



## Charlene Marie Close

March 12, 1952 - November 26, 2023

Charlene Marie Close, lovingly known as Charlie, 71, went home to be with her Heavenly Father at 6:42 pm on Sunday November 26, 2023, at her home in Myrtle Beach. She was the loving wife of James L. Close. The couple celebrated 52 years of marriage on July 3, 2023.

Born March 12, 1952, in Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland, Charlie was a daughter of the late Beatrice (Tohm) Williams of Scotland and Charles Williams of North Dakota. As a young girl, Shirley Hyde and the late Samuel Hyde Sr. of Virginia welcomed her to join their family.

Charlie was in the 1970 graduating class at Kecoughtan High School in Virginia. Later in life she graduated from Emporia State University in Kansas with a B.A. in teaching. Charlie held many jobs over the years, including insurance for Pennsylvania State Retirement, an English teacher, and most importantly a loving mother, grandmother, and homemaker.

Charlie had a passion for traveling, sewing, crafting, and cooking. Some of her most amazing recipes included biscuits and gravy, crepes, and her world-famous Fat City (if you know, you know). She had the most generous, kind, and loving spirit which led to her biggest passion, working in the church. Through the years, and several moves around the country, many churches and congregations were blessed with her service. She had the gift of a

beautiful singing voice which she shared with the church choir. She was highly active in women's groups, bible studies, and her most loved, the AWANA youth program. Charlie dedicated her life to living and loving as a strong Christian woman. Her unending desire to make sure everyone was fed, comfortable, and happy never faltered, even into her last days. Charlie held numerous titles: Daughter, Sister, Friend, Wife, Mother, but her most treasured was CiCi, to her one and only grandson.

Charlie is survived by her husband, James L. Close; one son, Matthew R. Close; one daughter, Jamie M. Close and husband, Derek J. Firestone; one grandson, Lucca E. Firestone; three sisters, Brenda Cosentino, Cynthia Pilkington, and Donna Drew; two brothers, Chuck Williams, and Samuel Hyde Jr. She was preceded in death by her mother, father, and sister, Verlie Medford.

Following cremation, relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend a visitation from 1:00-2:00 pm. and a service to celebrate Charlie's life at 2:00 pm., on Thursday December 7, 2023, at Forestbrook Baptist Church at 2051 Forestbrook Rd. Myrtle Beach, SC 29588. Arrangements have been entrusted to Goldfinch Funeral Services.

For those who cannot attend but wish to watch the service online, it will be live streamed on YouTube at 2:00 pm December 7, 2023. Visit [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search "Forestbrook Baptist Church Live Stream" and scroll down to Charlene Close's Memorial Service. The video will remain on YouTube for a few weeks so it can be viewed later as well.

Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider in lieu of flowers, a donation to Forestbrook Baptist AWANA youth program. Call (843) 236-2224 for more information or visit: [forestbrookchurch.com](https://www.forestbrookchurch.com). To access the donation page, click Menu, click Give,

and make sure to choose a One-Time payment, choose Miscellaneous Fund and in the Note section type "Charlene Close's Memorial Fund".

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 7. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Forestbrook Baptist Church  
2051 Forestbrook Road  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

## A Celebration of Life

DEC 7. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Forestbrook Baptist Church  
2051 Forestbrook Road  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

# Tribute Wall

DL

“ Our condolences and love goes out to Jim and family and to the Hyde family. We remember Charlie as a little girl at Victory Baptist Church. Over the years we shared Christian fellowship with Charlie and Jim whenever they visited Charlie's family. Our prayers are with you as you suffer this great loss. May God give you comfort. Don and Linda Padgett

Donald Padgett & Linda - December 12, 2023 at 10:23 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charlene Marie Close.



December 05, 2023 at 12:43 PM

CW

“ Chuck W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charlene Marie Close.

Chuck W. - December 05, 2023 at 12:43 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charlene Marie Close.



December 04, 2023 at 11:57 AM

CP

“ No matter how long we live, life is too short. It goes by so quickly. And since “Love is the greatest,” Charlie certainly made her life count. She lived and loved strongly and will be greatly missed.

*The love that we share is but a small portion of the love that God the Father has for us. He knows, understands, and cares about all our hurt, loss, and sorrow.*

*This is not the end of the story! The best is yet to come! Trust and rest in a God that gives “beauty for ashes” ... “joy for mourning” ... “praise for heaviness” ... (Isaiah 61:3).*

*Charlie, goodnight, you are greatly loved and will be dearly missed. Rest well, we will all see you in the morning!*

*Cindy & Clyde*

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**Clyde Pilkington** - December 04, 2023 at 06:14 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charlene Marie Close.



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December 02, 2023 at 02:15 PM

FC

“ From the Del Benes, Hedengrens & Comeaus planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charlene Marie Close.

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**From the Del Benes, Hedengrens & Comeaus** - December 02, 2023 at 02:15 PM

MC

“ Michael C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charlene Marie Close.

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Michael C. - December 02, 2023 at 08:46 AM

DD

“ I was privileged to call Charlie my sister. Though not blood we had a strong sisterly bond since mom and dad took her into our home until she married Jim. I have many childhood memories of Charlie. She had a beautiful voice. A couple of fun songs that stood out are: A doe a dear, a female dear..... another is There's a hole in the bucket, dear Liza, dear Liza.....I can remember her tickling me so much that my laugh turned into a cry. Charlie was always about table manners. Her being the oldest, she would fuss at us if we didn't use good table manners, like putting our elbows on the table. Charlie had the kindest soul of anyone I've known. Though she suffered with medical issues, she always put others before herself. I will never forget the help she was to me when I lost my daughter. Her and Jim came home and she was right there for me every step of the way. She even fell while here and broke her pelvis but stayed to be with me at the funeral, then left as soon as it was over to ride back home for hours to get treated by her doctor. She was one of the strongest and selfless people I've ever known. She will be missed. Jim, Jamie, and Matthew my thoughts and prayers are with you. I love you all dearly. Charlie, I'm looking forward to the day we meet again. I love you my precious sister.

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Donna Drew - December 01, 2023 at 10:47 PM

TD

“ Timothy Deskins purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of Charlene Marie Close.



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**Timothy Deskins** - December 01, 2023 at 06:00 PM

TD

“ Timothy Deskins planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charlene Marie Close.

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**Timothy Deskins** - December 01, 2023 at 06:00 PM

TD

“ My deepest condolences to the family - Charlie was an incredible person with a kind soul. Tim Deskins

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**timothy merrell deskins** - December 01, 2023 at 05:58 PM