



*Martha Jean Winn  
Williams*

**Jan. 16, 1947 - June 24, 2025**

So ends a life of compassion and joy, and so begins life eternal. Just before midnight Martha Jean Winn Williams left this world to join her Lord and Savior. She was surrounded by her children and grandchildren as she took her last breath. She fought several battles with cancer and now she is completely healed. She joins her husband, Jimmy, and parents, Austin and Oletta Winn, along with a host of ancestors. We, her family left behind, celebrate her life and mourn our loss of her.

Martha began her career in social work in 1984 in Ripley, TN, working at the Department of Social Services. That same year she received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice while attending Memphis State University. She continued her education graduating from the University of Tennessee in 1990, earning a Master of Science in Social Work and becoming a Licensed Clinical Social worker in 1994. She worked an extensive amount of time for Professional Counseling Services, Inc., retiring in 2004. She extended her knowledge to others by teaching students at the University of Tennessee, Martin, Ripley Branch. She also provided therapy services to veterans at the VA Outpatient Clinic. Throughout her career, Martha achieved many awards and always maintained her knowledge with an extensive list of post-graduate professional training. She loved to travel, care for her dogs, and quilt.

Those left to cherish Marthas memory are her sons, David Bowles (Julia) and Burt Williams (Sharon); grandsons, Joshua Williams (Sarah) and Joseph Williams (Jazmyn); brothers, Austin Winn (Cloe) and William Winn (Robyn); sister, Mary Love Piercy (James); and a multitude of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends, as well as her beloved dogs, Chrissie and Bear.

A memorial service will be held at North Morganton United Methodist Church on Saturday July 19, 2025 at 1:00pm. The family will receive friends and family prior to the service from 11:30am-1:00pm.

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The family will also receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m., Saturday, July 26, 2025 at Faith Church in Cherry, TN with a memorial service starting at 11 a.m. in the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to North Morganton United Methodist Church, 990 Sanford Dr., Morganton, NC 28655, Higgins Methodist Church, 101 N Main St., Burnsville, NC 28714, or Christ Church in Gastonia, 3415 Union Rd., Gastonia, NC 28056.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

#### Visitation

July 19, 2025  
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

North Morganton UMC

#### Service

July 19, 2025  
1 p.m.

North Morganton UMC

#### Committal

N/A

# Tribute Wall

my heartfelt sympathy to each of you for Martha's passing

—janie cribbs voyles

Martha my dear first cousin you were full of kindness and compassion for all people and highly intelligent. Thank you for the times you helped me when I was unable to be in the pulpit at my churches. Living in Cherry again just doesn't feel right to me without you there. I'm deeply sorry for any pain or confusion I brought to the family. Precious memories how they linger, how they ever flood my soul with sweet memories of you. Thank you for all you did to make this a more loving world.

—Jim Peyton

I received the shocks from Pastor Will Winn today July 18, informing me that my beloved Martha is gone to be with the Lord Jesus Christ in Heaven. I don't have any doubts in my heart that she is indeed in heaven because of her beautiful heart, cheerful spirit in her pains and her unconditional love for people like me. We prayed together at the end of my last caregiving service to her and hoping that she would come out stronger and live longer for her family but God has the final plan for us. My beloved Martha rest in perfect peace! My deepest condolences to those that she left behind and those that she met in her journey of life! Let us all be consoled in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen. Chi UGO

—Chiugo Felicia



Martha was a joy to know. She was so loved by all who new her. We had many laughs together in the choir at NMUMC. I am so happy she is with the Lord and cancer free. Her light will always shine in my heart. May you all find peace, comfort, and love during this difficult time in your lives  
Grace

—Grace Hartley

Our prayers are with all who knew and loved her. She was truly a person who cared and shared her compassion and desire to help pthers!

—Glenda s Truax



Deepest heartfelt sympathy to Martha's precious family and friends that she loved so dearly. I will miss her beautiful smile and the laughter we shared together. Until we meet again my dear friend.

—Linda Biggs