



## Claire Kirby Hughes

February 15, 1960 - April 25, 2017

Claire Kirby Hughes, beloved wife, mother, sister, daughter and friend, passed away peacefully at home in Pittsboro, NC, April 25, 2017 after a courageous battle with ovarian cancer. She was 57.

Claire's family, friends and her faith were the center of her life. She was blessed to have been married to the love of her life, David Bryan Hughes for 36 years. Her two daughters, Lindsey Hughes Ventura (Cameron) of Los Angeles, California and Caroline Kirby Hughes (Alexander Bowman) of Hillsborough, NC were the highlights of her life. Claire's life-long best friend was her sister, Anne Kirby Surrect (Doug) of Charleston, SC. She was blessed with a close loving family led by her dear father William Jackson Kirby of Charleston, SC; brother in laws Michael Kent Hughes (Linda) of Mt Pleasant, SC and Arthur Tillman Hughes (Lucie) of Lexington, SC; aunts Julia Kirby Mehaffey and Vernice Norton Waddick; an uncle, Paul Norton; seven nieces and nephews and numerous cousins. She was predeceased in life by her mother, Betty Norton Kirby; and her grandparents Rev. and Mrs Charles Forest Norton and Mr. and Mrs William Causey Kirby.

Claire was an outgoing, loving, active woman who made friends easily and cherished each one. She attended Miss Mason's School, College Preparatory School and Middleton High School in Charleston, SC. A natural athlete, Claire played on tennis teams in high school and college. She received an athletic

scholarship and graduated from Georgia Southern University in 1981 with a BA degree in broadcast journalism. Claire had a successful career in medical sales at several companies to include 3M and Medegen. Her love for sports was a key part of her life and she especially enjoyed golf, biking, swimming and snow skiing with her husband, family and friends.

Claire was sustained by her faith throughout her life and especially during her illness. She was always sharing her love of God with others and true to her character offered her own final words to provide comfort to those she loved with the request to share after her death.

"This is not goodbye as I will see you all in a very short time. Be kind to one another and live your life to the fullness. Remember family, friends and fellowship are the most important thing we have in our lives. Enjoy all the art, music and beauty we have been given. Try not to sweat the small stuff because most of it is small stuff. Stay close to God and let him carry you in both the good and trying times. In the end it's not the years in your life that count but the life in your years. I Fought the fight. I Finished the race. I Kept the faith. I love you all. Claire"

The memorial service will be Saturday, May 6, 2017 at 11:00am, St Andrew's Church, 440 Whilden Street, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina. The family will receive guests at a reception following the service at 38 Dalton Street, Daniel Island, South Carolina.

Memorials may be made to Church of the Holy Trinity, PO Box 1388, Pittsboro, NC or to Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance, [OCRFA.org](http://OCRFA.org).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Andrew's Church  
440 Whilden St  
Mt Pleasant, SC 29464  
(843) 284-4310

## Reception

MAY 6 (ET)

Reception  
38 Dalton St  
Daniel Island, SC 29492

# Tribute Wall

DT

“ You have my condolences and prayers, but I do not know if I ever met her. My brother Brian in FLA sent me this note about her passing and I am here in Nassau County trying to defend the culture of respect and life as the Nassau County Executive Chairman to The Constitution Party, and considering standing for election to US Congress, or the Office of The Governor of the State of NY.

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Dan Tobin - May 11, 2017 at 10:16 AM



“ Angels Watch - Peaceful Reflections Angel was purchased for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.



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May 08, 2017 at 11:25 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.



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May 05, 2017 at 01:11 PM




“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.*



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May 04, 2017 at 11:54 AM

 Zane Wood

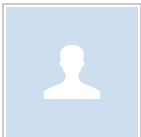
“ *What a joy Claire was to have in my life since meeting her in 2005. So cool, layed back yet full of vitality. We laughed often and even made the effort for a weekend getaway in Brevard a few years ago that I will forever cherish. She gave me a coffee mug that weekend full of sweet treats & quotes about friendship that I use to this day. Claire made me a better friend because she exemplified commitment, loyalty and love in all she did. I will miss her deeply and will continue praying for her family during this time. She made the world a brighter and a better place....I feel lucky to have called her my friend.*

*I know you are rejoicing with the Lord my friend.... Much love*

*Zane Wood*

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**Zane Wood** - May 04, 2017 at 09:19 AM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.*



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May 03, 2017 at 03:26 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.*



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May 03, 2017 at 12:07 PM



“ *The Farrows, Sams, McMahons, and Cutlip families purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.*



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**The Farrows, Sams, McMahons, and Cutlip families** - May 02, 2017 at 04:44 PM



“ *Joe Norton, Jr. and family purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.*



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**Joe Norton, Jr. and family** - May 02, 2017 at 12:11 PM

JV

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I was blessed to work with Claire at 3M. She was an amazing and kind person. I have great memories of a special incentive trip to Wonewok in 2011. My thoughts and prayers are with you.



Jennifer VanRanst - May 01, 2017 at 10:55 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.



April 27, 2017 at 02:57 PM

VF

“ Vincent Porcher and the Porcher-Jimenez family purchased the Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.



