



## Carol Sawyer

January 5, 1943 - December 2, 2015

Carol Sue Stephens Sawyer

Born January 5, 1943, Carol joined God in Heaven December 2, 2015 at age 72.

She will be greatly missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew her.

Carol was born in Port Huron, Michigan. She graduated from Port Huron High School. She attended Averett University, Danville, Virginia, and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Michigan State University.

Carol moved to Monterrey, California as a grammar school and special education teacher. She moved to San Francisco and continued her teaching career. She married John Sawyer in Monterrey on May 31, 1969. Her career continued in California: The counties of Marin , Contra Costa and San Diego. She was also President of The Store of Knowledge, Inc., in Walnut Creek and Pleasanton, California.

In 1988 John and she moved to Convent Station, NJ, where she taught special education for the Mendham Borough School District. She graduated from the College of Saint Elizabeth with a Masters of Education degree.

Carol and John retired to Pawleys Island in 2002, and have lived happily there until her passing.

Carol loved her career, her family, celebrating with friends, and the beach.

Travel was a special interest. She and her husband owned a 40' trawler, and visited many ports from Canada to Tennessee. She also enjoyed local river excursions in a partner owned pontoon boat. In addition she and her husband enjoyed many commercial cruises, including Europe, Alaska, Caribbean, Panama Canal, Hawaii and the West Coast. Many overland trips were made in their RV as well, to Canada, Florida and the West Coast.

She was predeceased by her mother and father, Marion and Gerald Stephens. She is survived by her husband, John, her son Timothy (Jennifer) Sawyer, her daughter Pamela Sawyer, and her grandchildren Nathan Sawyer and Benjamin Sawyer.

Christian services will be held at 2:00 PM Monday, December 14, 2015 at Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel with Reverend Harrison Grey officiating.

Memorials may be made to the Tidelands Community Hospice Foundation, 2591 N. Fraser St., Georgetown SC 29440 [www.tidelandshospice.org/pages/donate](http://www.tidelandshospice.org/pages/donate)

Sign an online guestbook at [www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com/obituaries](http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com/obituaries)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Service

DEC **14**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Celebration Center

11528 Hwy 17 Bypass

Murrells Inlet, SC 29588

(843) 651-3295

[info@goldfinchfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@goldfinchfuneralhome.com)

<https://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Goldfinch Funeral Services created a Webcast in memory of Carol Sawyer*



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**Goldfinch Funeral Home** - December 10, 2015 at 12:36 PM

SM

*Thanks for the opportunity of being with you remembering Carol without travel.  
Susan Minai-Azary*

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**Susan S Minai-Azary** - December 14, 2015 at 01:24 PM

NB

*Dearest John, Tim and Pam....I was so sorry not to be able to be with you to celebrate the beautiful joyful life of your Carol! I remember Carol so clearly as all those who loved her have said in this beautiful memorial of her life, as one so gracious, full of joy and love. Please know that David and I will continue to hold Carol in our hearts and pray for her in our eternal home and for your consolation and the consolation of all who knew her. With love Nancy Marshall Bickel*

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**Nancy Marshall Bickel** - December 14, 2015 at 02:02 PM

LM

*John, just a short note to let you know that we were with you and your family at Carol's service. we send our love, thoughts and prayers to all of you. Save the video you made for the next time we se you.*

*Larry & Linda*

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**Larry & Linda McNamara** - December 14, 2015 at 02:29 PM

GN

*What wonderful and loving tributes from you, Tim and Pam. Carol was a kind, thoughtful and generous person and I am grateful that moving to Rialto Court 30 years ago brought not only Marion, but all of you into my life. I so appreciate this modern technology that enabled me to celebrate Carol's life from Michigan.*

*Gail Nawrock*

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**Gail Nawrock** - December 14, 2015 at 05:16 PM

MH

*Was able to watch the ceremony last night. It was so nice to participate in this 21st century way. The music was so touching and joyful-perfect choices. Tim and Pam did such a wonderful job under such difficult circumstances. Carol and you raised 2 great kids. its been a long friendship, before we all were married, probably close to 50 years. I found the ceremony very comforting and uplifting and wished we could have been there in person. A celebration of a life well lived. Take care.*

*Love, Mary and Ken.*

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**Mary Housley** - December 15, 2015 at 11:33 AM

SM

*“ I enjoyed the most time with Carol Sue during our junior high and high school years. We shared a love of the beach and water so many of my memories with her center at her family home in Port Huron. We studied together for our 11th grade history final on the beach. We walked along the water on the lake many summer days. Carol Sue took me on my first and only fishing adventure catching perch on Lake Huron. Her father taught me how to clean our catch. I have many fond memories of our time together. I was happy to see Carol Sue again at our 50th high school reunion and again this past summer at the lake. Time spent with Carol Sue was always fun.*

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**Susan S Minai-Azary** - December 14, 2015 at 02:19 PM

EG

“ For 55 years, Carol was one of my dearest friends, whose loss I mourn and whose memory I will now treasure.

