



Charlyn Balentine

JUN 7, 1947 - APR 19, 2020



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Charlyn Markley Balentine, age 72, of Mount Lebanon, PA passed away on April 19, 2020.

Wife of 51 years to Robert J. Balentine; mother of Staci L. and Christopher J. Balentine; grandmother of Reilly K. Holleran, Lena R. Balentine, and Ava L. Balentine; sister of Dennis Markley, David Markley, and Cathy Colley; and daughter of Charles D. and Evelyn M. Markley.

Char Balentine had a special place in her heart for children. She served for several years on the Board of Directors at the Katharine Dean Tillotson School. She was also an Elder in the Church especially active in the Youth Program.

We are all grieving the loss of our brave, determined Queen Bee. She lived her life with courage and grace until her very last day. Over the past several months, your messages have enlightened me regarding the gifts Char has given to you. The overwhelming response revealed she was kind, welcoming, and a true friend. Mom's friends near and far feel as if they have lost a sister. They will miss her warmth and creativity.

Char's nephews and nieces will always remember her optimistic outlook on life and her generosity. She was mothering to them and made her house a home to everyone. Her husband, Bob, conveyed he was always humbled by her selflessness and strength of character. Grandchildren have been spoiled by Grandma Char and their words which came with a smile and a twinkle in the eye were loving, comforting and special. Son Chris is thankful Mom always put her family first. Little sister Cathy, your collaboration with Char on everything from quilting projects to caring for loved ones was truly remarkable. Brother David knew Char cared for others more than herself.

Dad, Chris and I have decided through tear-filled eyes to live the rest of our lives in honor of Mom and what she would want for us. Through her actions, Mom has taught us to be strong, loving and above all else...stick together!



Obituary

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I am proud to be your daughter and grateful for all of life's gifts you have given to me.

Love you forever, Mom!

Staci

Services are private and are entrusted to the JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME, INC. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date due to the current coronavirus restrictions.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to:
Cancer Research organization of your choice or
Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance (OCRA)
donations@ocrahope.org



Tribute Wall

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JA

Jackie posted:

It has taken me awhile to form some thoughts about Char in my life because there are so many things I remember! I met Charlotte work 53 years ago that time seems to have passed so quickly! We raised our children together... Lots of birthday parties, holidays, and just fun days! Sure... Always kind and generous. Thank you! We spent many times crying together, but we spent more times laughing together. I cherish all of it. I already miss our many many phone calls chatting about decorating, shopping, and mostly family things. Char, you are my sister in love. Thanks for sharing your life with me, I will miss you always! Big Jackie

May 21 at 3:02 PM

JM

Jackie Markley posted:

Life will never be the same. Char was my sister-in-law and one of my best friends. No matter what we did, we had fun. When we were much younger, we had 12 hour shop to you drop days. From those early days, there was always Char, Jackie and me. Roz and Margie would join us too. We would eat breakfast, lunch and dinner out with snacks and shopping in between. The trunk would be overflowing with bags. Whoever spent the most money was the winner! Char was never shy voicing her opinion. One family gathering, at my house, char was sitting in my living room looking around. She said, this room needs updated and those drapes need to go. I said okay. Within minutes, they were down and my furniture was moved. We always laughed that day. She is gone but she will never forgotten. Char will live in our hearts forever. ❤️

May 1 at 4:48 AM

CC

Cathy Colley posted:

I miss my big sister. We shared a lifetime of special moments. I will never forget all the memories. I will forever miss our conversations, sewing days, family gatherings, shopping for fabric and most recently our vacations together. Sara and Sam were so lucky to have such a wonderful Aunt Char Char in their lives. I love you and miss you! Cathy

April 29 at 4:59 AM



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SG

Shanan Goerd posted:

I have so many wonderful memories of my Aunt Char. She was like a second mother to me, someone I could always count on in bad times, but also to be there in the good times. She supported me and my husband and daughters in everything we did. She and Bob were there for me for every milestone with my daughters including baptisms, birthdays, dance recitals, softball and volleyball games, and graduation. She and Bob even made a stop at my daughter Olivia's college on one of their recent trips to see the campus and send us a picture. Char was always so encouraging and loving to my daughters just as she was to her own grandchildren. She was one of a kind, and I will miss her every day. I love you Aunt Char, Shanan

