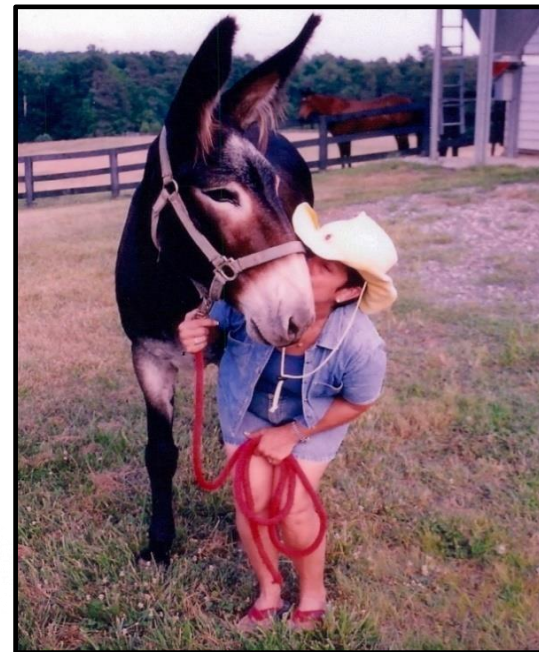
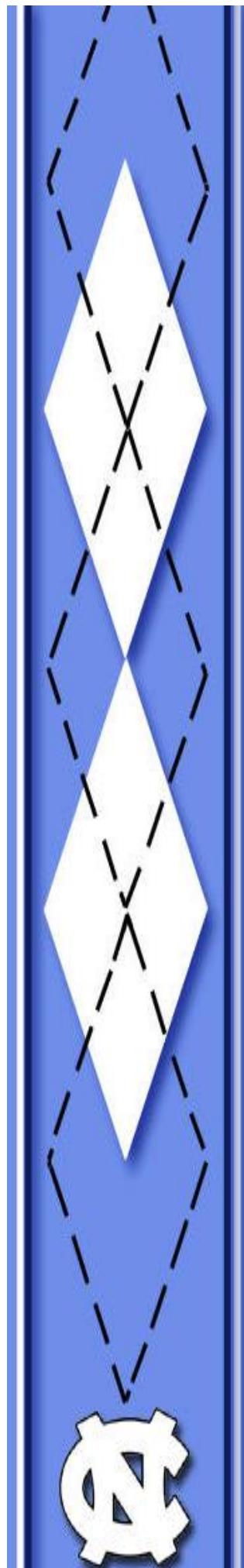


Acknowledgements

The family of Linda Wright Woods wishes to thank the following for their efforts in creating this magical day: Ambius Raleigh, Celebration Event Volunteers, The Rams Club, The Reverend Chris Leevy Johnson, the University of North Carolina Men's Basketball Program, and the University of North Carolina Athletic Department.



Services Entrusted
to
Leeby's Funeral Home, Columbia, South Carolina
Chris Leeby Johnson, Managing Director



**A Celebration of Life
for
Ms. Linda Wright Woods**

**Sunday, March 6, 2022
2:00 p.m.**

**The Dean E. Smith Center
Chapel Hill, North Carolina**



Ms. Linda Wright Woods

We celebrate the amazing life of **Linda Wright Woods** who passed away on her farm in Stem, North Carolina, February 3, 2022, at the age of 79. Her vibrance, beautiful smile, and spirit live on. She leaves behind hugs and kisses to her children, Amy (Jim Prewitt) Akins, Dr. Tom (Dr. Ami Wilbur) Lankford, her grandchildren, Kelsey and Davis Akins, step-grandchildren, Kelsey Leigh and Brian Prewitt, sisters, Kay (Joe) Morgan and Millie Frazier, and to the many special friends and family who knew her as “Linda,” “Nana,” or “Mama Woods.”

Linda was born in Greensboro, North Carolina on July 18, 1942, but spent most of her childhood and adolescence in Durham, North Carolina. A graduate of Southern High School, Linda was crowned “Miss Southern” and Homecoming Queen. Additionally, she served as Class Secretary, member of the National Honor Society and even a member of the cheerleading squad (she never stopped being a cheerleader). She was the first in her family to attend college and after high school, she began her studies at Wingate College. She worked relentlessly to afford college, often entering local pageants and competitions for the scholarship prize money. Once enrolled, she worked in Wingate’s Admissions Office, as well as provided campus tours to prospective students and their families on weekends. Her diligence inside and outside of the classroom showed as she proudly graduated from Wingate College in 1962 with accolades to include the college’s Honor Society and Wingate’s May Day Queen.

Those who knew Linda are no stranger to her glowing smile, comforting hugs, unparalleled generosity, and dedication to the job that began in 1977, which turned into a lifelong love, passion, and extended family. For decades she was the Executive Assistant to Coach Dean Smith and his first Director of Basketball Operations. Furthermore, she served many roles alongside many exceptional coaches and colleagues in the North Carolina Men’s Basketball Office. The identity of Linda Woods extends far beyond her beloved Carolina Basketball program. She loved singing along to Elvis Presley and shag dancing to Motown Hits. Linda loved reading in her rocker on the Neverrest Cottage porch at Atlantic Beach and hunting seashells on the shore. She loved her farm and all its furry, hooved, and feathered creatures. She loved road trips through National Parks and any traveling adventure that came her way. She loved showing off her “green thumb” with bountiful garden harvests on her farm. Most of all, Linda loved sharing smiles and laughter with her wonderful community of friends and family.

Should you wish to show your love and support for Linda, please consider donating to Linda’s most prized places in her honor: Happy Place Farm or The North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores.

Happy Place Farm, LLC, is in fact, Linda’s self-proclaimed “happy place” and farm homestead. Exciting plans await as the family strives to help her legacy live on by completing her farm improvement wish list: continuing animal care, managing operations, and keeping it a beautiful place of inspiration and education for family, friends, and the community.

Stay kind, be well, and Go Heels!

Happy Place Farm, LLC

Mail checks to:

762 Roberts Chapel Road

Stem, NC 27581

Or donate via PayPal (send as friends and family option):

happyplacefarm2022@gmail.com

North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores

1 Roosevelt Blvd.

Pine Knoll Shores, NC 28512

<https://ncaquariumsociety.com/donate/>

You may specify: To Pine Knoll Shores in honor of Linda Woods

The Order of Service

Linda’s Favorite Songs

Family Processional

InvocationThe Reverend Chris Leevy Johnson

Song..... “Remember Me Beautiful”
Recording by Brandy Clark

Scripture Reading.....First Corinthians 13:1-13 (NIV)

Remarks.....Family Representative(s)
Mr. Eric Montross
Coach Hubert Davis

Linda’s Life in Photos..... “Somewhere Over the Rainbow/What a Wonderful World”
Recording by Israel Kamakwiwo’ole

Expressions of Love.....The Reverend Chris Leevy Johnson
*Pastor of Brookland Baptist Church, Northeast
Former Men’s Basketball Manager 1992-1996*

Closing Prayer

Benediction

“Hark The Sound” and “Fight Song”