



# **Brenda McGraw Stewart**

JUN 10, 1944 - NOV 13, 2023



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Events</b> .....	Page 5
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 6



## **Brenda McGraw Stewart**

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**M**rs. Brenda McGraw Stewart, 79, of Huntersville, NC passed away Monday, November 13, 2023.

Brenda was a native Charlottean having lived in the Charlotte or Huntersville area her entire life. She was a long-time member of Independence Hill Baptist Church where she volunteered in many roles over 75 years. In 1987, Brenda's desire to help others manifested into the construction ministry Hearts & Hammers. A joint venture between Independence Hill Baptist Church and J. Alton Stewart Construction, her family's company, H&H operated similar to an old time "barn raising", pulling the church and community together annually during the Fourth of July week to complete projects. Her vision of reaching others in their time of need was realized through the numerous churches, community centers and food banks constructed or renovated through the ministry's 20 years of service. She began her career as a teacher in the Charlotte area, but soon made a career change to full time mother where she truly excelled. Brenda's love for helping others led her to pursue the degree of MA of Counseling and a certification as a Licensed Professional Counselor. For the next 21 years, she worked as a Chaplain for Novant Health, before retiring to be a full-time grandmother. She loved reading, reflecting and having deep conversations with her loved ones.

Mrs. Stewart is survived by her husband of 57 years, Alton Stewart, their children: Ms. Kelli Allen of Charlotte, NC, Lee Stewart (Dana) of Iron Station, NC, and Scott Stewart (Jamie) of Huntersville, NC, grandchildren; Sam, Kayla, Kenzie, Hunter & Wyatt; brother Dick (Peggy) of Matthews, NC, niece Erin Hall (Josh) of Charlotte, NC and many loving aunts, cousins as well as life-long friends whose bond began in 1st grade at Nevin Elementary School.

A Celebration of Life party will be held at 2pm, Sunday November 19th at Independence Hill Baptist Church located at 10220 Independence Hill Road, Huntersville, NC 28078. The family will receive friends following a service of celebration, and request that those in attendance feel free to come as you are, no formal attire necessary.



## Obituary

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In lieu of flowers, Brenda would have wanted memorials to be made to any organization that helps others in a time of need.

Online condolences may be made at [www.jamesfuneralhomekn.com](http://www.jamesfuneralhomekn.com).



# Events


**Brenda McGraw Stewart**

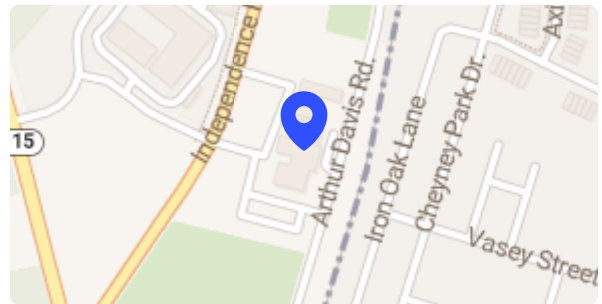
JUN 10, 1944 - NOV 13, 2023

## Celebration of Life

 **Sunday**, November 19, 2023

 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM ET


 **Independence Hill Baptist Church**  
10220 Independence Hill Rd, Huntersville NC  
28078

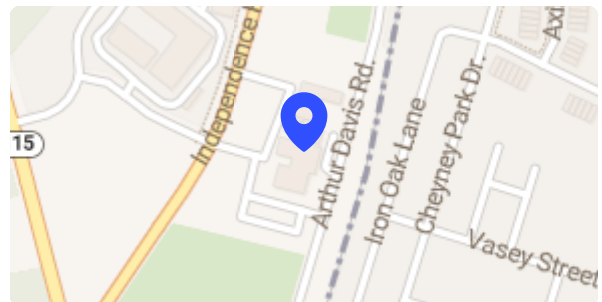


## Visitation

 **Sunday**, November 19, 2023

 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM ET

 **Independence Hill Baptist Church**  
10220 Independence Hill Rd, Huntersville NC  
28078





# Tribute Wall

**Brenda McGraw Stewart**

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**Perry Smith** posted:

We were very fortunate to know Brenda and Alton Stewart through Hearts and Hammers. Our sympathy and prayers go to her family. May God give you Peace and Comfort. Jim and Perry Smith

November 28 at 10:47 AM



**Isla Navy** posted:

Brenda was my forever friend. We were friends from first grade through high school and roommates in college. Our lives have always intertwined. We talked on the phone almost every day. Brenda and I were always there for each other, during happy, fun times and also sad times. She was so very talented and had so much insight and wisdom. I learned much from her over the years. She had a beautiful way with words and gave such good advice. She was a wonderful decorator (she could take something ugly that she would find at Goodwill or Habitat and turn it into something beautiful), a remarkable cook, writer, organizer, gardener, teacher, mom, grandmother and so much more. Brenda was one of the most thoughtful people I have ever known. Countless times I have gone to my front porch and there would be a beautifully arranged tray of something delicious she had made, a lovely vase of flowers and perhaps a book she thought I would enjoy. I was blessed to have Brenda in my life for 73 years. I will think of her every day, and I will miss her every day. Isla

November 18 at 2:19 PM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Brenda.



November 17 at 11:39 AM



**Steven Nydish** posted:

I have been Brenda's pest control guy for over 30 years and enjoyed are talks every time I come to her house. She is such a nice lady. My sincere condolences to the family.

November 16 at 10:34 AM



**From Your Friends At Ey** sent a Sweet Sincerity to the Stewart family.



November 16 at 8:33 AM



## Tribute Wall

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FA

**From Your Friends At Ey** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Brenda.

November 16 at 8:33 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Fairest of All to the Stewart family.

November 16 at 8:04 AM



TF

**The Kpmg Family** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Brenda.

November 16 at 8:04 AM



JP

**Jim Price** posted:

I am so sorry about Brenda's passing; I was not aware she was ill. I thought I saw her outside in the past week. My sincere condolences to the family. I have known Alton and Brenda almost 50 years, when their kids were small. The obituary taught me things about Brenda I didn't know. What a lady! Cherish the memories. Jim Price

November 16 at 3:58 AM

KF

**Katherine Finnigan** posted:

Brenda and I became friends when we were college roommates at Appalachian State University in August, 1964. Little did we know that we would become lifelong, dedicated friends. Although we lived 3,000 miles apart, that did not stop our friendship. We continued to communicate and celebrate our sorrows and our joys in life. I knew that Brenda understood me. No matter what the situation was, she could bring a sense of peace and understanding to it. It is what we all strive for----to understand this life, the things that happen to us, and to continue trying to live our faith. This is most certainly what Brenda did. A blessed light to all who knew her. "And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest." I love you, my dear friend. Kathy Darden Finnigan Tacoma, Washington

November 15 at 3:52 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Barbara P. Barr** lit a candle in honor of Brenda.

Brenda, you were Kelli's Mom, and became my friend through the years. You were there for me like a Mother. I looked to you for advice, guidance and grief counseling. We shared so many special moments! I will never forget the kindness you showed me. Brenda, your death has left a huge void in my life. I find peace knowing you are in Heaven with Granny. I love you!



November 14 at 6:12 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Brenda by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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