Gloria Gaither, writer, author, speaker, singer, and educator. Perhaps best known for her unmatched contribution to the world of contemporary gospel music, Gloria has written lyrics for over 700 songs, mainly to music written by her husband Bill Gaither, which have commanded a long list of honors including four Grammy Awards, ten Dove Awards, Gospel Music Hall of Fame and Museum inductee, and the ASCAP Songwriters of the Century Award given to them in 2000. Many of the Gaither songs have become such standards that they have made their way into the hymnals of a spectrum of Christian communities.

Gloria’s academic pursuits have allowed her to influence and shape her world beyond the reach of the Gospel Music audience. Gloria did her undergraduate work at Anderson University graduating cum laude with majors in English, French, and Sociology, and received a Masters in Literature from Ball State University. She has been distinguished with Honorary Doctorates from eight universities. She has served on the Board of Directors for the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities and also served as a member of the United Christian College Fund Board of Trustees.

Gloria is a published author with over 40 titles including books spanning topics of family and human interest, women’s issues, the stories behind the Gaither songs, and a variety of books for children. Her “other life” as an academic and scholar has led to her being recognized nationally and internationally as a researcher into the literature of John Steinbeck. She has written for the Steinbeck Quarterly and Steinbeck Studies, and has presented papers on Steinbeck at Ball State University’s Carol Ann Kendrick Memorial Steinbeck Lecture Series, the Taylor University Steinbeck Conference and the International Steinbeck Conference in Kyoto, Japan.
Gloria and her husband Bill still live in Alexandria, Indiana, where they began their lives together 50 years ago. They have three children and seven grandchildren.