April 29 at 4:19 AM

LP

Lauren Picone posted:

I have many fond memories of Aunt Char. My first memories are of Thanksgiving dinners at her house. Between her and my aunts the food was always amazing seemed like it was out of a Martha Stewart cookbook. Sara and I would typically get into some kind of mischief from sled riding down her basement stairs into beanbags, to "ice skating" with liquid soap and scrub brushes on our shoes in her basement. More recently my thoughts of Aunt Char are associated with how generous she was with me and my son Leo. She hosted my baby shower. She ordered the invitations I wanted. I know it seems silly but that meant so much to me. She gave me two pieces of furniture that have been in our family for 40+ years (a children's table and chairs and a baby changing table and dresser) that we use everyday. Every time I took a cute photo of Leo, I would send it to her and she said it made her day. It made me happy to make her happy. I miss sending her those photos. I will miss randomly running into her at South Hills Village. Mostly, I will miss the days where our family gatherings were complete. We love and miss you, Aunt Char but you will be in our hearts forever!

April 27 at 5:06 AM

BG

Barb Greb posted:

Bob, Stacy & Chris, I met Char at Baptist Homes, when we worked together. We (Ursula & I) would meet for dinner every couple of months and always had a good time! She was such a good friend, and I loved her! I will miss her so much! ❤️

April 26 at 2:42 PM



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BB

Bob Balentine posted:

Char was the love of my life. I'm going to miss her and love her always! We had a wonderful life together. Unfortunately, the good times didn't last as long as we had hoped. We were always so thankful for family. The future is bright for me and I'm forever grateful for my wife, my family and my friends. Love to all of you, Bob

April 26 at 12:13 PM

JF

Jo Fortunato posted:

I am greatly sorry for your loss of your wife, mother and grandmother. I have known Charlene since the 7th grade and great memories of her and she was always so very kind, friendly and taller than any of us girls. That was a beautiful tribute to your Mom. God Bless and prayers to all of your family. 🙏 Jo (Kerry) Fortunato

April 26 at 8:41 AM

MF

Mimi Frey posted:

Staci and Chris, I taught you both in kindergarten and remember your mom as a helpful parent, kind and thoughtful. I have a Christmas ornament that you gave me, Staci, that your mom made. It is a pair of red felt skates, with beards for the ties, a paperclip for the blades and a white rickrack ribbon keeping the skates together. For many years I placed it near the front of my Christmas tree. I believe I still have it tucked away, but a search of my Christmas stuff failed to find it. I send my sympathy to both of you and your father. I know your mom will live in your memories and lives.

April 26 at 6:01 AM

RP

Rosalind Polinski posted:

I will never have another friend as warm and kind. Char was so sweet and loving. The nice and fun things we did together, just she and I or in a group, will be in my memories and always in my heart. I will miss her dearly. My love to all of you, Roz

April 25 at 5:48 PM



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SO

Stacie Oyenarte posted:

I met her briefly, but she has a huge impact on our lives! She has raised an amazing, beautiful daughter who has an amazing name! We love Staci and Riley so much. We are so grateful to have you in our lives I Love to Robert and all of the family. Love , Tony , Stacie, Michael, Max, Scout and Summer. 🤗❤️🍷🐶🙏

April 25 at 6:58 AM

CE

Christine Egal posted:

Char will be greatly missed by our whole family. When we visit Henry and Susan Egal, we always looked forward to seeing Char and Bob's smiling and friendly faces! She always treated our children as if they were her grandchildren and us as her children. My boys were all very saddened when they heard she was sick and then passed away. She was a very special lady and loved by all!! H.J., Christine, Maguire, Quinn, Liam, Declan, and Ruari Egal

April 24 at 1:15 PM

GG

Georgeann (Samuels) Grubb posted:

