



## Carolyn V. Whitaker

April 26, 1937 - February 9, 2024

Carolyn Virginia Whitaker of Red Boiling Springs passed peacefully in her home on February 9th, 2024. She was born April 26, 1937, in Nashville and spent her formative years in the Inglewood neighborhood. She attended Dan Mills Elementary and Isaac Litton High School where she was a member of the concert band and the famous Litton Marching 100. After graduating in 1955, she continued her education by studying pre-nursing education at Tennessee Polytechnic University and St. Thomas School of Nursing. She earned her BSN from Vanderbilt University and finally she became a member of the first class of MSN of Family Nurse Practitioners at Vanderbilt in 1972. In the interim, she served as Director of Nursing at St. Thomas Hospital. After relocating to Red Boiling Springs, in 1972 she opened the first nurse practitioner run medical clinic to service this rural community that had no ambulance service, no EMTs and most households had no telephone. She then went on to be a charter member of the faculty when the School of Nursing opened at Tennessee Polytechnic University. She was a member of the American Nursing Association and was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015 by the Tennessee Nursing Association. She retired as an Associate Professor Emeritus at Tennessee Technical University in the early aughts but was active politically and was elected to serve as a County Commissioner in Macon County and served on numerous boards including the Macon County Educational Foundation.

Her lovely farm in Red Boiling Springs housed her passions She raised and

showed five gaited horses as well as Vizsla hunting dogs. She loved animals and her home was always filled with a variety of cherished pure-bred dogs as well as mixed bred strays. She was a talented organist, bridge player and a champion of women in the medical field and spent her life teaching nursing and increasing medical services for underserved communities across Tennessee.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Dr. Charles S. Whitaker and Margaret Lorene Bergob Whitaker of Nashville. She is survived by her four loving sisters, Kay Whitaker Cole of Corolla, NC, Mary Whitaker Rossman of Murfreesboro, TN, Margarret Whitaker Roberts of Lafayette, TN and Sue Whitaker Sheldon (Ted) of Murfreesboro, TN as well as numerous nieces and nephews, several great nieces and nephews and great, great nieces and nephews. who all adored their Aunt Carolyn.

Phillips -Robinson Funeral Home of Nashville is handling the services. The family will hold a visitation on Friday, February 16th from 10am until the time of services at 12 noon. Interment will follow at Woodlawn Memorial Park. Pallbearers: Trey Alsup, Jeff Rossman, Barry Lumpkin, Riley Troutman, Rilen Ruffener, and Aiden Ruffener. Honorary Pallbearers: Maurice Owens, Jeff Williams, and Wayne Williams. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to The Charles S. Whitaker Scholarship Fund, Disciples Divinity House, Vanderbilt University, 1917 Adelia Ave, Nashville, TN, 37212.

# Cemetery Details

## Woodlawn Memorial Park

660 Thompson Ln  
Nashville, TN 37204

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 16. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home - Nashville Chapel  
2707 Gallatin Pike  
Nashville, TN 37216  
(615) 262-3312  
info@phillipsrobinson.com  
<https://www.phillipsrobinson.com/>

## Service

FEB 16. 12:00 PM (CT)

Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home - Nashville Chapel  
2707 Gallatin Pike  
Nashville, TN 37216  
(615) 262-3312  
info@phillipsrobinson.com  
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# Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Carolyn V. Whitaker*



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**Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home** - February 16, 2024 at 09:40 AM

BH

“ *Thank you for providing the webcast of Carolyn for those of us who could not attend her service. It was a beautiful service. She was a dear friend of mine during the many, many years of our community volunteer service for each of our communities. I will miss her in many ways, especially when there was a medical question, she was always willing to offer her educated opinion. I also offer my sincere thanks to her for her eager willingness to help with volunteer projects that was of benefit to others. We ran out of time before we could complete the plan for a bike track from Lafayette to Red Boiling Springs! I am sorry I did not get to meet her family today and share this in person.*

*Brenda Hiatt  
Macon County Chamber of Commerce*

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**Brenda Hiatt** - February 16, 2024 at 03:19 PM



“ 18 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home** - February 15, 2024 at 03:00 PM

TF

“ Terry & Rachel Lehw and family purchased the *Love's Journey* for the family of Carolyn V. Whitaker.



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**Terry & Rachel Lehw and family** - February 15, 2024 at 10:17 AM

AW

“ Carolyn achieved so much in her lifetime. I'm so very proud to be related to her. Sending blessings and condolences to all of the family 💕

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**Adele Williams** - February 14, 2024 at 02:10 PM

LS

“ My cousin Carolyn was a driving force forward for the profession of nursing. She was a role model for me and so many others as we battled to practice and gain acceptance as nurse practitioners. Thank you, Carolyn, and rest in well earned peace.

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**Lynne Williams Seymour** - February 14, 2024 at 12:19 PM

AW

Carolyn achieved so much in her lifetime. How proud I am to be related. Blessings and love to all the family.

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**Adele Williams** - February 14, 2024 at 02:05 PM

LS

“ Lynne S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Carolyn V. Whitaker.

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**Lynne S.** - February 14, 2024 at 12:00 PM

DR

“ Carolyn was a treasure to her community in Macon County. It was an honor to have served with her on various committees for several years. She always served with knowledge, grace, and a servants heart. She will be missed.

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**Debbie Richatdson** - February 13, 2024 at 10:37 PM

MW

“ We are saddened to learn of the passing of Carolyn. We always thought alot of her. We always enjoyed getting to be around her at events going on in Red Boiling Springs. She will be missed.  
Love,  
Monica and Marketta Wakefield

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**Monica and Marketta Wakefield** - February 13, 2024 at 10:29 AM

FC

“ From your family at Corolla Chapel planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Carolyn V. Whitaker.

From your family at Corolla Chapel - February 12, 2024 at 12:45 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Carolyn V. Whitaker.



February 12, 2024 at 12:45 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Carolyn V. Whitaker.



February 12, 2024 at 10:03 AM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Carolyn V. Whitaker.



February 11, 2024 at 06:06 PM