



## Cheryl Barnett Johnson

March 16, 1952 - March 30, 2016

Cheryl Elizabeth Barnett Johnson passed away peacefully on March 30, 2016. Born March 16, 1952, in Rhodhiss, North Carolina, to James Long Barnett and Hester Wilson Dickson Barnett, she grew up in Bennettsville, South Carolina, where she graduated from Bennettsville High School in 1970. She attended Meredith College where she graduated with a Bachelors of Music Education in 1974. On May 22, 1972, she married Kenneth Ray Johnson of Rockwell, North Carolina, and was a loving and devoted wife until his death in 1992. She is survived by her brother, Michael James Barnett (Patricia) of Conway, South Carolina, her sons James Matthew Johnson (Rebecca) of Charleston, South Carolina and Kevin Andrew Johnson (Holly) of Angier, North Carolina, and grandchildren Nathan Alexander Johnson, James Kenneth Johnson, Ava Victoria Johnson, Mary Louise Elizabeth Johnson and Lyndon Franklin Johnson, and many loving nieces and nephews, cousins and friends.

A woman of tremendous faith, she was an active member of Woodhaven Baptist Church in Apex, North Carolina, where she served as a Stephen Minister, on the Church Council, as the Church Clerk and sang in the choir. Following a lifelong study of the Bible and Christian theology, later in life she pursued a Masters of Divinity from Campbell University Divinity School.

In addition to her love of the Lord, she was a dedicated mother to her sons

and in later years drew great happiness from watching her grandchildren grow. She loved reading and was a long-serving member of the Julia Montgomery Book Club. After the death of her husband, she took up flying and earned her Private Pilot's License. She was active in the Experimental Aircraft Association and enjoyed flying aerobatics through the International Aerobatic Club.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Woodhaven Baptist Church Mission Support Fund would be appreciated. A celebration of her life will be held on Wednesday, April 6, 2016, at 1:00 p.m. at Woodhaven Baptist Church, 4000 Kildaire Farm Road, Apex, North Carolina. The family will receive friends from 12:00pm to 1:00pm. Burial at the Hester Family Cemetery, Calhoun Falls, South Carolina.

Online condolences may be made to [www.wakefuneral.com](http://www.wakefuneral.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Hester Family Cemetery

Hwy 81  
Calhoun Falls, SC

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 6. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Woodhaven Baptist Church  
4000 Kildaire Farm Rd  
Apex, NC 27539

## Celebration of Life Service

APR 6. 1:00 PM (ET)

Woodhaven Baptist Church  
4000 Kildaire Farm Rd  
Apex, NC 27539

# Tribute Wall

MK

“ How can I sum up the extraordinary life of Cheryl Johnson in a few sentences? I CAN'T! Cheryl is the kind of person everyone wishes they had as a friend and the few of us were lucky to have been able to call her our friend. She was listening and caring when she had to be and a tough straight shooter when she told you what you needed to do.

In addition to being a friend you could depend on, Cheryl loved babies and children. When she wasn't tutoring under privileged children, she was teaching Sunday School or volunteering in the church nursery. She loved babysitting for my son and he adored her and followed all of "Nana's Rules." When I asked my son how he would describe Cheryl, he told me the following: positive, cheerful, caring and loving. I would like to add: fiercely independent, loving mother, pitched in when there was work to be done, reverent, free-spirited (you have to be that to be in IAC) and resilient. Despite what life threw at her, she always trusted the Lord and found a way to overcome the obstacle on her terms.

I recall her telling me about her flight with an Examiner to obtain her private pilot's license. There is a part of the exam where the Examiner turns off the engine and the pilot is suppose to go through restart procedures and name good landing sites in case the engine didn't restart. As her Examiner reached to turn the engine off, Cheryl, mother of two, instinctively swatted the Examiner's hand away and said "Don't touch that.". She said the Examiner looked very shocked and surprised. Then she realized that it was part of the exam and said "Ohh" The Examiner then very deliberately reached for the control again and turned the engine off. Needless to say, she passed the exam with flying colors. Now she has traded in her Steen SkyBolt wings for angel wings and we will miss the woman we were all so lucky to have as a friend.

