

## Johnny & Cathy Darlene Peoples

September 2, 2020

Johnny Lee Peoples, 67, and his wife, Cathy Darlene Eaton Peoples, 65, of Salisbury, passed away within moments of each other on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at Novant Health Rowan Regional Medical Center.

Mr. Peoples was born October 14, 1952 in Rowan County to the late Arthur Nelson Peoples and Elizabeth Phillips Peoples. He was a Sergeant in the U.S. Army and worked for the NC Department of Corrections.

Mrs. Peoples was born September 17, 1954 in Yadkin County to the late John Dwight Eaton and Helen Brown Eaton Moser. She worked as a pre-school childcare provider, teacher assistant at Salisbury Academy and a lab technician at LabCorp.

Johnny loved coaching youth sports, playing music and building the family tree. Darlene enjoyed crafting, listening to music and playing cards. They both enjoyed fishing and spending quality time with family and friends.

Mr. Peoples was preceded in death by a sister, Mary Lambert.

Left to cherish their memory are their sons, David Lee Peoples (Tracey Carr Peoples), and Shane Dwight Peoples (Malinda Stoner Peoples); daughter, Angela Dawn Sides (Brian Sides); grandchildren, Alyssa Peoples, Tyler Peoples, Kaleb Sides, Owen Sides, Logan Peoples, Meah Sides, Ava Peoples, Ellie Sides, and Liam Peoples; Johnny's brothers, Terry Peoples (Sharon Peoples) and Billy Peoples (Maureen Peoples); Johnny's sisters, Virginia Moore (Chris Scoggins) and Ann Spratt (Jim Spratt); Darlene's brothers, Kenny Dwight Eaton (Courtney Reid-Eaton) and Billy Laymon Eaton;

Darlene's sister, Sharon Eaton Livengood (Dale Livengood); and numerous nieces and nephews. They are also survived by the beloved poodles Sammy and Macy.

Due to the pandemic, a private memorial service will be held.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Dr. Shashi's genetic sequencing research in the Department of Pediatrics, Duke University School of Medicine. Please make checks payable to Duke University and mail to Duke Health Development, Attn: Culver Scales, 300 W. Morgan Street, Suite 1200, Durham, NC 27707 in honor of Johnny & Darlene Peoples. Ava & Liam Peoples are two of seven children in the world who are currently participating in this research study.

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mom and Dad were the perfect couple. You couldn't have Mom without Dad and you couldn't have Dad without Mom. They just being together. They were stolen from us years before it was their time. I miss them every day, they will not be forgotten. Love you Mom and Dad.*



---


**Shane Peoples** - October 29, 2020 at 12:25 AM

KO

“ *My sincere condolences to the Peoples family. Their love was so strong that they could not bare to be apart. This says everything. Peace and love to you at this difficult time. Beyond words. Kristine from Rhode Island*

---

**Kristine Mangan Olf** - September 21, 2020 at 02:39 PM

 Louise Bialik

“ *Crying as I hear their love story ends with them holding hands as they die from Covid. So very sorry your family is cheated, dear children. What a legacy Johnny and Cathy brought to this world. Bless all of your hearts.*



---

**Louise Bialik** - September 21, 2020 at 02:13 PM



“ *Wildflower Seeds - Build A Memory Garden was purchased for the family of Johnny & Cathy Darlene Peoples.*



---

September 20, 2020 at 05:01 PM



“ *To the Peoples family, my heart goes out to you. I don't know you personally but I read your story. I broke out in tears. Praying for the family. So so sorry for your loss. I'm from nc as well.*

---

**R Turner** - September 18, 2020 at 03:57 PM



“ *My family grew up in Davie County with Darlene's family. I was so saddened to read of your loss. I work for DPS in Salisbury now and a coworker was talking about seeing on face book the death of a husband and wife in Salisbury. I saw in the local paper the obituary and realized it was Darlene and her husband. I had no idea she was located in Salisbury. The obituary was such a beautiful love story. I am sorry for your loss but so happy in life she had such a wonderful marriage and family. I am not a bit surprised because your mother was such a sweet person at such a young age. My prayers are with you and your family. Susan Beck Carter, Patti Beck Newsome and Andy Beck Mocksvile NC*

---

**susan carter** - September 14, 2020 at 10:03 AM

MA

*I heard the story of your parents and although I didn't know them I feel so very saddened by their story. I pray God give you the strength and peace you will need to get through this. You will never get over it of course but you will eventually learn to live with it and focus on the beautiful memories you shared with them as a family. God's peace be with you.*

*Marilyn Davis*

Marilyn - September 20, 2020 at 08:49 PM

SS

“ *Condoléances de France ..... l'amour de ce couple plus que tout .*



Sophie Sanfilippo - September 12, 2020 at 03:15 PM

TO

“ *RIP. I knew Mr. Peoples as a convict about 15 years ago. Unlike many, he had my respect because he was fair and showed respect.*

