

Obituaries

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Burney and their patient's always said Amy was best at giving shots. She later worked at Ambassador Health and Rehab, now Wadesboro Health and Rehab, until she had a stroke in 2016.

The stroke affected her ability to walk but it did not affect her heart and mind for nursing. She became a resident at Autumn Care in Marshville and later Anson Health and Rehab, and she could "advise" the nursing staff on what other residents needed.

Amy loved the outdoors and animals. Her love for animals was learned from her paternal grandmother, Mammie Sheppard and her love for fishing from her maternal grandmother, Grandma Mae.

Those left to cherish her memory are her daughters, Morgan Eckersley of Peachland and Mallorie McGowan of Locust; her grandchildren, Kaylee, Drew, Dawson, Rylan, Conner and Caden; her parents, Ruby and Dewey Sheppard of Lilesville; her brothers, Evans "Peanut" (Lynn) Sheppard of Lilesville and Stacy Sheppard of Charlotte; her nephews, Jesse (Amber) Sheppard and Hunter Sheppard, all of Lilesville; and her great-nephews and great-niece, Sawyer, Lainey and Tate.

Amy's family is most grateful to the staff and residents at Anson Health and Rehab for everything that was done to make her time there the best it could be. She loved the friends she made there and considered them all her extended family.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Friends of the Anson County Animal Shelter, 7257 Hwy 74, Polkton, NC 28135.

The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home and online condolences may be made at www.leavittfh.com.

Mr. Charlie Jones Williams

On Friday, March 22, 2024, Mr. Charlie Jones Williams, 69, passed away peacefully at his home.

The family greeted friends on Monday, March 25, 2024, at Leavitt Funeral Home. A graveside service followed at Anson Memorial Park with Mr. Ken Caulder officiating.

Charlie was born August 17, 1954, in Anson County, and was a son of the late Jones Williams and the late Edna Bullard Williams. He was a graduate of Anson High School and retired from Hornwood in Lilesville.

Those left to cherish his memory are his children, Susan Williams, Makayla Williams (Zykiriah Shaver), and Jada Williams, all of Wadesboro; his sisters and brothers, Brenda Bryant, Gornie Williams (Lucille), Karen Treadaway and Ernie Williams, all of Wadesboro; his brothers-in-law and sister-in-law, James Lear (Donna) of Wytheville, VA, Darnel Brown Teal (Joey) of Morven and Phil Lear of Wadesboro; special family friends who were like family to Charlie, Eric Edgeston and Derrick Edgeston, both of Wadesboro; and his nieces and nephews and their families.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife Betty Sue Lear Williams and his mother-in-law and father-in-law, J. B. Lear and Frances Phelps Lear.

Charlie was an avid hunter and fisherman. He was totally devoted to his granddaughters whom he adored and was always building something.

The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home and online condolences may be made at www.leavittfh.com.

After Near-Death Experience, Waxhaw Woman Enrolled at SPCC to Become CPR Instructor

Ten years ago, Karen Ledford nearly died of cardiac arrest. She collapsed in her home. Her husband called 911 and neighbors for help. Her neighbors performed CPR until paramedics arrived. Karen was unresponsive for 30 minutes before she regained a pulse. When she recovered, she was determined to use her near-death experience to help others. She's done exactly that, using training she gained at South Piedmont Community College.

"That day very well could have been the end. It was an electrical issue that caused my heart to stop beating. I had no idea I had any heart rhythm problems. I didn't have any symptoms beforehand. It was totally random," said Ledford. Or maybe it wasn't, given that Ledford has been able to use what happened to her to help others.

Ledford, a Waxhaw resident and dental hygienist, learned that her chances of surviving the incident were less than 10 percent. She now has an implanted defibrillator that regulates her heartbeat.

Her "re-birthday" – that's what she calls the day her heart stopped and then started again – changed her forever. "Everyone calls me Karen 2.0 because I got rebooted. I came back a little feisty," she said. "I realized how short life is, how it goes by so fast. I don't put up with the little piddly things anymore. Every day is a gift, and I'm going to make them count," Ledford said.

As a dental hygienist, Ledford is required to maintain CPR certification, but far too few people know how to perform the life-saving technique, she said. She enrolled at South Piedmont not long after her heart failed to complete the CPR instructor course, aiming to do her part to increase CPR certifications in our area. A decade later, she is the owner of From the Heart CPR, a business that provides CPR instruction. She estimates she's trained more than 2,500 individuals in CPR.

"It started as a pay-it-forward kind of thing. I help health care providers renew their CPR certification. I teach civic groups and laypeople," she said.

Through From the Heart CPR, Ledford has also been able to raise money to donate 21 – and counting – automatic external defibrillators (AEDs). She's given the AEDs to organizations including adult daycare centers, horse therapy farms, the Boys and Girls Club, and others.

What makes her company different, she said, is that it truly is work she's performing from the heart. "I tell my story. People tell me that's what makes the difference for them. They understand the why behind learning CPR," she said. "Everyone should know CPR. You never know when it might be you who needs CPR, or when you might be the one who is in a position to help someone else."

