



Martha Ann Cauble Willis

December 17, 1935 - October 25, 2021

Martha Ann Cauble Willis, age 85, of Centerville passed away October 25, 2021. Martha was born in Louisville KY on 12/17/1935 to Thomas and Natalie Cauble. She attended Wittenberg University and Kettering College of Medical Arts. Martha worked as an RN at Kettering Medical Center, Sycamore Medical Center and Hospice of Dayton. Martha and her husband Charlie traveled extensively including all 50 states and over 20 foreign countries as well as 30 Elderhostels. Martha was a member of PEO (Philanthropic Education Organization), the Centerville Women's Civic Club, The Stephen Ministry and the United Methodist Women. Along with her parents Martha is preceded in death by her sister Nancy Tullus and nephew Mark Petry. She is survived by her loving husband of 66 years Charles Willis, daughter Karen Lewis (Paul), son Steven Willis (Wendy) and niece Marcia Benninger (Tom). Martha is also survived by her grandsons, John Lefforge (Marcie), Jesse Lefforge (Mollie), Kyle Willis (Madison), Joseph Lefforge (Mackenzie), Caleb Willis (Kaitlin) and Nathan Willis (Haley) as well as great grandchildren Landon, Jameson, Grace, Olivia, and Skylar. Committal Service will be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, November 6, 2021 at David's Cemetery, 4600 Mad River Road, Kettering. A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, November 6th at Normandy United Methodist Church, 450 West Alex-Bell Road, Centerville. Please visit reislegacycenter.com to express words of encouragement and share your memories of Martha.

Martha wrote the following words, reflecting on her life. It is a pleasure to share.

Martha's Life - My personal history and what my life has been about:

I grew up as the youngest of two girls in Louisville KY. My mother was a homemaker, and my father was a dentist. I was a happy little girl and had a happy childhood. At Georgetown High School in Georgetown IN, I participated in all of the activities and was a cheerleader for the basketball team. I was the piano accompanist for the Glee Club.

College: I went to Wittenberg University in Springfield, OH for two years majoring in home economics.

Marriage to Charlie: The absolute love of my life. The most important person to me in many ways. He is the most wonderful person I have ever known. We married July 23, 1955.

Children: Karen and Steve are sweet, loving and giving. They are non-judgmental, accepting and supportive.

The BOYS: These six grandsons are so very important in my life. They are sweet and cheerful and funny. I love them so dearly. My life is full with them as our grandsons. Johnny, Jesse and Joey are sons of Karen. Kyle, Caleb and Nathan are sons of Steve.

Travel: Charlie and I have been to all 50 states and 20 plus foreign countries and more than 30 Elder hostels.

Church: We were married at First Lutheran Church in Louisville. We attended Lutheran churches where ever we lived until we moved to Dayton in 1967. We

selected Normandy Methodist Church because of the ministers (Milford Ater and Harvey Smith) and the friendliness of the church. We love Normandy.

Church Activities: Stephen Ministry, United Methodist Women, Bible Study classes, Couples Club - Delta and Round Table Sunday School Class.

I graduated from Kettering College of Medical Arts in 1972 and passed the state RN boards. My first job was two years on a medical floor (3 South) at Kettering Hospital in Kettering OH. I then worked in the Cardiac Care Unit at Kettering for an additional two years. Following that I helped set up the ICU at Sycamore Hospital.

In 1981 I became a Hospice Nurse at Hospice of Dayton. I would see patients in their homes with their families. At that time there was no inpatient hospice facility.

I returned to Sycamore ICU in 1982 when I joined the staff of the newly opening Adolescent Substance Abuse Unit. After 3 years I once again returned to the ICU at Sycamore.

In 1992 Charlie and I moved to Kalamazoo MI for 3 years where Charlie worked at The Fetzer Foundation. My life in Kalamazoo was wonderful and I was very active at the First United Methodist Church there. I became a Stephen Minister, volunteered at Hospice and was a member of the Newcomers Club.

Returning to Dayton in 1995 allowed us to spend time with our family and see our grandsons more. We returned to our beloved Normandy Church and old friends.

We now have five great grandchildren: Landon, Jameson, Grace, Olivia, and Skylar.

Previous Events

Committal Service

NOV 6. 10:00 AM (ET)

David's Cemetery
4600 Mad River Road
Kettering, OH 45429

Memorial Service

NOV 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Normandy United Methodist Church
450 West Alex=Bell Road
Centerville, OH

Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Martha Ann Cauble Willis*.



November 05, 2021 at 10:04 AM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of *Martha Ann Cauble Willis*.



November 04, 2021 at 03:59 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet* was purchased for the family of *Martha Ann Cauble Willis*.



November 03, 2021 at 07:56 PM



“ *Renee, Neil, Kathryn & Sarah Sanders* purchased the *Arrive in Style* for the family of *Martha Ann Cauble Willis*.