Tommy - September 11, 2020 at 05:50 PM

SH

“ *I am one of many who did not know this lovely couple. It seems only fitting and a blessing to them to leave this world together. May this thought comfort you and yours in your memories of them. God Bless.*

Shirley - September 11, 2020 at 03:20 PM

CA

“ Catherine lit a candle in memory of Johnny & Cathy Darlene Peoples



Catherine - September 11, 2020 at 11:09 AM

CG

*I Didn't know this Couple Or do I know this Family. However, I Know a Saviour and HE Alone understands All Grief and sorrows. Continue to Celebrate This Beautiful Life and Journey, In your Memories. Be well aware and Remain Vigilant. Sorrows*

Chaplain Yvonne Grainger - September 11, 2020 at 06:00 PM

VM

“ Correction on the prior note: some typos, sorry. In a sense, they're their death was something beautiful!

Vic Monyez - September 11, 2020 at 11:03 AM

VM

“ I read the article about your parents on Fox news and I was so moved and God bless them and your family  
May they rest in God's peace and may our Lord have mercy upon their souls where they could be with their lord in heaven forever. I am practicing Catholic and as Catholics we usually pray for the grace of a happy death. In a sense, their death and nothing was beautiful. Do you know how they contracted it? Again, God bless you and your entire family and may you carry on a beautiful and holy legacy on their behalf living of righteous and good life and honoring God in all that you think, say, and do.  
Your love for each other comes across God bless you

Vic Monyez - September 11, 2020 at 11:01 AM

BÉ

“ *Bélange sent a virtual gift in memory of Johnny & Cathy Darlene Peoples*



---

**Bélange** - September 11, 2020 at 07:06 AM

CA

“ *I didn't know your parents, I came across this in a news article. Your parents sound like wonderful people.*

*They are in my thoughts and prayers this evening.*

*My Dad passed last year, I assure you, they never leave us. They're right there with you and will watch over you always.*

*God bless.*



---

**Catherine** - September 11, 2020 at 03:41 AM

CA

“ *I did not know your parents, but read their story online. I feel your loss and can't imagine what you are all going through now. Thoughts are with you all. Carolyn from Vancouver, BC*

---

**Carolyn** - September 11, 2020 at 02:02 AM

SS

“ I do not know this family but their story has touched my heart. My condolences and prayers go out to their loving family and friends. This is truly bittersweet, sad that due to this pandemic it took both of their lives leaving their family and friends to grieve for them at the same time and happy that they had each other to lean on and that they went together. So sorry for your loss.

---

**Sonia Sotelo** - September 11, 2020 at 12:23 AM

SA

“ Samantha sent a virtual gift in memory of Johnny & Cathy Darlene Peoples



---

**Samantha** - September 10, 2020 at 10:28 PM

DM

“ God bless you and be with you and your family during this tragic time. I read of your parents story, and although do not know you, or had the honor of knowing such a fine, loving couple, I must pay my respects somehow through this simple message.

*Thank you, Mr. Peoples, for your service. For being a real man, providing for and raising your family and for serving your country. Thank you, for being a shining example of a man, a real man, that loved and stayed faithful to his wife for nearly half-a-century. Thank you, Mrs. Peoples, for being a faithful and loving wife and mother. Thank you for providing for your family and standing by your husband as he valiantly served this country. Thank you, Mr. and Mrs. Peoples, for demonstrating what is so rare these days; true love that stands the test of time and holding each other's hand until the very end. I pray that I might one day have a love like yours.*

*God bless and keep your children, grandchildren, siblings, family and friends during this terrible time. You have touched countless lives during your time on earth, and now you are still touching lives; millions through your story and love for one another. Your love and faithfulness for one another is going to save lives, marriages and inspire others to remain safe. God Bless you Mr. and Mrs. Peoples, and I will most certainly be one of the millions of people keeping your kids in our prayers.*

---

**Dr. Megan McCormick** - September 10, 2020 at 08:46 PM

AF

“ Our hearts and prayers are with you.



---

**Alesha Lane \* family** - September 10, 2020 at 06:46 PM

AD

“ I have worked with Darlene for about 10 years and in those 10 years she proved to me what friends are all about. I went thru a lot of losing my own family and she was quick to pick up the pieces and show me love! She never called me by my name, she always called me daughter. Random calls, texts, gifts, food... she always included me! Darlene was the best kind of friend and I will miss her greatly! My heart is broken but I know she is with “her Johnny” and she is happy and well! So for now, I will miss her and think about all the memories but I know I will see her again and I can’t wait! For the family... my most sincere thoughts and prayers are with all of you! We are definitely missing 2 Angel’s on earth.  
Angel Deal

---

**Angel Deal** - September 09, 2020 at 07:49 AM



Very well said and very sorry for the loss of such a great lady and couple. God bless them and all who were blessed by their kindness. Condolences to the family.

