



## Anne Stevens Carlton Clay

June 21, 1930 - June 11, 2019

Anne Stevens Carlton Clay died on June 11, 2019, ten days before her 89th birthday. Gifted with a disarming and quick sense of humor, Mrs. Clay was born to Ruth H. And William E. Stevens on June 21, 1930 in Lenoir, North Carolina. Her childhood nickname was “Sunny” and she carried her vivacity with her through her last illness.

Anne graduated from Lenoir High School in 1948 and Converse College in 1952. After graduation, she lived and worked in New York City with her sister, Betty Linney, and served as a tour guide for Rockefeller Center.

She considered herself very fortunate to have married two wonderful husbands, Graham Carlton, Sr., from 1954 until his death in 1986, and David S. Clay, from 1999 until 2019.

During her first marriage, she and Graham raised their family and she held numerous leadership positions at the First Baptist Church and in local Republican politics. She and Graham met on opposite sides of the political fence and had a successful marriage despite their political differences.

In 1975, Anne started working as an office manager for her husband's law office and continued in this capacity for her son, working more than 25 years. After her retirement, she and Dave enjoyed many travels inside and outside

the United States. We will remember her for her sense of fun, her genuineness, her sassiness, her independent spirit and her optimism, which she shared with her beloved Dave. Together, she and Dave had a gift for cultivating new friendships while nurturing old friendships which they treasured.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her brothers, William E. Stevens, Jr. and Rev. Charles F. Stevens, as well as her sister, Elizabeth S. Linney.

She is survived by her husband, David S. Clay, who was a loving and outstanding caregiver for her. Anne is also survived by her children: Carole Brooke (Tom), of China Grove, NC, Graham Carlton, Jr. (Susan) of Salisbury, NC and Anne Finley Carlton, of Charlotte, NC. Her grandchildren are Richard Brooke (Brittany) and Maxwell Brooke (Meghan) of Charlotte, NC, Sarah Lynn Carlton of Wilmington, NC, and Graham M. Carlton, III "Trey" of Salisbury, NC.

Anne is also survived by her step children: Colin Walker (Ray) and Julia Newsom (Eddie) of Atlanta, Georgia, Dr. Louise Clay of Charleston SC and Ginny Young (Rob) of Greensboro, NC, as well as eight step grandchildren and four step great grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Clay's memorial service will be held on Friday, June 14, 2019 at 2:00 pm at the First Presbyterian of Salisbury, North Carolina with Rev. Randy Kirby officiating.

Memorial gifts may be made to the charity or church of the donor's choice.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Carlton and Clay family. Online condolences may be made at [www.summersettfuneralhome.com](http://www.summersettfuneralhome.com).



# Previous Events

## Service

JUN 14. 2:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church  
308 W. Fisher St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144

## Reception

JUN 14. 3:00 PM (ET)

Country Club of Salisbury  
747 Club Dr.  
Salisbury, NC 28144

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Anne Stevens Carlton Clay.*



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June 13, 2019 at 08:09 PM



“ *Much Love, Kathy O'Kane and Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Anne Stevens Carlton Clay.*



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**Much Love, Kathy O'Kane and Family** - June 13, 2019 at 03:46 PM



“ *From the crossword puzzles she loved playing, she defined and lived these words by example, making every encounter with her a heart-warming event.*

*Dignified*

*Gracious*

*Kindhearted*

*Humorous*

*Clever*

*The list could go on and on, as my memory of her certainly will.*

*Some people just help to mold a person into who they become.*

*Thank you Nan-nan for loving me.*

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**Rick Leichman** - June 13, 2019 at 09:44 AM

AJ

“ Anne was my aunt and I loved her dearly. She was such a sparkler. So many good stories and memories of her. She made me laugh and when I was little, I wanted to grow up to be someone just like her. My prayers are with my dear cousins and Uncle Dave Clay as they deal with this loss. Love you all...Amy

Amy Jones - June 13, 2019 at 12:15 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Anne Stevens Carlton Clay.



June 12, 2019 at 08:34 PM



“ It may well be over 45 years since I last saw her, and she will always be "Mrs. Carlton" to me, but I vividly remember scurrying around the Carlton house and nearby Sacred Heart church and school, sometimes w/Graham and/or Carole. Mrs. Carlton was always sweet and loving and welcoming, despite whatever shenanigans I may have been engaged in.

*Carole, Graham and family ... no doubt your sadness is great ... be comforted that she brought happiness to all ... and leaves an incredible family as a legacy.*

*Much love, thoughts and prayers,  
Pete Tennent (and the entire Tennent family)*

Pete Tennent - June 12, 2019 at 06:25 PM

AB

“ *Carole, I have you and your family in my prayers ! Very very sorry for your loss of such an important member of your family!*



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**Ann L Bracey** - June 12, 2019 at 05:24 PM

AS

“ *o Graham , Carol, and rest of family. So sorry that Anne passed but she leaves fond memories with us. She sure was a fine lady; Albert and Shirley Shepherd.*

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**Albert Shepherd** - June 12, 2019 at 03:56 PM

KP

“ *So sorry for the loss of your mother. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

*Jay and Kimberly DeHart Pryor*

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**kimberly D Pryor** - June 12, 2019 at 03:08 PM

LY

“ *Condolences to the Carlton Clay family. May the peace of the Lord be with you.*

*Mike and Libby Young  
Hilton Head Island, SC*

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**Libby Young** - June 12, 2019 at 02:54 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Anne Stevens Carlton Clay.*



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June 12, 2019 at 02:50 PM



“ *Carole and Tom, Graham, Anne Finley, and Dave: While we are so very sorry that Anne is no longer amongst us, we will remember with great joy and fondness all the years she brought her bright spirit and kindness into our lives. We are much the more blessed and fortunate for having know her, and each of you is even more blessed for the love she showered upon you. She will be greatly missed.*

*Gary and Scott Rhodes*

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**Gary and Scott Rhodes** - June 12, 2019 at 02:12 PM