



Charleen M. Baker

April 1, 1960 - November 20, 2021

Charleen Baker of Cinnaminson passed away on November 20, 2021. She was 61 years old.

Charleen was born to the late Glenn and Charlotte Baker. After graduating from Cinnaminson High School, she went to college at Delaware Valley University, receiving a BS in Horticulture. She obtained advanced degrees in plant science—a MS from the University of Florida and a PhD from the University of Minnesota.

Charleen's plant research career took her to work in several places—Athens, GA, Bozeman, MT, Brookings, SD, Oakland, CA, Philadelphia, PA, Apopka, FL, and Gervais, OR. Ultimately, she returned to Cinnaminson and embarked on a new career as a professor of biology at several area colleges. It was a profession she truly loved.

She is survived by her sister, Adele Baker, and brother-in-law, Mark Maksimik. She has a cherished nephew and two nieces, Patrick, Elizabeth, and Jessica Maksimik. She was much loved by her uncle, Donald Anderson, and aunt, Helen Anderson, the wife of Kenneth Anderson, who predeceased her. She also left behind many friends who will miss her dearly.

Charleen always put the needs of others before her own, living by the motto, "I always try to be a good person." She was the constant companion, chauffeur, and friend to her mother in her later years. She enjoyed baking treats and sending cards to bring joy to her friends. Her flower garden was greatly admired by the neighbors. She continued doing these things throughout her five year battle with cancer; it is amazing the number of lives she touched by these simple acts of kindness.

Charleen was a life-long Episcopalian. Most recently she was a valued member of St. Stephens Episcopal Church Riverside, NJ serving on the vestry and Episcopal Church Women's fund drive. Her true passion was sending cards to parish members as part of the church's card ministry. In 2020 Charleen was named by her church as the Honored ECW Woman of the Year.

Relatives and friends are invited to gather on Monday, March 28, from 9 am to 10:30 am at Givnish of Cinnaminson, 1200 Route 130 North. A memorial service will begin at 11:15 am at St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 324 Bridgeboro Street, Riverside, followed by a

committal service at Lakeview Memorial Park, 1300 Route 130 North, Cinnaminson.

Luncheon to follow immediately back at St. Stephens Church; please RSVP to Adele by March 10th for the luncheon, by email: adeleb@comcast.net, or phone: 201-280-7777. **
Masks will be required **

Please make memorial gifts to St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 324 Bridgeboro St, Riverside, NJ 08075, the American Cancer Society or a charity of your choice.

Events

MAR **Gathering of Family and Friends** 09:00AM - 10:30AM

28

Givnish Funeral Home Cinnaminson

1200 Route 130 N, Cinnaminson, NJ, US, 08077

MAR **Memorial Service** 11:15AM

28

St. Stephens Episcopal Church

324 Bridgeboro Street, Riverside, NJ, US, 08075

MAR **Burial** 12:30PM

28

Lakeview Memorial Park

1300 Route 130 North, Cinnaminson, NJ, US, 08077

MAR **Luncheon** 01:30PM

28

St. Stephens Episcopal Church

324 Bridgeboro Street, Riverside, NJ, US, 08075

Comments



“ Our hearts are broken. The horticulture majors at Del Val were a small group, but we were strong in friendship and love for each other. We were our own family. Charleen was a spark full of life and energy. She was editor of the yearbook, a daunting task she took on with pleasure. Whether it was pruning trees or making cider, we laughed and laughed! So many wonderful memories!

Rusty Clark - December 17, 2021 at 08:50 AM



“ Dear Family and Friends of Charleen, I was heartbroken to hear of the passing of Charleen. I know our Lord is holding her in his comforting arms and helping her family and friends thru this difficult time. I can hear her saying that she hoped participating in a trial may help someone else. Always had a word of encouragement and exhibited such joy in our victories. I can see her clapping when I mentioned getting a part time job. Rest in peace dear lady. Gone, but never forgotten. Fondly,
Garnetta Dauder



Garnetta Dauder - December 02, 2021 at 08:59 AM



“ Our team would like to offer condolences to Charleen's family. She was energetic and ready for any challenge to ensure her students had the best experience in her classes. We thoroughly enjoyed working with her. Charleen was a kind, supportive teacher and friend; she will be deeply missed. -Dr. Brooke Hoffman, Online Division, Rowan College South Jersey

Brooke - December 01, 2021 at 08:57 AM



“ I have known Charleen since childhood. We lived in back of each other and our families were very close. I have many wonderful memories of Charleen and her family too numerous to mention. I know she was a dedicated daughter, sister and friend and she will be so missed. I was very saddened to learn of her passing. She maintained a very positive and upbeat attitude through her battle with cancer and while speaking to her, you would never know what she must have been going through. Charleen was a caring person to others even while battling her own illness. Charleen you will be missed. Rest In Peace dear Charleen.

Kathy Brindisi - November 27, 2021 at 08:24 AM



“ My heartfelt condolences to Charleen's family. Charleen and I started to work at DNA Plant Technology in Oakland CA in the same week, and remained in touch over the years. Charleen's kind spirit will live on in my memory as the inspiration to always look for the positive path in life.
Katalin Markus

Katalin Markus - November 26, 2021 at 04:00 PM



“ I have known Adele and Charleen since we were teenagers. Charleen and her Mom always came to all my concerts. Charleen always was there to talk to me on the breaks. We had good times. Charleen was a strong person who kept a positive attitude through the years she was battling cancer. She was always sending cards and pictures that her mom had saved of me and my family. Charleen loved to bake and would bring cookies to everyone. We will miss her visits! She was so dedicated to her students. She worked so hard to keep teaching no matter what she was going through. I am glad I was able to spend time with her and Adele these last few weeks when she was on hospice. Adele and Charleen were great sisters. They both cared so much about each other. Charleen always wanted to make sure her sister was ok. I am sure the Lord took her into his arms and said good job my child. Till we meet again Charleen.

Irene French - November 22, 2021 at 09:53 PM



“ Charleen was my friend at Stockton. She was always kind and encouraging, gave good advice, and had the best smile. She cared about every student. One of the little things she did was announce what national day it was for every lecture-today is National Cranberry Relish Day. Her biggest love was her family, and was so proud of her beautiful nieces, sweet mother, her sister who did so much, and aunts and uncles who were there for her. I am so sorry for your loss.

Colleen Brust - November 22, 2021 at 04:56 PM



“ This is Michelle Kneipper. Charleen and I were friends from the University of Minnesota. We kept in touch via email, and her annual Christmas letter, which I waited impatiently for every year. This year there will be a huge void. She was a light shining brightly in the darkness. I will miss her dearly! I already do!

Michelle Kneipper - November 22, 2021 at 04:07 PM