



## Darlene Thompson Woods

March 9, 1963 - May 22, 2020

Darlene Thompson Woods, 57, returned to her heavenly home on May 22, 2020 after a valiant battle with cancer. Her devotion to her family, their dedication to her, and her unwavering faith in God supported her throughout her journey, and ultimately gave her peace. She was a true warrior and an inspiration to all around her; those who were blessed with her presence have suffered a great loss.

Darlene was born to the late Harold and Anne Thompson, in Cleveland, TN on March 9, 1963. She was blessed to both be a part of a large and loving family, and to create one of her own. She is survived by her husband, Curtis Woods; her son Aaron Woods (Lindsey), and daughters Jennifer Bravo (Cesar) and Stacy Eastland (Kyle); her grandchildren Zoe Woods, Nathaniel Woods, Lydia Bravo, Emma Eastland, and Micah Eastland. "Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her... a woman who fear(ed) the Lord, she shall be praised." Prov. 31:28-30

Darlene had a pure, genuine, and generous heart for others. She was kind, loving, and had a smile that would light up a room. She is dearly missed by her loved ones, who celebrate the fact that she is at peace with her Creator. She was a member of Church of the Highlands in Birmingham, AL, and an inspiration of faith to friends, family, coworkers, those in her small group, and anyone who had the pleasure of encountering her beautiful spirit. Her reliance on God's strength and her devotion to Him are best represented in Psalm 28:7 and the 103rd Psalm.

Darlene is also survived by her brothers, Ricky Thompson, Terry Thompson, Randy Thompson (Paula), Russell Thompson (Brenda); and sisters, Vicki Thompson, Sandra Ledford, Diane Gates (George), and Kimberly Thompson (Norma). She is preceded in death by her brother-in-law, Catfish Ledford; sister-in-law, Mae Thompson; and her nephews Tony Gates and Joe Gates. Arrangements will be handled by Deerfoot Memorial Funeral Home in Trussville, AL with a celebration of life on November 7, 2020 from 10am-2pm at Companion Funeral Home in Cleveland, TN. For anyone who'd like to pay respects in person, Darlene's memorial will be erected at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Cleveland, TN, and she will be buried at sea. The family gratefully accepts prayers and condolences, and requests that you share your memories with them. In lieu of flowers, a donation of any amount to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation at [www.abcf.org](http://www.abcf.org) is greatly appreciated.

# Previous Events

## **Celebration of Life**

NOV 7. 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Companion Funeral Home  
2415 Georgetown Rd NW  
Cleveland, TN 37311

# Tribute Wall

DP

“ I have never in my life heard someone laugh as much as Darlene did. Could always count on her to brighten your low days with her smile or hearing her laughter. I had the pleasure of working with Darlene for 5 years. Miss seeing her beautiful morning smile. I'm very lucky to have know her even if was for a short while. She touch so many peoples lives not just mine. She will be greatly missed.

Love,  
Dee Powers

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**Dee Powers** - November 04, 2020 at 04:29 PM

MB

“ Words cannot express how I felt about wonderful Darlene! The words that come to the surface are Joy, Laughter, & Kindness. A pleasure to work with for 8 years!

Mary Brown

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**Mary Brown** - June 01, 2020 at 05:41 PM

NB

“ Hard to even know where to start! From the moment I met her, she treated me like family! Her presence brought joy to everyone around her! The way she loved was warming to the heart! Her strong faith was an inspiration! Her laughed filled the room and her hugs were the absolute best! She will be truly missed!

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**Natalie Bogle** - May 26, 2020 at 10:57 PM

RV

“ My Beautiful Darlena! I think all women desire to be beautiful on the inside and out and she was just that. She left a legacy with just being herself... that is huge. I love that I have friends and family that have never met her and know of how great she is. That says so much. I never realized how much I talked about her but how could you not. She wanted you to feel loved and more than anything, know the love of Jesus. I pray that one day, when I leave this world, I leave the same legacy. She challenges me even in heaven. What a lady! I'll surely miss our wine and cheese dates. They shall live on through Jenn. I'm grateful at the friendship that has blossomed because Of Darlena. 💕💕

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Rachel Vesely - May 26, 2020 at 11:12 AM

LL

“ Darlene and I met in small group probably 5 years ago now. I loved her spirit, her smile, her laugh & her giving spirit. One year I wanted so badly to go to the woman's conference/retreat at Church of the Highlands and it had sold out, but guess who reached out & gave me her tickets? Sweet Darlene! I was so overjoyed by her generosity. She'll never know how that act of kindness affected me & how I was able to grow closer to God through that experience, but I pray she knows now. She lived for her family and spoke of you guys in small group, always & with so much love & hope for your future. I will be praying for your family through this time as I know this is a great loss, but what a gain she is to heaven & our Lord. Love you always Darlene.

