



Mrs. Charlene "Charlie" Wheeler

January 2, 2022

Charlene "Charlie" Wheeler, 59, of Pinecrest, Florida, born in Plant City, left earth to be completely healed in heaven on January 2, 2022, after a 9.5 year, hard fought battle with cancer. She was preceded in death by husband, Wayne "Spider" Wheeler; and father, Charles "Chuck" Hoover. She is survived by daughter, Sarah "Scoobie" Wheeler; mother, Vi Hoover; sister, Yvonne Hamm (Mark); nephew, Ryan; niece, Becca; and her book club sisters. She was a joyful and faithful servant of the Lord and a loyal friend and confidant to all who knew her. Charlie enjoyed camping, reading, fishing, wood working, chocolate, and all things Mickey Mouse. She was greatly loved and will be missed. We would like to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude to her medical teams, at both Moffitt Cancer Center and Shands Hospital, with special thanks to Taymeyah and Kirsty. A Celebration of Life will be held January 22 at 11:00 A.M. at Welcome Baptist Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library at imaginationlibrary.com, and/or Moffitt Cancer Center at moffitt.org. Expressions of condolence at HopewellFuneral.com.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 22. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Welcome Baptist Church
11308 Welcome Church Street
Lithia, FL

Tribute Wall

JR

“ I am just now hearing about the passing of one of the best teachers and one of the most lovely human beings I have ever met. Most children are scared to attend their first day of school but Mrs. Wheeler made me want to attend class everyday and learn because she was light personified. I remember sitting (criss-cross apple sauce, no less) in a semi-circle with her at the helm during reading time, and the way she read stories had me enraptured. It was so evident that she loved her whole kindergarten class as her own children. I tried coconut water for the first time in her class, I don't remember why but I remember it was fun. I still have art projects that we made for the holidays. Mrs. Wheeler and Mrs. Mcgaha made Kindergarten so wonderful. Although I am now 25 years old, I still look back at every moment spent in Mrs. Wheeler's class with joy.

When I graduated high school, she wrote me a congratulatory letter. I pulled it out when I learned of her passing to reminisce and reflect on what a kind and gentle spirit she possessed. She wrote, "I cannot believe you are graduating as it seems not that long ago you were a shy kindergartener whose curiosity was as big as her shiny brown eyes. I remember you had such a sense of determination. No matter what we were doing, you were all in - always attentive, always thinking, always trying. Because of these fond memories it comes as no surprise to learn that you have gone on to do such wonderful things with your life."

If I could tell her right now, I would say that she was one of the catalysts in my life that set me on a path of success. She led by example, imparting wisdom and teaching me to be kind, to do good in the world, and to share joy whenever possible. I am going to start a new job as a Physical Therapist soon after finishing graduate school and I know she would be over the moon for me. If I can treat patients with the amount of kindness she possessed, then I know I will have passed on her legacy that now lives on in all who were blessed to know her. She finished my graduation letter by writing, "As you begin this next chapter always remember to follow your

heart and trust God to show you the way." Yes ma'am, Mrs. Wheeler. I love you and I miss you dearly.

Justine Reeves - November 02, 2022 at 09:20 PM



“ *charlie , at eight years old, was testament there are angels among us. Charlie had an infectious smile and such an .admirable love for all.. She taught me to fold 'LOVE NOTES".Charlie, Yvonne and Selina were my "Sweet-ke-teers". Life events took me far away and visits were rare but my heart was touched everlasting. Those memories have been revisited over and over through the years bringing smiles and waves of love from a cherished time of my life. As I read the post here, it is apparent that Charlie touched others hearts all through her life. She has left for all to see a lifepath of faith, hope and charity. She was a beacon of Gods loving one another as He has loved us.*

Enjoy your heavenly mansion . You will be greatly missed by so many who loved you.Charlie, suppose we could mullet fish when I arrive one day? oh what a reunion that will be.

