



# Carolyn Christensen

NOV 21, 2014



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# Carolyn Christensen

NOV 21, 2014

**C**arolyn Christensen, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend, passed away on November 21st at her cottage in Cadbury at Lewes surrounded by loved ones. She had been fighting dementia for several years. She will be dearly missed.

Carolyn was an amazingly creative individual - someone who was always reading and learning, always growing and developing, always conversing and interacting, always writing and expressing, and always giving and sharing. Carolyn 'fully engaged' in life. She was someone who smiled easily, laughed freely and danced readily. In fact, Carolyn & Curt quickly became known as "the dancers" in their new community of Cadbury. Carolyn was also a gracious host. Over the years, she and Curt hosted many friends and acquaintances in their home for meals distinguished by delicious food and stimulating conversation. Often, following Curt's annual Gospel Concerts in Colesville, MD, as many as 20 to 30 friends might show up!

Born in Winfred, South Dakota, Carolyn graduated from Rapid City High School before attending Huron College where she participated in school plays and competed at the national level as a member of the debate team. She graduated Magna Cum Laude.

After marrying Curt in 1960, Carolyn embarked upon a teaching career in English and Debate that spanned 4-decades and took her to places like St. Paul Park (Minnesota), Camp Zama (Japan), the University of Maryland (College Park, MD), Jakarta (Indonesia) and New Delhi (India). Having been such a very successful debater in high school and college, it was only fitting that one of the last classes she taught before retirement was "Model United Nations" at the International School in New Delhi. As part of that class she took students to Manila, Philippines and Beijing, China.

Carolyn was preceded in death by her parents and a younger brother, Kenneth Bird. She is survived by her husband, Curt; three children: Cade (Sandi) Christensen, Cord (Angelika) Christensen, Catherine (Milton) Wright; a sister, Susan Lynn; five grandchildren, Nikki, Elizabeth,



## Obituary

**Carolyn Christensen**

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Milton, Zion and Cedar; two great grandchildren, Deanna and Caleb and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests supporting the Epworth United Methodist Church, 19285 Holland Glade Road, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971, the Colesville United Methodist Church, 52 Randolph Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904, or the Alzheimer's Association Delaware Valley Chapter, P. O. Box 625, Georgetown, DE 19947.

A Memorial service will be held at the Epworth United Methodist Church, 19285 Holland Glade Road, Rehoboth Beach, DE on Friday, December 5th at 11:00 AM and a service at Colesville United Methodist Church, 52 Randolph Road, Silver Spring, MD on Saturday, December 6th at 11:00 AM. The family will be available at 10:00 AM before both services to receive friends and neighbors.

Please sign Carolyn's online guestbook at this site.

PDF Printable Version



## Tribute Wall

**Carolyn Christensen**

DB

**Donna & Ove Bjerregaard** posted:

Carolyn was a delight to be with in New Delhi, we remember her smile and laugh. We are so glad she had so many wonderful more years after India. Our warmest wishes to the family!

January 10 at 8:00 PM

TB

**Tony And Chaehui Bucz** posted:

We'll miss her.

January 8 at 8:00 PM

JT

**Joan And Dick Thomas** posted:

Curt and family, we are so sorry to hear about your loss of your dear Carolyn. Our prayers are for you and your family. May God bless and comfort you. Joan and Dick Thomas

December 14 at 8:00 PM

JD

**Jim And Dani** posted:

Curt and Family, Dani and I are terribly saddened by the loss of our dear friend, Carolyn. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grand mother, great grandmother, and friend to so many people We remember fondly so many good times with her at First Church, on the choir trip to France, at so many dinner parties in your home on New Years Day and after your choirs. The times we shared with Carolyn at Bethany Beach and in Indonesia were very special to us. We know that Carolyn lived a full and adventurous life. We will dearly miss her. She has been such a wonderful part of our life. We send our profound sympathy in your loss.

December 7 at 8:00 PM

WG

**Wynn Gunderson** posted:

Lorraine and I send our deepest sympathy and much love to Curt and family.

November 29 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Carolyn Christensen**

DB

**Derito & Margaret Bonicelli** posted:

Curt, Cade, Cord, Catherine and families, We are so sorry for your loss and pray that you will be comforted by your wonderful memories of Carolyn. She was such a vibrant and happy person, and will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Much love, Derito, Margaret, Eric & Cory

November 29 at 8:00 PM

AH

**Ange Hassinger** posted:

I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to know Carolyn, if only in her retirement and as a book group colleague. She was an impressively gracious hostess, a joy to be with.