Renee, Neil, Kathryn & Sarah Sanders - November 03, 2021 at 02:26 PM

LF

“ *Lance, Daniel, & Peter Ratliff Families purchased the Fiery Lily and Rose for the family of Martha Ann Cauble Willis.*



Lance, Daniel, & Peter Ratliff Families - November 01, 2021 at 03:53 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Martha Ann Cauble Willis.*



November 01, 2021 at 11:31 AM

BW

“ *Barbara W. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Martha Ann Cauble Willis.*



Barbara W. - November 01, 2021 at 10:31 AM

PT

“ *Martha is a shining star! She brought so much pleasure and happiness to all of Chapter CH PEO Sisters. She will be missed!*

Paulette Tyler - October 31, 2021 at 09:21 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Martha Ann Cauble Willis.* ”



October 30, 2021 at 09:43 PM



“ *Grandma would often tell me how much she loved and adored those “sweet precious babies.” She loved her great grandchildren with all of her heart. Jameson and Grace will always have their Great Gma looking over them.* ”



Caleb Willis - October 27, 2021 at 08:46 PM



Beautiful Caleb. She loved Jameson and Grace so much.

Karen Lewis - October 28, 2021 at 11:15 AM



It was a joy to meet Martha in the Greater Dayton Stephen Ministry Network and later to welcome her as a P.E.O. sister. She had a truly funny sense of humor and, at a P.E.O. talent show, had us all in stitches! She was so caring and always put others first. I am dearly missing her. . .

Marj Lawson - October 28, 2021 at 08:37 PM

TZ

So sorry for your loss. She was a beautiful and kind person. Tony and Tami Zompetti

Tami Zompetti - November 02, 2021 at 08:34 PM

KL

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Karen Lewis - October 27, 2021 at 07:02 PM

KL

It's a long video - 12 minutes - but so worth it!

Karen Lewis - October 27, 2021 at 07:16 PM

KL

Sound on!

Karen Lewis - October 27, 2021 at 07:17 PM

KY

Beautiful tribute ❤️

Kyle - October 27, 2021 at 07:50 PM

BE

It was awesome, enjoyed it very much.

Betsy Eardly - October 27, 2021 at 08:52 PM

MC

They lived an amazing life and you did a fantastic job portraying it

Melanie Turner Carter - October 27, 2021 at 09:11 PM

PK

Loved all of the pictures. Martha was a beautiful woman.

Paula Kipp - October 27, 2021 at 09:51 PM

TZ

Your mother would be very proud Karen. Wow, they had a beautiful life together. I loved this very much. Your mother was beautiful inside and out! Just like you! ❤️

Tami Zompetti - October 28, 2021 at 06:16 AM

MW

A beautiful life well lived. The tears are flowing. Great job Karen.

Marty Willis - October 28, 2021 at 06:26 AM

DR

It is a sad day here at Trinity Miami Township as we lost Martha who was a sweet caring QUEEN in our community. She took such good care of her hubby to the point she dropped out our Waterford Player Group to be a caretaker. She was loved by all and is missed so much. God needed a sweet caring angel and Martha fit the requirements. Family you were lucky to have her in your life. What great memories you have to fall back on to remember all the things she did to make your life so wonderful. May God bless each of you always. We pray you take as good care of our KING Chuck as Martha did as he also is loved by many here.

Doris Rotterman - October 28, 2021 at 08:33 AM

PW

What a great video and special tribute. Love to know how you did it all. Such great memories

Pat Wilson - October 28, 2021 at 12:56 PM

SW

In her hospital room on 25 Oct, my mom said, "You all are wonderful. Love to all". After a while she said, "Please leave now so I can pass on". She knew. She was fearless. We love and miss her to pieces. Steve

Steve Willis - October 28, 2021 at 04:04 PM

JR

I've got to add that Martha (and Chuck—always a package deal) just oozed light and love. Was remarkable how easily and selflessly they shared that with all of us. A lot of heavy hearts here on earth but heaven is undoubtedly a much brighter place!

Jo Rewers - a Kalamazoo connection

Jo Rewers - October 28, 2021 at 07:53 PM

BW

Very good, we really enjoyed it

Barbara Willis - October 30, 2021 at 06:27 PM

CC

*Awesome video! Enjoyed it so much.
Carolyn Thomas Carter, was cheerleader with Martha at Georgetown High School.*

Carolyn Carter - October 31, 2021 at 05:20 PM

BP

Martha was great. Every time I showed up at her house, she was just always happy and very funny. I will miss her.

Bill Pohl

Bill Pohl - November 04, 2021 at 04:10 PM

MB

As others have noted, Martha was one of the most caring people on Earth. She also had a great sense of humor. Talked about her family often. She will be greatly missed. I'm lucky to have known her. - Molly Blumer

Molly Blumer - December 13, 2021 at 12:22 PM