Sarah, Violet, and Yvonne we are praying God's Holy Spirit comfort you as only He can do. Our prayers, love and thoughts will continue for you,T

*Tom and Mary Tolbert Johnson
Chiefland.. FL*

Mary Tolbert Johnson - January 22, 2022 at 08:36 AM

JS

“ Oh we didn't know, I am heartbroken by this news. To know Charlie you fell in love with her. I never think of her without picturing her beautiful smile.

Larry worked with Chuck and we got to know Charlie when she worked at Kay's n Karry in Riverview. She loved her family and loved the outdoors.

Sarah, Vi and Yvonne we are so sorry for your loss, but she fought such a courageous fight. She is signing and dancing with her daddy and Wayne. I can't even think about not seeing her ever again. We love you guys and will be praying for you all.

Larry and Judy Stickler

Judy and Larry Stickler - January 22, 2022 at 02:30 AM

VS

“ Charlie was one of my first friends I met when I moved to Riverview. We became friends in 3rd grade and remained friends. Throughout the years our paths would cross and it was like no time had passed. She always had a smile on her face, even as a little girl. You've fought a hard battle and you've won. You're free from your pain and in the presence of our Lord and your loved ones. You will be missed my friend.

Vickie Ruffin Smith - January 21, 2022 at 11:04 PM

JF

“ *Charlene was our life-long friend. We spent many days playing together, marching as majorities, attending Sunday school and growing up while attending elementary, middle and high school together. Charlene will always be a precious friend and I'm so happy she is in the presence of our savior, Jesus Christ and to once again be in the arms of her wonderful husband.* ”

Joy Brown Scott and Melody Brown Feist - January 21, 2022 at 05:21 PM

JF

Marching as majorettes

Joy Brown Scott and Melody Brown Feist - January 21, 2022 at 05:22 PM

VS

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Vickie Ruffin Smith - January 21, 2022 at 11:00 PM



“ *Adoring Heart was purchased for the family of Mrs. Charlene "Charlie" Wheeler.* ”



January 20, 2022 at 08:48 PM

LR

“ Love you, Sarah. Rich and Rhona purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Charlene "Charlie" Wheeler.



Love you, Sarah. Rich and Rhona - January 20, 2022 at 06:20 PM

LS

“ Charlene, her sister, and mother Violet took care of my newborn son Allan so I could return to work. My family lived two streets over in Riverview. That were all such a wonderful blessing to my family. My cousin who lives in Lithia knew Charlene and attended the same church. She said she was a wonderful person. I moved to Alabama in 1982 and lost contact with the family. Charlene was a great blessing to everyone that knew her.
Linda McGowan Swilley

Linda McGowan Swilley - January 18, 2022 at 08:48 PM

RM

“ I new Charlie only briefly, but long enough that her sweet spirit shined like the sun. Her beautiful spirit lives on through her beautiful daughter. I have never met anyone quite like Sarah. She is truly an angel on earth. I am looking forward to all of us being together, and getting to know Charlie better, at the end of our earthly journey. Until then.....

Rhonda Matheny - January 17, 2022 at 07:48 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Charlene "Charlie" Wheeler.



January 16, 2022 at 11:47 AM



“ Charlene was one of the most courageous person I have ever met. She always placed others before herself even through her illness. She loved her work as a teacher, not to mention the impact she made on so many. You will truly be missed but God gained another Angel .

Vickie Galloway - January 12, 2022 at 06:02 PM



“ We used to live on Orange Grove Terrace in Riverview fl and Chuck and Violet lived a few streets over . Charlie got her arm caught in a wringer washer and my mother Wilma McGowan went down and got her mangled arm out. We were so sad when they moved away .My name is Connie McGowan Roddenberry and I live up in Webster,Fl. My husband just passed away from Colon Cancer so I know your pain. They were such cute girls. I wish I could have seen them all before now.