Dear Staci, Chris and Bob, A mutual friend in Pittsburgh just sent this news. I am so saddened and send my love to you and your family. Although I moved from Mt. Lebanon 29 years ago, I still have many fond memories of Char and our crazy card club! We also often gathered at your home for crafts projects, food and fun. After I moved, Char and several friends drove to Canaan Valley, WV to visit me in my log cabin, and she brought her delicious pineapple cake! I'm sorry we lost touch over the years, but am grateful for having known Char. I know she will be missed terribly. Condolences to all.
♥️ GeorgeAnn (Samuels) Grubb (Pete's mom)

April 24 at 11:49 AM

DD

Dawnlyn Diehl posted:

The world was a nicer place with Char in it. A special memory of mine is from the summer I babysat Chris and Stacey, as I was recommended by my mother and one of Char's close friends. At the end of the summer at a gathering of friends and family, I'll always remember Char telling me as an awkward teen that I could do anything I wanted. That made me feel so good. Char was my friend too and one of my favorite people. I loved hearing about the funny things she said to my mom. She was funny sometimes! I will miss her because knowing someone as kind and good and strong through her challenges made me feel good. She had a very special light that is forever. Much love and support to her family--Dawnlyn

April 24 at 10:02 AM



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MP

Marcia Pratt posted:

Dear Bob, Staci and Chris, We have treasured memories of Char from our days at Bower Hill. Our favorite Christmas book - The Night before Christmas, is from your family - given to our daughter Grace 26 years ago. Char wrote beautiful words for us, as new parents, which I read every Christmas Eve before reading to our children and grandchild. I was thrilled but not surprised to learn that she had been associated with Tillotson school. One of our daughters has been a student there. Love and peace and joy to you all, Tom and Marcia Pratt

April 24 at 9:14 AM

ER

Erin Rutter posted:

I grew up next door to Char and Bob, in the Egal house on Arden Road. One of my most cherished memories was "helping" Char make my wedding veil. All I did was hold the material while Char did all the work. I didn't realize how difficult this project was going to be but Char didn't mention that at all. She was happy to help me create a beautiful veil for a very important day in my life. Off the top of my head, I don't remember who gave my husband and I which gift for my bridal shower but I do I remember she got us our silverware. She picked it out from another store and gifted it to us in this beautiful pink floral box that we used for a long time to hold our doggy's belongings. I think she was worried we wouldn't like the silverware but it was perfect. She also gave us a 1 Corinthians plaque that I have displayed in our dining room. Lots of little reminders of Char so I'll never forget how special she was, and how much she thought of me. The past few years, my own 3 children loved to visit Char and Bob. One day while visiting my parents, my youngest decided that she was going to visit, and then just left my parents house, and then the backyard, and started walking to their back door. We ran to get her right away because my mom saw her leaving.... our Vivi just wanted to see Char and Bob! All 3 children loved to visit them. I'll miss seeing my mom talking with Char on their back porch. And Char waving to me from her kitchen window. Char will be so greatly missed. I'm glad I have those (and many more) memories to cherish. I'm so sorry for your loss Bob, Staci, and Chris, and the rest of the family. Love to you all.

April 24 at 8:58 AM

TK

Tracy Keenan posted:

Char was a beloved friend to me during and after my years at Bower Hill. Unfailingly kind and wise, her strength was clothed in gentleness. She was a gift to us all. Bob, Staci, and Christoph, you are in my prayers. Much love, Tracy Keenan

April 24 at 8:27 AM



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Staci Balentine posted:

Thank you for sharing photos and videos for us to view as we celebrate Char/ Mom/ sister/ aunt/ grandma/ friend. We would love to see them! We will announce a chapel service date in the future once it is safe to gather. Friends and family... she loved you so... 🌹

April 24 at 7:30 AM



Staci Balentine posted:

Thank you so much for sharing in our celebration of Char/ Mom/ sister/ aunt/ grandma/ friend. We look forward to viewing photos, videos, messages and more so please share since we cannot gather together quite yet. We are grateful for your love and support. Dad is doing well, we are able to be in Pittsburgh with him for an extended period of time. With love ❤️, Staci

April 24 at 7:10 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Charlyn by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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