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Lynda Wilson Whitener

Oct. 19, 1943 - Nov. 8, 2026

Lynda Wilson Whitener, 83, of Albemarle, formerly of Morganton, passed away on Sunday, November 8, 2026, at Atrium Health Cabarrus.

A funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 12, 2026, at the Stanly Funeral Home Chapel in Albemarle, with Pastor Ron Loflin officiating. The family will receive friends prior to the service from 11:00 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. A graveside service and burial will follow on Friday, November 13, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at Burke Memorial Park in Morganton.

Born on January 19, 1943, in Burke County, Lynda was the daughter of the late Russell and Willa Mae Wilson.

Lynda is lovingly survived by her devoted husband of 62 years, James “Jim” Whitener. Those also left to cherish her memory include her cousins, Janice Berry, Charlene Walker, and Susie Newton; nieces, Cindy Williams (Joseph) and Kim Gwyn (Ken); nephew, Mitchel Whitener (Susan); sister-in-law, Ann Frost (Roger); and very special friends, Sam and Becky Callahan.

Lynda was a remarkable woman whose strong will, fierce independence, and generous heart left a lasting impression on everyone fortunate enough to know her. Never one to shy away from speaking her mind or standing her ground, she possessed a determination that was both admirable and unmistakably her own.

Beneath that spirited personality was a deeply caring and giving heart, always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need.

A dedicated member of Civitan, Lynda was a trailblazer who proudly served as the first female Governor of North Carolina District West Civitan. She also chartered the first female Civitan Club in the district, opening doors and paving the way for other women to serve and lead. Her determination and strong work ethic extended beyond her community involvement, as she earned her bachelor's degree while working full-time, a remarkable accomplishment that reflected her dedication to personal growth and education. Whether through her leadership, her commitment to serving others, or her pursuit of education, Lynda continually demonstrated the strength, compassion, and perseverance that defined her life and inspired those around her.

Lynda had an extraordinary love for animals and a heart big enough to welcome any creature in need. Whether feline or canine, every animal that found its way into her care became a cherished member of her family. Her kindness toward animals was just one of the many ways she expressed her generous and loving spirit.

Above all, Lynda was a devoted wife and a steadfast companion to Jim throughout their 62 years of marriage. Together, they shared a lifetime of love, companionship, and treasured memories. Her presence was one that could never be overlooked, and her unmistakable personality, determination, and caring heart will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

The family would like to express their sincere gratitude to their many friends and the DOR staff for the exceptional care, kindness, support, and prayers extended to Lynda and Jim throughout her recent illness.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Stanly County Humane Society, 2049 Badin Road, Albemarle, NC 28001.

Lynda lived life on her own terms, loved with a generous heart, and never hesitated to stand up for what she believed in. Though her strong and spirited presence will be greatly missed, the lives she touched, the barriers she broke, and the countless acts of kindness she shared will remain a lasting testament to a life well lived and a woman who was truly one of a kind.

Tribute Wall

No tributes added yet.