



Zonie Ophelia Aplin Fruge

April 17, 1947 - May 31, 2026

April 17, 1947 – May 31, 2026, Always “21” at Heart!

Zonie Ophelia Aplin Fruge, born April 17, 1947, in Blakely, Georgia, passed away peacefully on May 31, 2026.

Over the years, Zonie called Georgia, Texas, Alaska, Louisiana, and eventually Florida home, settling in Carrabelle, Florida, in 1999.

Never one to run from hard work or new experiences, Zonie forged her own path through life. She spent time as a country and western singer, sharing her love of music with everyone she met. Later, she worked as a hot-shot truck driver, embracing the open road and the freedom it provided. Her adventurous spirit, strong will, outgoing personality, and generous heart made her unforgettable to all who knew her. As a Christian American patriot, Zonie was outspoken about her family, faith, and freedom.

When she wasn't working, Zonie found joy in tending her gardens, shopping, cooking, and spending time with family and friends. She absolutely adored her dogs, who were her babies. They enjoyed a daily cup of coffee by her side and fresh-cooked meals of baked chicken and rice—a reflection of the love and devotion she gave so freely. She never met a stranger and had a gift for making people feel welcome. Whether offering a helping hand, sharing a story, or simply lending an ear, Zonie was always willing to help anyone in

need.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Joseph C. Fruge; her daughter, Tonya Bridges; her parents, Brawder Thomas and Sarah Irene Aplin; her brothers, Brawder “Doc” Aplin, Rudolph “Rudy” Aplin, and Billy Joe Aplin; her sisters, Sarah W. “Noopy” Aplin, Josephine “Josie” Aplin, and Margrette E. Aplin; and her stepchildren, Bobby Fruge and Mike Fruge.

Zonie leaves behind a loving family who will forever cherish her memory, including her children, Burton Bridges (Dee), Lana Lynn Bridges, Stephen Ransom Pierson, Tara Renee Pierson Ryan, Aaron Ray Davis (Jessica), and Tammy Fruge; her sister, Annie Laura Aplin Rupp; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and numerous extended family members and friends whose lives she touched throughout her remarkable journey.

Family and friends are invited to gather for visitation at Carrabelle First Baptist Church on Saturday, June 6, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. A funeral service will follow at 11:00 a.m. Interment will take place afterward at Evergreen Cemetery.

Skip and Trey of Young Family Funeral Home are assisting the family during this time.

“Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN 6. 10:00 AM (est)

First Baptist Church of Carrabelle
206 SE Avenue A
Carrabelle, FL 32322

Funeral Service

JUN 6. 11:00 AM (est)

First Baptist Church of Carrabelle
206 SE Avenue A
Carrabelle, FL 32322

Tribute Wall

MD

“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to this beautiful family. Mrs Zonie played huge part in so many kids upbringing in Twin Oaks Trailer Park. So many memories with her. Sending prayers and love yalls way. I'm sure Mr J.c. and Tonya was at the gates of heaven waiting on her.*

Maranda Dyson - 45 minutes ago