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**Elaine Goldman** - December 14, 2015 at 01:57 PM

JH

“ Carol was a lovely and much loved member of our PHHS class. Always ready with a smile and enthusiasm for every project or activity. A good friend for many, many years, she will truly be missed. All our love and prayers to the entire family. Mark and Jan (Drescher) Hauser

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**Jan Hauser** - December 14, 2015 at 11:25 AM

SB

“ Stephen and Linda. Bickel purchased the Heavenly Heights Bouquet for the family of Carol Sawyer.



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**Stephen and Linda. Bickel** - December 13, 2015 at 12:16 PM

FF

“ From the Relken, Himes, & Collins families purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Carol Sawyer.



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**From the Relken, Himes, & Collins families** - December 12, 2015 at 03:03 PM

NC

“ We so enjoyed meeting Carol and John on Freedom. We shared travelling from the Florida Keys north with good food and great company. Carol's quick smile was measured by her deep love of her family. We heard of the times in San Francisco, to her love of the beach on Pawley's Island. Carol enjoyed all the travels and the times to be with family. We kept hoping to meet back in South Carolina. Carol will be greatly missed. She touched so many people with her warmth, energy and love.



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**Nancy and Mal Crran** - December 11, 2015 at 07:38 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Carol Sawyer.



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December 09, 2015 at 09:10 PM

AW

“ Anita & Tom Wong purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Carol Sawyer.



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**Anita & Tom Wong** - December 08, 2015 at 11:47 AM

SK

“ *SUSAN & JOHN KLISH \* ANDREW & BRIDGET KLISH purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Carol Sawyer.*



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**SUSAN & JOHN KLISH \* ANDREW & BRIDGET KLISH -**  
December 07, 2015 at 02:42 PM

KB

“ *Kay and Woody Byers, David, Laura, Ross, Grant, Katie Byers purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Carol Sawyer.*



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**Kay and Woody Byers, David, Laura, Ross, Grant, Katie Byers -** December 06, 2015 at 11:26 AM

DB

“ Carol has always been such an important part of our family, especially given that we are one of few relatives on the Stephens side of the family. Carol and Kay shared a unique bond over many, many years. They literally grew up together in Port Huron, and shared special brothers as fathers. We recently sent John a picture of Carol and Kay as young schoolgirls together. Carol was always so full of life, and brought a smile to anyone in the same room with her. She cared tirelessly for Marion over so many years (we all should be so lucky to have such a loving and caring daughter). The entire Byers family enjoyed our time with Carol and the entire Sawyer family. We all grew up with Carol and John, and then Tim, Pam, and then Jen, Ben and Nate. One of our favorite memories is the celebration Carol and John hosted for Marion's 100th birthday. It was such a great day to see everyone in the family and share a blessed event. We also cherish the visits with Carol and John in SC, FL, NJ, CA MI and all the places we were lucky enough share time together. We were so lucky to spend time with Carol and John recently in Pawleys Island and remembering all the good times shared by the family over the years. We remember all the good that Carol had in her life - a supportive and loving husband, two wonderful children, a great daughter in law, and two awesome grandkids. She so enjoyed the many years of retirement, including the travel and the visits with family all over the country. There will always be a special place in our hearts for the beauty, grace and kindness that was Carol Sawyer.

*Our thoughts are with you,*

*Kay and Woody Byers, David, Laura, Ross, Grant and Katie Byers*

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**David Byers** - December 06, 2015 at 10:44 AM

ND

“ Carol was one of the kindest neighbor we have ever had. We never saw her without a smile and kind word. Her laugh was musical. She will always be remembered.

Neen and Joe Durkan - December 04, 2015 at 05:14 PM

KW

“ When I think of Carol, I think of a bright smile, a good laugh, a caring heart and her sharing words of wisdom that moms share with kids they care about. As a little girl, I remember her talking about the joys of teaching, raising her kids, what it meant to be a supportive wife, as well as the joys of sailing. I can hear her laughter in my head as I type this now.....years have passed since I had seen Carol in person but it feels like yesterday I was sitting at her kitchen table laughing. Those we love do not go away, they walk beside us every day, unseen, unheard but always near. Still loved and missed, and very, very dear. Kathy Jordan

Kathryn Jordan Whittley - December 04, 2015 at 04:33 PM



“ I remember Carol well, from those Happy days of youth. She shared that glorious smile with all she knew, and I find it painful to now learn of her passing. Heartfelt feelings of sadness, to the Family, and all who Loved her.

Dale Lewis - December 04, 2015 at 01:30 PM

BZ

“ I will never forget how kind Carol was when I was first diagnosed with cancer. She and John came to our house with gifts for our long trip to Little Rock, Arkansas. I will always remember how she smiled, with her eyes lighting up! She was a joyful woman and I loved her. Bunny Zilling

Bunny Zilling - December 04, 2015 at 07:06 AM

LH

“ I have many, many memories of my cousin Carol Sue as we always called her. When I was 5 she took me to my first movie, "Sleeping Beauty". I have many memories of spending time at the beach and Christmas Eve's with our grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. I got many of her hand me down clothes and I still have a baton that was hers. Thank you for all the memories. Love, Lois Kaye

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**Lois Himes** - December 03, 2015 at 07:36 PM

JW

“ Carol will be remembered by me for her gracious manner and her thoughtfulness toward her mother. I feel like I knew her by knowing her kind Mother. My sympathy to John and her family.

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**Jo Westphal** - December 03, 2015 at 07:05 PM