



Carlene M. Cooke

May 29, 1941 - March 5, 2022

On Saturday, March 5th, 2022, we lost our amazing wife, mother, and grandmother, Carlene M. Cooke. She was 80 years old.

Carlene was born on May 29th, 1941 in Lumberton, NC to the late Howard Campbell McDaniel and the late Lennie Blue Bryant. Her brother, Charles Michael McDaniel, also has passed.

She is survived by her husband, Jim Cooke of Centreville, daughter Susan Donnelly (Brian) of Stevensville, daughter Karen Werber (Scott) of Olney, son Douglas Cooke of Olive Branch, MS, and her grandchildren: Jennifer Donnelly, Allison Donnelly, and Mikayla Werber. She loved them all very, very much. According to Carlene, her greatest accomplishment was her family – being a wife, mom and grandmama.

Carlene grew up in Lumberton, North Carolina, graduating as Valedictorian at Lumberton High School. She attended Duke University before graduating with her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Teaching from George Washington University. However, one Christmas night, Carlene met Jim, the love of her life on a blind date. After two years at Duke, she had to choose between Duke and Jim. Jim got lucky. They started their life together living in Arlington, VA for five years, then 41 years in Calverton, MD and the last 14 years in Symphony Village of Centreville, MD.

Carlene loved children. She worked as a preschool teacher for twenty years for Calverton-Beltsville, MD Co-Op and Aspen Hill, MD Co-Op before retiring in 1996. After retiring from teaching, she continued working as a Gift Planning

Administrator for the University of Maryland, the Humane Society of America, and the Foundation for Fighting Blindness for approximately twenty years. Carlene was also very involved in her community. She served several years in Symphony Village on the Outreach Program (including as President), Grandchildren's Halloween Party (Co-Chair), Card/Games Party (Co-Chair), Quilting Club (Chair), and assisted with the Bingo Group. In addition, she served on the Queen Anne's Chorale Board (including as President). Carlene liked to say that she was the "non-singing member" of the Chorale. Carlene touched many lives – friends and neighbors became extended family. She was a warm, thoughtful and most important, kind woman who cared about others. Her smile would light up a room and her thoughtfulness for all was unmatched. Many of her friendships have lasted over 50 years. A funeral service will be held at 1:30 pm on March 20, 2022 at the Centreville Methodist Church (608 Church Hill Road, Centreville, MD 21617). A reception will follow at the Symphony Village Clubhouse (100 Symphony Way, Centreville, MD 21617). In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (stjude.org) or the Foundation for Fighting Blindness (donate.fightingblindness.org).

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR **20**. 1:30 PM (ET)

Centreville Methodist Church
608 Church Hill Road
Centreville, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Carlene M. Cooke* ”



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - March 20, 2022 at 01:23 PM



“ *Carlene M. Cooke* ”

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



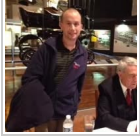
“ *Carlene M. Cooke* ”

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Carlene M. Cooke* ”

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *My cousin Brian Donnelly is married to her daughter Sue who in my mind is the most amazing wife and mother to Brian and their two daughters. I remember Charlene on many occasions when visiting my Aunt and Uncle in Maryland. The best time in Charlene’s life was thirty four years ago when Sue married the love of her life Brian bringing together two amazing families Donnelly and Cooke. Want to send my sincere and heartfelt condolences to the entire Cooke family especially her husband Jim but also her daughter who I call cousin. Rest In Peace Charlene and know the memories you had with your family will live forever.*

Jeffrey Gebauer - March 20, 2022 at 08:07 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Carlene M. Cooke.*



March 20, 2022 at 12:20 PM



“ *Mrs Cooke was an absolute gem and surrogate mother to her kids friends. She was always very kind to me all this summer nights that Karen and I spent together during our high school years. Let’s just say that Mrs Cooke had a high tolerance level 😊. May your family find peace. We’ll celebrate her beautiful life. With love and respect, Laura (Smith) Sheehan and family.*

Laura Sheehan - March 18, 2022 at 03:38 PM

GD

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Gordon Dove - March 17, 2022 at 05:38 PM

JP

“ *Carlene was the first teacher to my two sons who attended Aspen Hill Nursery School. She was always loving and engaging and she meant the world to my children. She was a teacher to me as well through her example of patience and good humor, traits that endeared her to all the young mothers who had the good fortune to know her. May her family accept my sympathies for her loss and may her memory always be a blessing.*

Jeanne Posner - March 16, 2022 at 11:16 AM

AH

“ *Alice and Herman purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Carlene M. Cooke.*



Alice and Herman - March 15, 2022 at 01:09 PM

BA

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Barbara Atamian - March 14, 2022 at 06:22 PM

BA

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Barbara Atamian - March 14, 2022 at 05:56 PM

BA

“ *I met Carlene at a bridge game at the SV Clubhouse. She was so outgoing and nice.*

We became friends.

Soon, we had a foursome for bridge: Connie, Muriel, Carlene, and me. We played once a week in each other's home. We started socializing outside of playing cards.

In time, our group changed to Peggy, Carol S., Carlene, and me. Eventually, we met more friends, playing in games on Kent Island, and Chester.

Peggy, Carlene, and I discovered that our Birthdays were close together so we made a point of celebrating them together.

Carlene was fun, loving, generous, and caring. She enriched so many lives.

She will be missed greatly

Barbara Atamian - March 14, 2022 at 05:53 PM

PA

“ *Carlene was a SPECIAL Friend to BOTH Ken and I, when we were together all we did was laugh and enjoy both Jim & Carlene. We Loved our couple's bridge group, always going out to dinner after the game, for MORE laughter. She was such a warm fuzzy gal. So sorry that we can not be there for her service since we are still here in Florida, however we will be with all of you in our thoughts. LOVE & Prayers are with Jim & Family.*
Patty & Ken Adams

Patty Adams - March 11, 2022 at 08:04 PM

RP

“ *Heaven is certainly brighter with Ms Carlene smiling up there. She will be missed so so much. Thoughts and prayers to Mr Jim and all of the family in all the days ahead.*



Rachel Phillips - March 11, 2022 at 04:59 PM

AS

“ *Ashley sent a virtual gift in memory of Carlene M. Cooke*



Ashley - March 11, 2022 at 03:51 PM