Vincent Porcher and the Porcher-Jimenez family - April 27, 2017 at 01:39 PM

VP

“ *In this time of grieving it is best to share. Claire has always been a special friend to me and her fight with that horrible disease along with her attitude and spirit was amazing and helped me through my ordeal. This woman touched my life in so many ways. I used to call her "my prototype" and we had a running joke that I was going to marry her.*

*At the reunion, when I met her awesome husband and he met my wife, I said this to her. That I was going to marry her.*

*My wife is a carbon copy of Claire! She has always been an inspiration to me.*

*This week hit me like a ton of rocks but I am happy that she has peace.*

*Many of my high school classmates, regardless if they know it or not, are loved and appreciated, because those were good years that helped made me who I am today. And Claire was one of the best of the bests...*

*May her soul rest in peace but her love, spirit and memory live in our hearts forever.*

*Thank you, Claire, for being the realist of the real... what a friend, what a person!*

*Love,  
Vince and the family!*

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Vincent Porcher - April 27, 2017 at 12:34 PM

GB

“ George and Barbara Raines Baker purchased the Bright and Beautiful Spray for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.



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**George and Barbara Raines Baker** - April 27, 2017 at 11:54 AM

TF

“ The Loewenthal Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.



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**The Loewenthal Family** - April 27, 2017 at 11:43 AM

DS

“ So sorry to hear of Claire's passing. She was truly an amazing person. I had the opportunity of working with her many years ago at O'Cain Advertising. Thoughts and prayers to all the family.

*Diana Dobson Summers*

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**Diana Summers** - April 27, 2017 at 11:27 AM

CB

“ Heaven is a place that glows beyond Compare. The Lights of those who've left us are all Brightly shining there. To the Hughes family We are sorry for your loss. Although you will miss here she also misses you.

*The ladies at Duke Raleigh Outpatient Lab.*

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**carolyn bell** - April 27, 2017 at 10:11 AM

KG

“ I am so sorry for your loss. When I met Claire many years ago I knew she was a very special and loving person. David and Claire made the perfect couple and each time I would see them together it was like two teenagers, you could just see their love for each other was overwhelming. I hope all your wonderful memories will give you comfort as well as knowing she is in a better place, in no more pain and we will see her again one day. Please know my thoughts and prayers are with your family in this time of pain and sorrow. I know Claire will be truly missed by everyone whose life was touched by her. Kim Gilbert

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**Kim Gilbert** - April 27, 2017 at 09:50 AM

OT

“ Our love and prayers, Aunt Vernice and Uncle Tom purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.



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**Our love and prayers, Aunt Vernice and Uncle Tom** - April 27, 2017 at 09:48 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.



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April 27, 2017 at 09:46 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.



April 27, 2017 at 09:22 AM



“ I pray that loving memories will bring peace to your family.  
Julie Adams

**JULIE ADAMS** - April 27, 2017 at 09:11 AM



“ Akim Anastopoulo family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Claire Kirby Hughes.



**Akim Anastopoulo family** - April 27, 2017 at 08:58 AM



“ My fondest memories of Claire are biking with her and Dave - and trying to keep up.  
She was an amazing athlete and so deeply spiritual. God Bless her in heaven and may God wrap his arms around Dave and the girls, their husbands and the entire family and friends.

Love  
Sheila and Doug Augustine

**sheila augustine** - April 27, 2017 at 08:34 AM

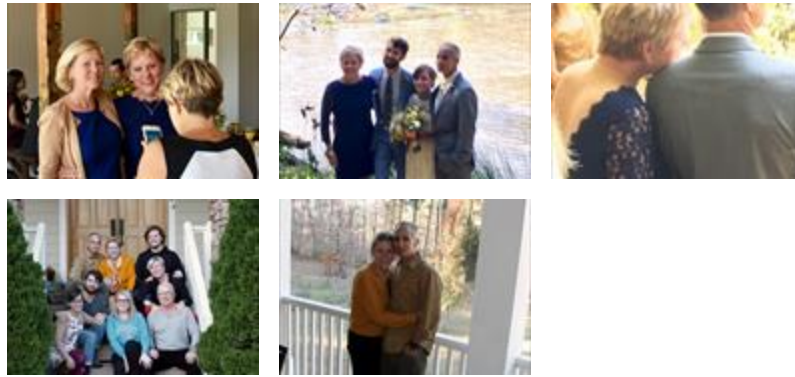
MP

*Feeling so sad reading this. We haven't been in touch since all of you left Apex, but Claire was a great friend and great athlete. She and her family took great care of our sweet BoBo. Hugs and prayers to all of you. I'm so deeply saddened. Love, Maryann Piccicuto and family.*

maryann piccicuto - April 27, 2017 at 09:02 AM

AS

“ 43 files added to the album Family memories



Anne Kirby Surrett - April 27, 2017 at 07:18 AM

KG

“ David, I want to express my gratitude for the few times I was able to catch up with Claire while she a able. I am sharing a pic of us when we had lunch together last year. Claire was funny. She joked that because of the chemo, she and I now have the same hair style!

Kg



Kenneth Gupton - April 27, 2017 at 07:02 AM

BS

*My deepest sympathy and compassion to Claire's family.*

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**beverly stoney** - April 27, 2017 at 07:10 AM