Connie P Roddenberry - January 10, 2022 at 05:11 PM

LS

I am Linda McGowan Swilley. I used to live in Riverview just two streets over from Violet, Chuck and girls. I will always remember shenanigans my first child was born. Violet and her two beautiful little girls took care of my new baby boy during the day after I went back to work. I knew my baby boy was in safe hands with Violet and daughters. Such good memories. I know Charlene will be greatly missed, but the day will come when Jesus returns and we will all be united again.

Linda McGowan Swilley - January 10, 2022 at 07:38 PM

DM

“*My dear friend, what a beautiful spirit! I will miss you so but I will always remember the love letters from God that we shared, made my heart smile when you said that and I will always be looking for those love letters until we meet again. I've told many people my friend called them that and I thought it was such a beautiful idea! Wow what you must be seeing now!! I'm so thankful that our paths crossed in this world and our friendship grew. Go rest high on that mountain dear friend, you were an inspiration to all who knew you. I love you sis Debbie McGaha*

Debbie McGaha - January 09, 2022 at 05:59 PM

RD

“ I do not ever remember seeing Charlie without her sweet smile. When you knew it could not be an easy day, she would still smile and ask “ How are you? How is everybody doing?” We would wave across the yard when we would catch each other outside and even from a distance there was just a sweet peaceful assurance about her. Any one who met her knew how much she loves her family! It was quite undeniable when we would see her and Spider together just how much they loved each other. And there love and pride of Sarah was just as evident in their expressions as much as in their words. Whether in High School Band or studying to become the most amazing “medicine woman” ever, Sarah they sure were so proud of you! Charlie, you have fought a good fight! Now you have been healed! I will miss your sweet smile and tender conversations, but I will see you again one day.... In the words of Wayne Watson song writer and vocalist...

“Home free, eventually
At the ultimate healing
We will be home free
Home free, oh, I've got a feeling
At the ultimate healing
We will be home free”.

Praise God You have received the ultimate healing Charlie! You were a good and faithful servant! 💜

Rebecca Davis - January 09, 2022 at 02:44 PM

KC

“ You always hear that teachers can change lives, this is the experience of myself and my baby brother when it came to Mrs. Wheeler. She thought us both 8 years apart, we both had a hard time with reading. She'd stay after school and tutor us and love on us. She helped us grow, learn and gain confidence. We both remember her so fondly, she had the sweetest most genuine smile and the biggest heart that you could just feel whenever she was around. She ALWAYS talked about her daughter, Sarah, she was so, so proud. I remember that from all those years ago. I'm saddened to know that the world is now without Mrs. Wheeler but comforted to know her pain is over and that heaven has welcomed a one of a kind, extraordinary angel. We are blessed to have known her and learned from her.

Kadie Cox and Caleb Moore

Kadie Cox - January 09, 2022 at 10:47 AM

JP

“ I am beyond sorry that Charlene has passed. She has been my friend, teacher cohort and role model in my cancer fight. She will be greatly missed.

Jane Poppell - January 09, 2022 at 09:45 AM

SS

“ What a sweet and loving lady. Always smiling and soft spoken. I'm so thankful I got the pleasure of knowing Charlie. Joe & I send our deepest condolences.



starr Shirley - January 09, 2022 at 08:11 AM

FC

Sarah, I am so sorry. Your mom was such a wonderful person. She left a huge footprint of love on this earth.

Faye Cook - January 09, 2022 at 11:01 AM

GG

I'm so saddened to hear of the loss of such a remarkable human being. Generous, humble, nurturing and strong are just some of the things that come to mind when I think of Charlene. She was a role model, colleague and friend. Her pride and love for Sarah were known to all. Rest In Peace dear friend. Gina & Joe Guinn

Gina Guinn - January 09, 2022 at 11:47 AM

DN

*Sarah, My heart goes out to you as I remember Charlie and your Dad as I worked with him many years, and your Mother is and will always be an inspriation to Godly woman.
David*

David Nooe - January 10, 2022 at 04:25 PM

LS

*Error on Email
swilley@tds.net*

Linda McGowan Swilley - January 10, 2022 at 07:41 PM

JR

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Justine Lynette Reeves - November 02, 2022 at 01:29 PM