



Patricia Hartsell
Clark

May 8, 1941 - Oct. 20, 2023

Patricia Hartsell Clark, 82, of Morganton, NC passed away peacefully on Friday, October 20, 2023.

Born in Cabarrus County, NC on May 8, 1941, she is the daughter of the late Hal Craig Hartsell and Dora Marie Faggart Hartsell.

Patricia lived a life of Giving, Sharing, and Love as friend, wife, mother, Nana, educator / teacher, and emulator of the Biblical Golden Rule. On many levels Patricia gave her heart-felt attention to whatever task lay ahead — encouraging serious thought to consequences — be it as simple as Meals On Wheels. At other times, if needed, she applied her skilled hands as an award-winning master seamstress to speak during events as a Lakota Indian or the “Numeracy Woman.” In other words, Patricia gave her all, her Person, to those opportunities before her.

Now, for those of you unfamiliar with Burke County 4-H, Patricia gave her Head to clear thinking; her Heart to greater loyalty; her Hands to service; and her Health / Person to better the world we live in — along with newly gathered WPCC ladies in 1970 to announce the first Earth Day events for Burke County. These chosen paths help to explain how Patricia became Burke County’s 4-H Volunteer of the Year in 1989 and a few years later was inducted into North Carolina’s 4-H Achievement Hall of Fame.

In following decades, she joined local teachers in Alpha Nu to eventually become an officer of Eta State, a branch of Delta Kappa Gamma International. For many years she supported Black Mt. Home for Children & Families to eventually join its Board of Directors. While always an active member with our First Presbyterian Women, Patricia eventually became moderator for the Presbytery of Western N.C. Presbyterian Women, and later, the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic Presbyterian Women. It is at this juncture Patricia's life follows a new path as health issues began to drain her Person, her hands, her heart — but not her Love — which her family felt as she slipped into a blissful, peaceful sleep.

Those left to cherish her memory include her husband, Larry Richard Clark; children, Steven Clark (Terrie), Alan Clark, and Susan Clark Smith;; grandchildren, Samuel Clark (Kate), Houston Clark (Talara), Ava Clark, Emme Clark, Alexander Smith, Caldwell Smith, Elaine Smith, and Charlotte Smith; great-grandchildren, Lakelyn Clark, Lacy Clark, and Claire Clark; brother, Craig Hartsell (June); daughter-in-law, Cathy Clark; other family, David Smith, and a number of nieces, nephews, and extended family. In addition to her parents, Patricia was preceded in death by a brother, David Hartsell.

A celebration of Patricia's life will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, October 28, 2023 at First Presbyterian Church with Rev. Dr. John Hagmann officiating. The family will greet friends following the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Arbor Day Foundation, shop.arborday.org/commemorative; Black Mt. Home for Children, www.blackmountainhome.org/donate/memorials/; The Patricia Elaine Clark Endowment at North Carolina Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation, Foundation Treasurer, 1112 Anchor Court, Raleigh, NC 27615; or First Presbyterian Women, www.fpcmorganton.org/give.html

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

Tribute Wall

What a wonderful person . She was such a worker in all of her endeavors. I'm sure God is enjoying her company in heaven . I am a former member of First Presbyterian Church . Michelle Harris

—Michelle K Harris

Patricia was my first cousin but she was more like my older sister; I always looked up to her. We shared so many fun childhood experiences together. Patricia was a very special niece to my mother. We had so much fun when Patricia would drive my mom to my house to come see me, near or far away. I will miss her but I know she is loving her spiritual home and family. I love you, Patricia. Janice

—janice good



Patricia was a beautiful soul, and oh, so talented!!! I was always in awe of her “master” sewing skills! She will be missed by all her DKG sisters. May God grant you peace and comfort in knowing all the love she shared with you and so many others. Sweetest lady ever! Norma Rains

