



## Virginia Burleson

December 2, 1921 - June 19, 2019

Virginia Burleson, one of NC's first female Police Officer's passed away peacefully on June 19, 2019.

She was born Mary Virginia Cox on December 2, 1921 in Wadesboro, NC. She was a daughter of the late Effie Almeda Hancock Cox and James Garfield Cox. She was a 1938 honor graduate of Albemarle High School. On October 9, 1938, she married the late Cecil Clay Burleson. They celebrated 64 happy years together.

In 1952 she was hired as a full service Police Officer by the Salisbury Police Department. She retired after twenty-two years.

She was a Charter Member of the NC Policewoman's Association and a past President. She served on the Board of Directors until 1973. She was also a member of the Retired Peace Officers' Association.

She was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Salisbury and the Dorcas Sunday School Class, the early service Choir, the Gold and Silver Club and Margaret White Circle.

She was an accomplished seamstress and made Easter dresses for residents of the Baptist Children's Home for twenty-five years. She was also known for her beautiful quilts and the English hand smocked children's dresses she made.

Mrs. Burleson was also predeceased by four sisters, two brothers and one granddaughter, Jennifer Whitman

She is survived by her children, Gary {Annette} Burleson of Salisbury, Patsy {Dale} Schawitsch of Pinehurst and Clay {Jackie} Burleson of Salisbury, seven grandchildren; Ellen W. {Tom} Sidbury of Annandale, NJ and Hampstead, NC, Elaine W. {Eric} Wilderson of Pinehurst, Dr. Tina Burleson{Nathan Schepker} of Raleigh, NC, Tiffany {J.R.} Vinson of Nashville, Tenn., Baker {Amy} Burleson of Charlotte, Sonia Dalton of Kannapolis, NC and Donna {Carl}West of Boone, NC.

Also surviving are eight great grandchildren; Sean Sidbury of Taiwan, Ben Sidbury of Annandale, NJ, Katy Burleson, William Burleson, Caroline Burleson and Emily Burleson, all of Charlotte and Ally and Colby Cress of Kannapolis and a sister, Josephine Pierce of N. Wilkesboro.

Many Salisburians will remember her for her friendly smile. And many former school

children will remember her for helping them arrive safely at school.

The family will receive friends 12-1 PM Friday (June 28) at Summersett Funeral Home followed by the service with the Rev. Rod Kerr officiating. Interment will follow at Chestnut Hill Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church of Salisbury, 223 N. Fulton Street, Salisbury, NC 28144 or the Baptist Children's Home, 204 Idol Street, Thomasville, NC 27360.

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

# Cemetery Details

## Chestnut Hill Cemetery

Salisbury, NC

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 28. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

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

## Service

JUN 28. 1:00 PM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

BM

“ Our love to Clay, Jackie and all the Burtlesons at this special time of remembrance. May God's peace comfort all of you. Betsy and Chuck

Betsy Dearborn Miller - June 27, 2019 at 04:13 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Virginia Burtleson.



June 27, 2019 at 01:50 PM

JL

“ Clay and Jackie, you have my heartfelt condolences with the passing of Clays Mother. It is never easy but you can take heart in knowing she is in the presence of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ in Heaven. Whether she could sing or not, today she is singing with the Angels in Heaven. May God give you peace in her move to her eternal home.

John

John A. Lineberry - June 26, 2019 at 12:45 PM

JF

“ Virginia was one of my 1st water aerobics participants when we opened the JF Hurley YMCA. She was full of energy and a pleasure to know. She always had a story to share. Prayers are with the family at this time.



Joanne French - June 23, 2019 at 12:56 PM

SH

“ Clay, Sorry for your loss. I remember your mother being a police officer when I was a kid. Steve Hunter

Steve Hunter - June 23, 2019 at 07:02 AM

CU

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with Clay and the entire Burleson family. May the Lord comfort you and assist you during this difficult time.*

*Cindy & Randy Uzzell*

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**Cindy & Randy Uzzell** - June 22, 2019 at 12:36 PM

MO

“ *Aunt Virginia was my namesake, always ready to lend a hand, listen and offer the best hospitality!! Grateful for all the memories she afforded me. My love and prayers to this special family!*

*Ken and Mary Jo O'Barr  
Goshen, KY*

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**Mary Jo O'Barr** - June 21, 2019 at 05:19 PM