



Charlene Kaye Christensen

April 15, 1942 - March 30, 2023

Charlene Kaye was born in Evansville, Indiana to Charles Frederick and Florence Hunter Foerster on April 15, 1942. She was the youngest of their five children. After graduating from Indiana State University, she moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana where she began teaching. In the summers, she worked at The Greenlake Conference Center, American Baptist Assembly Ground, where she met Homer Christensen. They married on June 8, 1968 and then moved to Cordova, Alaska. While there, Charlene taught pre-school. In 1972, Homer and Charlene moved to Arlington, Virginia and made the Washington DC area their home. Charlene stayed home after their children, Michele and Kevin, were born, volunteering at their school and teaching adult Sunday School at Calvary Baptist Church in DC. Once Michele and Kevin were both in school, she started her work for Fairfax County Public Schools, first with the English as a Second Language (ESL) office in the bookroom, and later and until her retirement with the Office of Safe and Drug Free Youth. She was a professional volunteer church musician—directing a handbell choir, directing or participating in the vocal choir, playing flute, piano, or organ at both Calvary Baptist in Washington DC, and Ravensworth Baptist in Annandale, Virginia. She also helped in the Ravensworth Baptist Church library for a number of years, among many other activities. Charlene enjoyed traveling, having visited 48 of the 50 states (North Dakota and Louisiana were missed), and two trips to Europe. She was a constant at Michele and Kevin's music, scout, or sport activities, and then when the granddaughters came, she attended their events

when she could.

Charlene is preceded in death by her parents, Charles Federick and Florence Hunter Foerster, her siblings and their spouses: Robert and Elsie Foerster, Winston and Shirley Foerster, Marion and Lawrence Oakley, and Jean and Al Platos. She is survived by her husband of almost 55 years, Homer and their two children Michele (Scott) Bach-Hansen and Kevin (Christina) Christensen and five granddaughters Madison, Kayla, and Emory Bach-Hansen and Ella and Katie Christensen as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She will be missed by those who knew and loved her and we trust that she is finally at peace, getting some of her many questions of God answered, and enjoying the reunion with her family playing a piano while everyone sings. She was full of love for those around her, family or not. We ask that to honor her, you love yourself the way she loved you and show kindness to those around you.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at 2:00 PM at Ravensworth Baptist Church 5100 Ravensworth Rd, Annandale, VA 22003. For those unable to attend in person, a Livestream option will be available. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Ravensworth Baptist Church.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR **29**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Ravensworth Baptist Church
5100 Ravensworth Rd
Annandale, VA 22003

Tribute Wall



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Charlene Kaye Christensen.*



April 26, 2023 at 06:55 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Charlene Kaye Christensen.*



April 25, 2023 at 08:45 AM



“ *Charlene contacted Fort Wayne Community Schools checking if there were any new teachers, when she needed a roommate. They gave her my name, Gloria Gates, a graduate of Taylor University. She knew a family at Memorial Baptist, where she played the organ, whose son attended Taylor. God definitely was at work, for she needed a roommate and so did I. We shared an apartment for a year and a half. She was not only was a great musician, but very compassionate, and a fun roommate.*

She played the organ when Don, the Taylor student, and I got married, and I was privileged to be a bridesmaid when she married Homer. Don and I flew to visit them in Alaska, and on several occasions, stayed with them during visits to Washington D.C. Our kids really enjoyed playing with Michele and Kevin on those visits. My last visit was in 1997, when I picked up my son who was attending Promise Keepers, after hiking the Appalachian Trail.

Don Schaffer - April 24, 2023 at 09:46 PM



“ *Dear Michele, Kevin and Homer,
I'm so sorry for your loss. Your home was always warm and welcoming and Charlene was a big part of that. I'm glad I was with you all on one of her trips to Europe. I hope you are finding peace as time passes and you remember her so warmly.
Love you to all
Shelly Stack*

Shelly Stack - April 23, 2023 at 04:02 PM

JP

“ Dear Homer, Michele, and Kevin,

I have many memories of Charlene from when Michele and Kevin were young children. I got to know Charlene through the Parklawn Babysitting Co-op. I remember that Charlene had the most contagious laugh. She would share a story and then laugh. She saw humor in life and people. It was always a pleasure to be in her company because I knew I would go away with a smile. Charlene made the world a better place.

Jeanne Porter - April 22, 2023 at 11:56 AM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Charlene Kaye Christensen.



April 21, 2023 at 05:10 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charlene Kaye Christensen.



April 21, 2023 at 03:40 PM