November 27 at 8:00 PM

CC

**Carolyn Cattafi** posted:

My sympathies to you and the family Curt. Carolyn was a very special, sweet lady, and knowing her as a choir mate for only 4 years, it was a pleasure to know her. She was such a joy; always smiling and so kind. Although she was already dealing with Alzheimers, her hugs and kisses were so sincerely genuine - and she still felt and exhibited her love for music. She will be sadly missed by all. Thank goodness you have so many wonderful memories Curt that you shared together. God Bless you and your family.

November 27 at 8:00 PM

RH

**Rob Henrich** posted:

My sincerest condolences. I best remember sight-seeing with you and Carolyn during the Controllers' Conference in Portugal. She was quite a lady.

November 27 at 8:00 PM

MH

**Mary Helms** posted:

The Christensens have been such a model of love and devotion. Extending sympathy to the entire family.

November 27 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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RK

**Ruth & Gil Kaufman** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Curt at this significant transition. We very much enjoyed knowing Carolyn.

November 27 at 8:00 PM

AH

**Anne Headley** posted:

Our family is sending love and best wishes to you all. We are grateful that we were able to see you earlier this year.

November 26 at 8:00 PM

LE

**Linda Ely** posted:

I was saddened to learn of Carolyn's death. My deepest sympathy goes to all of her family. She was very important in my life and I treasure the experiences we shared and the memories I have. Carolyn was my Speech teacher and Debate Coach at Zama High School in Japan. She made a lasting impression on my life and we remained in touch for 50 years. I feel privileged to have known her and am grateful that our paths crossed. I will treasure our friendship and always remember Carolyn's zest for life and beautiful smile. In sadness for the loss of a wonderful and special lady. Sincerely, Linda Ely

November 26 at 8:00 PM

AH

**Amy Headley** posted:

I knew Carolyn my whole life. She was always good to me. I'm forever grateful to her for her daughter Catherine who will always be my friend and sister. My love to all her family.

November 26 at 8:00 PM

JB

**Judy Burgess** posted:

I give thanks today for my memories :Carolyn's ready smileher affectionate greetingsher joyful response to musicher beautiful dance movementsher remarkable long fight for life.And now I am amazed to learn so much more about Carolyn in Curt's memorial tribute. What an accomplished woman she was. How much she gave to all around her, in the many places she has lived.And I knew but a glimpse, but what a precious glimpse it has been. Judy Burgess

November 26 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Carolyn Christensen**

**KM**

**Kristin Majeska** posted:

What a wonderful description of Carolyn's life. We are all lucky to have had her in our lives. With love to you all. Kristin, Luis and family

November 26 at 8:00 PM

**SI**

**Sheri Lynn And Kelly Irons** posted:

We will miss your yearly visits, stories of your travels, friends, and adventures, your beautiful smile and heart felt laugh. In our Heavenly Fathers presence may you be at peace.

November 25 at 8:00 PM

**PK**

**Phyllis Krull** posted:

My heart is ssddened but I rejoice in the fact that I knew her as a friend and Round Robin participant.

November 25 at 8:00 PM

**AB**

**Arnold & Rita Bolduc** posted:

May she rest in a better place

November 25 at 8:00 PM

**CW**

**Chong Ae And Marc Winter** posted:

We are so saddened on the loss of a truly wonderful mother, wife, and friend. Our memories of Carolyn are such happy and good ones. We will miss her and her ever cheerful words of kindness, hope and inspiration.

November 24 at 8:00 PM

**BW**

**Bill Weaver** posted:

Kurt, Cade, Sandi and the rest of the Christensen family, I am so sorry for your loss. It was a pleasure getting to know Carolyn and Kurt while Cade was our pastor. We always had pleasant and interesting conversations. I pray God will comfort you during this time.

November 24 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Carolyn Christensen**

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**Stacey (Dickinson) Swanson** posted:

Carolyn will be missed. She was a wonderful person. Hugs from MN, Stacey

November 24 at 8:00 PM



**C. Green - New Jersey** posted:

Offering my deepest condolences. May the Christensen family and friends find comfort in the Bible's assurance that "the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out . . ." (John 5:28, 29) May your memories of Carolyn continue to provide you a measure of comfort during this time. For further comfort about what the Bible promises regarding the hope for the dead, kindly visit [www.jw.org](http://www.jw.org).

November 24 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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