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Mary Kelly-Crapse - May 12, 2016 at 08:45 PM

RK

“ I first met Cheryl at the Triple W airport in Fuquay-Varina, NC. She was a powerful woman. Over the years, we developed a friendship that made her part of our family. She was there at our wedding, my son's Christening, and many other events. Cheryl was a person you could turn to and get advice on life, faith, and love. There was one time we were flying together in a Cessna 172. I picked her up at Triple W. She was right seat but wanted to do the takeoff. That was fine by me. Right as we lifted off, her seat went backwards with her. I took over while she got her seat locked. We both had a good laugh over that and enjoyed the flying. Back in February of 2016, I had the pleasure of working with her on pistol shooting sports. Even though she need a walker with a seat, she was still enjoying the time and being outside. She had a way of turning people from being a victim to being in charge of their life. When I went out West to pick up a Navion from Utah, she insisted that I take along an orangutan doll that was dressed like a pilot. She told me I would need it. That was a very long week of flying back across the United States. When I went to give it back, she told me to pass it on to the next pilot who was making a long cross country like that. Her greatest gift was love. There were many memories of that I have of her that still bring a smile to my face. Go with God my friend... I will see you at that great airport in the sky when I fly eventually fly West.

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**Rick Kelly-Crapse** - May 10, 2016 at 08:23 AM

KA

“ Hi my name is Kayla and I am a local bible teacher. I am so sorry for the loss of your loved one. There is a very comforting scripture at Isaiah 25:8. It says that soon Jehovah will swallow up death forever and that he will wipe away all of the tears. So we can all look forward to a time when death will be no more. I hope that this scripture can bring some true comfort during these difficult times.

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**kayla** - April 27, 2016 at 06:20 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cheryl Barnett Johnson.*



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April 05, 2016 at 04:17 AM



“ *Corrigan & Chandler LLC purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Cheryl Barnett Johnson.*



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**Corrigan & Chandler LLC** - April 04, 2016 at 05:31 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cheryl Barnett Johnson.*



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April 03, 2016 at 08:17 PM



“ *Kevin and family, We are so sorry for your loss. May God comfort you and your family at this most difficult time! We love you, Paul and Joyce Sorrell*

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**Joyce Sorrell** - April 03, 2016 at 07:03 AM

GJ

“ We are deeply saddened by Cheryl's passing but are thankful for her life. We have known her for over 30 years. We met Cheryl and Ken at Apex Baptist. Ham Morton and I had Matthew in RAs. After Ken's untimely passing, we watched Cheryl rear her boys as a single parent and greatly admired her courage. We often had dinner with Cheryl or went to movie together, and we always had fun. I think our dog loved Cheryl as much as us or maybe more. In recent years, as both Cheryl's health and Phyllis' health worsened, they would take turns driving to Duke in Durham for doctor appointments. Sometimes we would take her when she wasn't able to drive. Cheryl was a good friend. As she would always say, "To make a long story short...." We will miss her.

*Gary and Phyllis Johnson*

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**Gary Johnson** - April 02, 2016 at 05:43 PM

JJ

“ My life has been so much richer on so many levels because Cheryl was a part of it! We've sung together and prayed together and laughed and cried together....she has been an encourager and supporter when I needed it, and a pusher when I needed it as well! Her love of life and music are two of the things I remember most! Cheryl wasn't afraid to take on new challenges and to do things that no one else expected of her! She was a most unique individual, and I am so grateful that I had the chance to know her. She will be truly missed.....Kevin and Matthew, I'm keeping you guys in my thoughts and prayers this week.....

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**Jim-Bob** - April 01, 2016 at 07:57 PM

MW

*I have not seen Cheryl in quite sometime, but I will always remember her and the dedication she showed to us during the sale of our home in Pittsboro, and the purchase of our home in New Hill. Cheryl went above and beyond to help us during that time. I have a ceramic train she and Paige Wingfeld gave us in a beautiful basket for a new home purchase. Every year at Christmas I put it out, and say Cheryl and Paige gave us this. I also remember when she came looking for me to tell me about a job opportunity at a small bank in Cary, Had it not been for her I would not have gone to work for the best small bank around. I will miss knowing she is not with us anymore, but will rejoice that she is with her Lord, and reunited with Ken. Our prayers and Love to Kevin and Matthew.*

*Butch and Marion Woody*

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**Marion Woody** - April 06, 2016 at 06:00 PM

NB

“*I enjoyed many conversations with Cheryl, and treasure our talks about faith and family. She was a living testimony to living her dying with courage and hope and continuing to serve. I will miss her in my life, but celebrate her freedom from pain and suffering, As well as her reunion in heaven with Christ and those she loved. Nancy Bartlett*

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**Nancy Bartlett** - April 01, 2016 at 06:40 PM