



Ruthan Jane Fisher was Born March 10, 1937 in Arcadia, OH and went to be with her Lord on June 27, 2021. She grew up on her family farm, the youngest child of George D. and Nana Fisher. As a Wesleyan pastor's child, she was much loved and felt a calling to missions as a young girl. After receiving her RN, Ruthan spent several years serving as missionary nurse with the Wesleyan church in Sierra Leone.

Ruthan married Hal Burchel in August, 1965, and together they served in Zambia as medical missionaries for several years. Her years of missionary service extended from 1962-1972. Back in the US, they were members of Mt. Zion Wesleyan Church in Thomasville, NC and raised four children: Marti, Jim, Jon and Joe. In 1989, Hal and Ruthan returned to Africa, serving in Kenya, Tanzania and Somalia. They worked together in medical clinics, evangelism and discipleship. This was followed by nine years in Florida until they returned to NC in December 2019.

Ruthan is survived by her children, ten grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and her loving husband, Hal. She will be missed in her many roles as faithful wife; loving mother; constant friend; dear sister, daughter, aunt and confidant. Most of all she was a disciple of Jesus who faithfully followed Him all her life.