



Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker

February 1, 1932 - November 28, 2023

Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker, 91, of Spencer, passed away November 28, 2023 at Atrium Health Cabarrus in Concord.

Born February 1, 1932 in Rowan County, she was the daughter of the late Minnie Allran and Charles Thornton. She was a graduate of Spencer High School and received a Bachelor's Degree from Lenoir- Rhyne College. She married her high school sweetheart, Walt Baker, on April 2, 1953, she taught at North Rowan High School for 31 years.

Mrs. Baker was a member of First Baptist Church of Spencer. She was an avid sports fan and enjoyed attending her sons and grandchildren's sporting events and watching tennis. She was the 1952 Lenoir-Rhyne homecoming queen and the Lenoir-Rhyne May Day Queen.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her husband, James Walter Baker, Sr. on October 15, 2001; sister Colleene Thornton Short and her mother-in-law Sadie Brown in 2010.

Left to cherish her memory are her sons, James Walter Baker, Jr. (Tina Marie) of Concord and Charles "Chip" Edward Baker of Tallahassee, FL; grandchildren, Katie, Jamie, Madison, Hannah and Jake; and sister, Mickey Allran Price of Salisbury; niece Jean Short Bolton of Hickory.

The family will receive friends 1 – 2:30 p.m. Friday (December 1) at Summersett Funeral Home. The funeral service will follow at 2:30 p.m. in Summersett Memorial Chapel. A graveside service will be conducted 11 a.m. Saturday (December 2) in the Chapel in the Pines at Rowan Memorial Park.

Memorials may be made to the North Carolina Baptist Foundation, James W. Baker Endowment Fund, 261 Convention Drive, Cary, NC 27511.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Baker family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Rowan Memorial Park Mausoleum

4125 Fanklin Community Center Road
Salisbury, NC 28144

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 1. 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Summersett Funeral Home
1315 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 633-2111
<https://www.summersettfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

DEC 1. 2:30 PM (ET)

Summersett Memorial Chapel
1315 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144

Graveside Service

DEC 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

Rowan Memorial Park Mausoleum
4125 Fanklin Community Center Road
Salisbury, NC 28144

Tribute Wall

CG

“ I only met Mom Baker twice but she left an impression in gold on my heart. She raised two fabulous sons (Chip and Jim) with the same ability to leave permanent and lovely impressions on anyone who meets them. Chip and Jim raised their children the same way. She lives on in all of them.

Christine and Mike Gallagher - December 01, 2023 at 05:27 PM

PS

“ Mrs . Baker, simply put, was a jewel. She was dearly loved and respected by North Rowan students bc she stood for what was right and she was kind..She was 2nd to none as an educator. She was always in the stands,cheering on her Cavaliers, her husband's teams,or her sons. I truly loved and admired her and will always hold her in.my heart.

Patti Seceast - December 01, 2023 at 08:00 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker.



December 01, 2023 at 07:28 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker.*



November 30, 2023 at 08:14 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker.*



November 30, 2023 at 06:49 PM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker.*



November 30, 2023 at 06:12 PM



“ *Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker.*



November 30, 2023 at 03:39 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker.*



November 30, 2023 at 03:29 PM



“ *Love..Mikey, Katie, Morgan, and Brayden! planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker.*

Love..Mikey, Katie, Morgan, and Brayden! - November 30, 2023 at 03:29 PM



“ *Warren Conklin purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker.*



Warren Conklin - November 30, 2023 at 12:22 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker.*



November 30, 2023 at 09:31 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker.



November 29, 2023 at 07:17 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Carolyn Jean Thornton Baker.



November 29, 2023 at 06:26 PM



“ She was my PE teacher at North Rowan & was such a sweet & caring lady! Know she will be missed! Prayers for the family!

Margie Brinkley Hillard - November 29, 2023 at 05:48 PM