of 56 years, Michael W. Collins. She worked at WGRO Radio where she began as a secretary, but quickly advanced to an on-air personality and had her own daily program about current affairs in the Lake City community. She was the mother of two sons that were the light of her life, Mike and Scott. In 1974, Pat and her sister purchased a long-standing clothing store called The Children's Shop, which they operated from 1974 to 1984. She dressed many of Lake City's children, including contestants in the Little Miss Olustee and Columbia County pageants. Pat then decided to follow her dream of becoming a nurse. While raising her two sons, Pat went to nursing school at RIVEROAK Technical College. She was a member of the graduating class of 1974. Pat was a dedicated student, a hard-worker, and while raising her family, relied on her motto, "Collins never quit." After selling the Children's Shop, Pat worked at Lake Shore Hospital for several years before going to work at Tanglewood Nursing Home. She loved her job there and she loved the relationships she built with her patients and their families even more. One of the most important things in Pat's life was her relationship with the Lord. She ended every conversation with God Bless You, prayed for everyone she loved every night, and her family always knew they could count on her for guidance or prayers. She loved her three grandchildren, Karley, Christian, and Mikayla with all her heart. She was always front row at any events her children or grandchildren had, and she always had the loudest cheer in the stands. She loved watching her grandchildren grow up and achieve their dreams and she would have loved and been very proud to help others in the nursing program achieve their dreams!



**RIVEROAK Technical College
2021-2022**

**Pat Collins Memorial Scholarship Application for Nursing
Columbia County Resident Only**

Deadline for Submission, September 15, 2021

RIVEROAK
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Name: _____

Mailing Address:

Physical Address:

Email: _____ High School: _____

County of Residence: _____ How Long? _____

Is this your permanent residence? _____

Home/Message Number: _____ Cell Number: _____

Enrollment Date: _____

Postsecondary Program you are enrolled in: _____

I authorize RIVEROAK Technical College to have access to my student records to be used as part of the determination of eligibility for the RTC PSAV Scholarship.

I CERTIFY THE FOREGOING INFORMATION IS ACCURATE. I REALIZE THE SCHOLARSHIP WILL BE AWARDED BY RIVEROAK TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND WILL BE DIRECTLY ADMINISTERED TOWARD MY TUITION, LAB FEES, AND/OR BOOKS.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

The Suwannee County School Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Ronald Gray, Equity Coordinator, 1740 Ohio Avenue S, Live Oak, Florida 32064, (386) 647-4644.

**How to Apply for RIVEROAK Technical College's
Pat Collins Memorial Scholarship Application for Nursing**

1. Complete a RTC Pat Collins Memorial Scholarship application.
2. Include a personal introduction letter (letter detailing information about your background, achievements, short-term & long-term goals and why you need and/or deserve a scholarship.) Letter should be NO more than 2 pages doubled spaced.
3. Provide letter of recommendation from one individual (former instructor, employer, etc.).
4. Complete a Free Application Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the Fall term.
5. Scholarships will be awarded in two scholarship amounts during one academic year. Once student is selected and he or she is successfully enrolled in classes, \$1,000.00 will be awarded during Fall Term. Upon completion of Fall Term, with student maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or higher, the second payment of \$1,000.00 will be awarded for Spring Term.
6. Return completed application to Student Services by September 15, 2021.



#GrowYourFutureWithUs!

RIVEROAK Technical College
415 Pinewood Drive SW
Live Oak, FL 32064