For more information about CPR training at South Piedmont, visit spcc.edu/cpr.



Thank You!

Mark and I have felt like we were so alone for such a while - we felt like no one cared at all - WOW! We were not going to have Visitation or a Funeral. Ken said yes, we are - Mark deserved that. WOW, was I proud. We FELT the LOVE, we felt you all cared - what a feeling!

As I said to Ken, there will not be seven (7) people or at the most nineteen (19) may show up. Mark would be and is so proud and happy - was he not pretty!?! Thank you for all you have done for us, the visits, the calls, the cards, a note on the obituary page, taking your precious time to come to Visitation or the Funeral, just anything that you have done, most of the PRAYERS, please continue to pray. Taking your time to do all of this means more than you will ever know. I will never be able to repay you. Thank you for being a friend. Thank you for your love. Thank you for the love that you have for Jesus. The Light that you Shining for Jesus. For being that witness and showing the Love of Jesus.

Thank you Ken Caulder for all you have done for us. You made Mark and us all so happy. You make all feel so special and so loved, but I want to say this was for Mark that you made this day going to Jesus so Special and for that we thank you so much. Ken just did it all. Everyone appreciates Ken Caulder so much. Thank you Ken.

Thank you to the EMT, Polkton Fire Department, Polkton Police, whenever I have called these people here, they come. Thank you Erin Ratliff, I know God had a hand in this, Mark loves Erin and she was right there with Mark holding his head or hand. I know God meant for her to be there, because she was not the one in Polkton when I went to get help! I would not let them stop working on Mark at first, I was so selfish I was not thinking, I am so sorry! Thank you Ms. Hutchinson!! Thank each of you for working so long and so hard that morning. You all tried so hard. We just thank everyone for just everything that you have done for us.

As I ran the second time downtown for Fredrick and Richard, Fredrick said I am coming. Thank you Nick. You have always been there. Thank you Marian, McKay and James! Marian is always there for me, I will never be able to you for all. Thank you Becky, Benny and Jean, you all came running! Thank you John and Rosemary how do I thank you all!?!?

We would love to just thank each one of you separately, you are so loved by Mark and me and mean so much to us. WOW! Just thank you all for being a friend and being there! One day we will see Mark again and for that I am so thankful and so ready to see him again, but most of all to see "OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR."

Mark was a wonderful Christian man and I know you all saw Jesus in Mark. For that I am so thankful. We love each of you so much, and again, thank you for everything. We cannot thank you enough!!

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. *1 Corinthians 13:13*

We all need friends. When the storm clouds gather, we cherish those people who we know we can turn to, who will always be there with a hug, a kind word, or a shoulder to cry on if we need it. *1 John 3:1, 11* What marvelous love the Father has extended to us! Just look at it - we are called children of God! That's who we really are.

Mark and Janet White

FEDERAL PROJECT PUBLIC NOTICE

The Anson County School System annually receives funds from the federal government through the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction sanctioned for assistance in meeting the needs of economically disadvantaged students, technology learning needs of students, children with special needs, and for children in local institutions for neglected or delinquent children. The school system is in the process of reapplying for funds and amending these programs for the 2024-2025 school year.

These programs include Title I (Compensatory Education/ESEA Basic Education Program), Title II (Improving Teacher Quality), Title II, Part D (Enhancing Education through Technology), Title V (Abstinence Education Program), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-Part B, Public Law 108.446) Project.

Interested persons are encouraged to review amendments and/or revisions to these projects and make comments concerning the implementation of these Federal Programs. All comments will be considered prior to submission of these amended projects to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. The projects are open to the public for review and comments during the week of May 6th through 10th, 2024, in the offices of Dr. Josh McLaurin - Executive Administrator of Human Resources/Operations, Jennifer Collard - Executive Administrator of Curriculum, Dr. Mary Ratliff - Administrator of Student Services, and Lynn Gardelle - Administrator of the Exceptional Children Program, located at 320 Camden Road, Wadesboro, NC 28170. Review of the project documents will require supervision by appropriate school personnel as delegated by the school system's superintendent and/or his designee.

Private schools please notify the school system of your existence. Private schools wishing to participate in the planning phase should notify the Anson County School System by calling the office of Jennifer Collard, Executive Administrator of Curriculum, at (704)694-4417, extension 1603.

There will be a planning meeting with interested stakeholders on May 14, 2024, at 11 a.m. This meeting is to address the federal program plans and discuss proportionate share and equitable services for the 2024-2025 school year. The meeting will be held in the Charles Riddle Staff Development Center at the School Board Office located off White Store Road. Please address questions to the offices of Dr. Josh McLaurin - Executive Administrator of Human Resources/Operations at (704)694-4417, extension 1100, Jennifer Collard - Executive Administrator of Curriculum at (704)694-4417, extension 1603, Dr. Mary Ratliff Administrator of Student Services, (704)694-4417, extension 1904, and Lynn Gardelle - Administrator of the Exceptional Children Program, (704)694-4417, extension 1700.

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