Lindsey Leathers

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Lindsey Leathers - May 26, 2020 at 10:52 AM

AW

“ I will forever miss my beautiful mother! This is honestly the hardest thing I've gone through in my life. 2nd would be losing my father-in-law 5 years ago due to illness as well. Love you mom. Take care of my room in heaven. I'll see you very soon!!!

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**Aaron Woods** - May 25, 2020 at 10:29 PM

JO

“ Worked with this wonderful woman, never a day that she did not smile and make your day better. Will miss her so very much. Love to all her family

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**Jim O'Hanlon** - May 25, 2020 at 06:34 PM

KG

“ Your sweet Mom was always so sweet to me. She always let me stay the night! We always had fun staying up late talking and she made us all kinds of food! She was a wonderful lady! Love you sweet girl! Kalei Graham

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**Kalei Graham** - May 25, 2020 at 09:17 AM

NP

“ Darlene will be forever missed, She laughed so hard one time when She hurt her back, I had to pick her up and carry her across the room, guess it was so funny cause I said it, She said She had tried everything and I not realizing how it sounded, I said have you tried Ben- gay and She looked at Me so funny and with her big laugh started laughing, She thought for a moment I said being gay. She had Kim and Me laughing with tears in Our eyes. I said no that muscle rub stuff they came out with. She forgot about her back there for a few minutes, We couldn't stop laughing, She lived in a small apartment on the back roads 25 years ago. Her laugh rocked that whole apartment. Norma.....

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**Norma Prichard** - May 25, 2020 at 08:56 AM

BR

“ You sent this pic to me on your way to London. It was such a pleasure to meet both of you. Its hard to believe that was 2 years ago this month. My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family at this time.



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**Bob Ramsey** - May 25, 2020 at 02:41 AM

IB

*I met sweet Darlene in a ladies small group with Church of the Highlands a few years ago and knew her for a couple of years. I nicknamed her Giggles for her beautiful laugh! She was a beautiful lady inside and out! I know she is laughing and dancing in Heaven with Jesus! My love and prayers go out to each of her family. You will be missed Darlene by everyone you met! Ingrid Berky*

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**Ingrid Berky** - June 04, 2020 at 10:15 AM

JH

“ I remember your mom from church and she trusted me enough to take you girls! She always, I mean always, seemed to have a smile on her face no matter what was going on in life. ❤️ From Cleveland, TN ❤️. Jan Hall (Moore)

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**Jan Hall** - May 24, 2020 at 04:39 PM

JB

“ Jenn I am so sorry for your loss! Darlene was an amazing Godly woman.. her smile was infectious.. her personality beyond bright. I am so glad I met her through you. I know that Lydia will always know what an angel she was on earth, now with our Heavenly father. Lydi, I hope that you always remember what a special woman she was, and I'm sorry you didn't get more time with her. Know that she loved you, your mom and daddy well, and still does. Prayers for all.  
Love the Bass'

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**jennifer bass** - May 24, 2020 at 04:36 PM

LP

“ Darlene always had the brightest smile and had the best laugh. I always enjoyed working with her. I loved the way she loved the Lord. Darlene was really an awesome person.

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**Lisa Pastorious** - May 24, 2020 at 04:31 PM

JF

“ Darlene was always a bright shining light every day. She was such a strong support for me, when I needed a hug I knew right who to go to. She was such an encouragement when I was new in my faith and when I rededicated my life and got baptized she was the first person I wanted to tell. She is a beautiful spirit and I know she is dancing with Jesus now.

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**Jen Formby** - May 24, 2020 at 02:38 PM