---

**Jamie Graves** - September 11, 2020 at 12:05 PM

EP

“ I'll always remember them as the fun loving uncle and always loving aunt. The way they loved each other and the way they loved their kids and grandkids. Family is their life. They'll never be forgotten and forever loved 💕

---

**Emma Peoples** - September 09, 2020 at 12:12 AM

PM

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Our deepest sympathy go out to you and your family.

*Such a terrible thing to have happen and at the same time so beautiful that they went together, forever. Prayers and love to you David, Tracey and Tyler and all your family.*

*Uncle Phil & Aunt Marie*

---

**Philip Mola** - September 07, 2020 at 05:39 PM



“ I went to school at Davie County High with Darlene. She was a very sweet person. I just wanted to let the family know how very sorry I am, and I can't imagine the pain of losing both your parents, and know you are in my thoughts and prayers. 🙏🙏

---

**Shelia Webb** - September 07, 2020 at 08:31 AM

JE

“ I'm am so sorry for the loss. I am a Labcorp employee an wanted you to know the Labcorp family send our condolences.

---

**Juanita Easter** - September 07, 2020 at 08:08 AM

BK

“ Bruce Kruckel lit a candle in memory of Johnny & Cathy Darlene Peoples



---

**Bruce Kruckel** - September 06, 2020 at 06:38 PM

EM

“ So sorry to hear of your loss..I never had the pleasure of meeting your parents but my heart goes out to You, Tracey, Tyler and the rest of your family..If there is anything I can do please let me know....

Love you...

Uncle Ed & "Aunt Sandy"

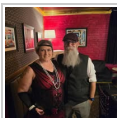
---

**Edward Mola** - September 06, 2020 at 04:04 PM

TM

“ Thirty years ago on August 9th, I chose to move my wife, 2 sons and myself to Salisbury. We were leaving 2 good jobs, my children's home, and parents and siblings in NJ. This was a move to find a better atmosphere. We arrived to a area of just 5 families. We knew no-one when we arrived, but we were quickly greeted by Johnny & Darlene. Wow, they were friendly from day one. They both acted as if we had known each other for years. Two of our sons became best friends. I quickly realized that this couple were deeply in love. They were always together. I feel if you were to look up the word "Marriage" in the dictionary, you would see their picture. This guy helped me get a job when things got dark for employment opportunities. He vouched for me! Yes he loved to fish, he took me & my boys on the yearly 'Livengood Thing' at New River. Johnny didn't have much, but they would share or give anything. They loved the 'Flea market' & they would always find something that they said "we needed". There was a time when I called him from Circuit city, at 8:30 pm in the rain, & he only said "I'll be right there". They never seemed to get mad at anyone, or hold a grudge. I am a bit of a pusher, and will be angry and carry a grudge, but he always tried to quench those feelings. I am like a sharp kitchen knife, and Johnny is the 'Butter' knife, good for many things, but Great for spreading. No matter how hard things got for Johnny & Darlene, they always got thru together. So it is no wonder that they did this last thing together, and if you listen real carefully, you may hear Darlene say "That's my Johnny". I will have many days when I will get quiet and weep & tear, but will always remember "this couple" that God got right! So in the end they are not really gone, but always here in my heart & mind and I'll weep, smile, and hear "that's my Johnny".  
Tony & Merry Muscarella

Tony Muscarella - September 06, 2020 at 12:38 PM



Thank you Tony.

Shane Peoples - September 26, 2020 at 12:07 PM

MA

“ *As much as you will be missed, we have to believe God has a perfect plan and what an amazing blessing to go to heaven hand in hand!! Sweetest love story ever!*  
*You created an amazing family who will always celebrate your legacy*  
*You were the kindest fold to me every time I had the privilege of spending time with you!!*

---

**Michelle Allen** - September 06, 2020 at 12:17 PM

BC

“ *Your loss has broken so many of our hearts!*  
*You will live on through your beautiful kids and grandchildren. Deepest Sympathy to Kenny Sharon and Billiy. Love and prayers for Angela David and Shane and their families!*



---

**Becky and Tim Carlton** - September 05, 2020 at 01:33 PM

PA

“ *To the Peoples family,*  
*I am so deeply sorry for your loss. I had the privilege of knowing Darlene for the past four years and she was a pure joy to be around. She always left me with a smile and I am sure that she is doing the same in Heaven right now. She was a treasure and I will miss her greatly. I know that she loved her husband and family and spoke of them often. I pray for peace for you all in the coming days.*  
*Peggy Artz*

---

**Peggy Artz** - September 05, 2020 at 10:52 AM