



Gloria Johnson Hepler

DEC 22, 1946 - SEP 26, 2024



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Gloria Johnson Hepler

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Mrs. Gloria Johnson Hepler, 77, of Huntersville, passed away Thursday, September 26, 2024.

Gloria spent her childhood in Charlotte, NC, graduating from Garringer High School in 1964. She then went on to obtain her Bachelor of Nursing degree from the University of North Carolina in Charlotte and was part of the first Nursing School graduating class in 1970.

She married Philip Johnson in 1968. Their family moved to Martinsville, VA, where she worked as an RN at Martinsville Memorial Hospital. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church, and she began many life-long friendships in Martinsville.

She & Phil moved to the Charlotte area in 1998, where they could be closer to family.

They were married for 38 years, and she was a loving caregiver to her husband before his passing in 2006.

She later married James (Jimmy) Hepler, and they shared 14 loving years together. They attended the St. Alban's Episcopal Church and created many happy memories at their beach home in Sunset Beach, NC.

Gloria took special joy in knitting and reading but was happiest when she was surrounded by family and friends. Gloria was a beautiful person inside and out. She touched so many lives and was so loved. She will be dearly missed.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Don and Thelma Wilkinson, and her sister, Marlease Knight.



Obituary

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She is survived by her husband, Jimmy Hepler, her daughters, Amelia Johnson of Huntersville, Sara Carpenter (Nathan), and grandchildren, Philip and Levi Carpenter of Hampstead, NC.

Her memorial service will be held at 2:00 pm, Saturday November 2, 2024, at James Funeral Home in Huntersville, NC. The family will receive friends immediately following the service at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Children's Home Society of NC at www.chsnc.org.

Donations to The Alzheimer's Association are also appreciated and can be made at www.alz.org.

Online tributes and memories of Gloria may be shared at <https://www.jamesfuneralhomelkn.com/m/obituaries/Gloria-Hepler/Memories>.



Events


Gloria Johnson Hepler

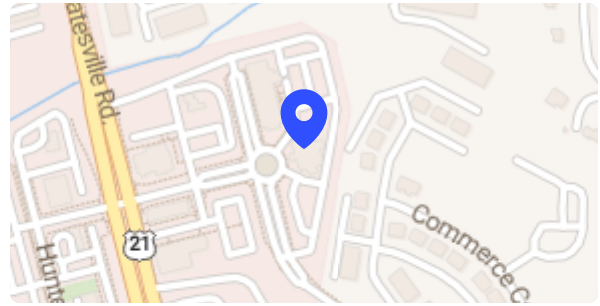
DEC 22, 1946 - SEP 26, 2024

Celebration of Life

 **Saturday**, November 2, 2024

 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM ET

 **James Funeral Home**
10520 Arahova Dr, Huntersville NC 28078





Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Hepler family.



October 29 at 11:23 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Gloria.



October 29 at 11:23 AM



Amelia Johnson posted:

Slideshow of Gloria (For Mother's Day 2019)

October 1 at 12:06 PM



Harry posted:

So as another brother-in-law, (and the youngest). My relationship with Phil & Gloria deepened greatly when as a NCSU freshman I would (on way too many occasions) unthinkingly impose my growing appetite on their very tight Carrboro household budget; and when in doing so, always hoping for Gloria's belly-filling and delicious lasagna. It was my panaceaOur relationship deepened further when one of my kidneys served to extend their time together.To this day, her thank-you card is among my most treasured possessions.Peace to you Jimmy, Sara and Amy.Remember her laugh.

September 29 at 3:36 PM



Amelia Johnson September 29 at 5:01 PM

I'm forever grateful to you, Harry...because you did extend their life together. She loved you and Sandy dearly. I still use her lasagna recipe by the way! Love you.



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FJ

Frank L Johnson posted:

My sister in-law Gloria was such a treasure. After my brother started dating her, Linda and I found our new best friends. We took trips to the beach, went camping, played golf and sat around talking about our lives, our futures and our families. We shared struggles, setbacks and successes. They visited with us in our first apartment and we visited them in their apartment in Chapel Hill. Watching them care for Amy in her bassinette was awesome. Watching Gloria care for Phil with his diabetes was just as awesome. Phil and I were as close as two brothers can be. From the time I was born, we shared a single bed and all the laughs, giggles, punches, contagious illnesses that came with such an arrangement. After our Mom died, he developed diabetes and everyone in our family became nurses, watching out for signs of insulin shock or any other anomalies which might present. We teamed up asking each other about where he was and how he was. All this was casual and not laid out in some sort manual of care, it was just what we did. We all loved Phil. When he met and started dating Gloria, it did not take long to figure out that we did not have to worry about him any longer. He was in even, stronger loving hands than ever and certainly a better trained person would now be his closest friend. She was also funny, positive, intelligent, conversant, and sincere. Everyone in the Johnson family fell in love with Gloria. So when she and Jimmy got married, there was a collective feeling that we were all playing the part of the dad giving away his daughter to a man who loved her dearly. Jimmy was funny, conversant positive, intelligent and sincere. He still is. We all feel his grief. God bless you, Jimmy and may Gloria Hepler Rest in Peace.

September 29 at 4:26 AM

GJ

Gregory William Johnson October 29 at 8:44 AM

Sorry to write that I will not be attending the gathering as I have a health issue (pancytopenia) which leaves my immune system seriously compromised. I think of Gloria every time drive by the small duplex where she and Phil lived in Charlotte. They were a giddy couple then. In June of '69 I joined the Marines and was not in touch with my family except by the few letters I wrote. When I returned from Viet Nam my last year was at Cherry Point with commuting to Charlotte visit Sheila Moffit whom I married on 30 June 69 just seven days after my release from active duty. Thereafter I would see the couple at family gatherings where their good spirits and humor delighted us all. We visited them after they moved to Martinsville where we got to see the kids grow up. After Phil died, we were delighted to see Gloria marry Jimmy Hepler. They made a great pair who made two daughters. How delighted they were whenever a grandchild was added to the family tree. Kathy and I will miss her as we miss Phil, Ed, and all of our uncles, Aunts, and parents now departed. May they all rest in perpetual peace. Greg & kathy

SC

Sid Cawn October 3 at 8:04 AM

Gloria was a very sweet person and I always enjoyed visiting with her and Phil. With sincere sympathy. Sid Cawn



Amelia Johnson September 29 at 5:05 PM



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Reading this made me laugh, and cry. Mom loved you and Linda so much. And I know she appreciated the way you loved and welcomed Jimmy into our family. Love you both.



Memories only last if you share them

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



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