—Norma Rains

Thinking of you today, dear Larry and family. Patricia was God's gift to all of us as she graced life's journey with us here on Earth. Though we miss her sweet smile and gracious presence, there is comfort in knowing that she is today very

much alive and completely well in God's presence, surely welcomed there by those words all of us hope to hear: "Well done, my good and faithful servant" Patricia was an amazing woman, loved by all who knew her through her talented leadership in Delta Kappa Gamma International, both in the local chapter (Alpha Nu) and in the state organization. What JOY it will be to be reunited with her one day. In the meantime, Patricia, in her characteristic spirit of encouragement, will be cheering each one of us on in our respective journeys . . . and loving us still . . . from afar. With Love and Prayers, Maxine McCall

—Maxine Cooper McCall



Sending love and prayers and blessings to all her loves. You have my deepest sympathy. Patricia was a dear friend and a wonderful neighbor. I am so blessed to have known her and shared adventures with her. She loved her family so very much and was so proud of all of them. She loved telling me all the wonderful things that they were up to. She really was just the best.

—Debbie Mitchell



—Kelly Furr Cohen

What a talented and remarkable lady she was! Her volunteer time and 4-H leadership helped develop so many 4-Hers. Sending sympathy to the family. Pam Outen , Former Cabarrus 4-H Agent and current FCS Extension Agent.

—Pamela C. Outen

Sending the entire family my deepest sympathy at the loss of your wife, mom, and grandmother. I know that she was a lovely lady and that she spent her career doing one of the things I admire the most....teaching. Prayers and love being sent

to all of you moving forward....and may the memories you have of her bring you future smiles. Robbie Sockwell

—Robbie Sockwell



I certainly remember her passion for 4-H and the fantastic impact she had on us all. She was indeed one of the best among us and I am a better Person for having known her.

—Wayne Pitts



Dear Susan and family, You are in our thoughts and prayers. May God wrap His arms around you and let you feel His love!!!

—Carolyn and Bobby Pruitt



I feel that I was so fortunate to have met Patricia here at Pleasant Garden's Methodist Church. It was such a treat to speak with her as she showed her deep love for her Pleasant Garden grandchildren and her wonderful daughter Susan. God will keep this special lady safe in his loving arms always. With all of our sympathy, Diane and Stanley Cichowicz

—Diane&Stanley Cichowicz



—Johnna Clontz Poarch



Susan, I am so sorry! I was thinking about you just the other day and wondering how your mother was doing. Prayers for you and your family as you grieve.! Lillie

—Lillie Granger

To Susan and the family; My heart goes out to you and the family with added prayers being lifted up to confront all. Although I did not know your mom but just knowing you, I know she had to be a wonderful person. May God hold you close dear friend. Terrie

—Terrie Brown



Thank you for being such a great teacher R.i.p. Beautiful

—Stacey

Larry - I'm so sorry for your loss and celebrating heaven's gain. Patricia was an amazing and inspiring woman. I'm honored to have known her and to have had her support at the children's home. I'll be in WV visiting my mom on Saturday but will be thinking about you. May you find comfort in celebrating her incredible life. Love, Sarah

—Sarah Thomas

I was just thinking about her the other day for some reason she was so nice and such a good teacher so sorry for your loss. You will be in my prayers .

—Terri Stacy Russ

My condolences to the family of my PW Sister, Patricia. May you be comforted by the Lord. 1 Thessalonians 4

—Corita Floyd

Our thoughts and prayers are with Patricia's family.

—Ron and Annelle Mulwee



Mr. Clark and family, I had the pleasure to meet Mrs. Clark some years ago and found her to be such a warm caring person. You and all of your family have my condolences in her loss.

—Jacqueline C. Kanipe

Patricia was huge part of my childhood through 4-H, she was one of the leaders of the Table Rock 4-H club. She held so much wisdom, compassion, strength, and patience for each and every single 4-Her she encountered. You all will be held close at heart in prayers. Patricia was a wonderful soul. Betsy Steele

—Betsy Steele