



Martha H. Butts

December 21, 1950 - August 9, 2020

Beech Island, SC—Martha Henry Butts, 69, of Beech Island, South Carolina, beloved wife of Richard, passed peacefully into the Arms of JESUS on August 9, 2020. Funeral Services will be held Thursday morning at 10 o'clock from Matlock Baptist Church. Rev. Dale Reeves and Dr. E. Finley Limehouse officiating. Interment will follow in Wesley Chapel UMC Cemetery. The service will be streamed live at <https://www.facebook.com/matlockbaptist/>

A native of Bulloch County, Georgia, Martha moved to the CSRA in order to pursue her passion for education. Mrs. Butts taught school for 37 years, the majority of which were spent at North Augusta High School, where she was a fixture at the school and in the community.

Born in Vidalia, Georgia, Martha was the daughter of John and Evelyn Henry. Mrs. Butts is survived by her beloved husband of 45 years, Richard Butts; her only child, John (Michelle); her precious grandchildren, Nicholas and Katie; her sister Dale Groover (Gilbert); her brother-in-law, Kenneth Butts (Traci); another brother-in-law, Michael Butts; many treasured nieces and nephews, and a much-loved extended family.

A graduate of Georgia Southern College (now University), Mrs. Butts earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in English Literature. While she was teaching, and after her retirement, she also helped local students gain their degrees at Southern Wesleyan University's North Augusta Campus. Martha was a phenomenal educator. She loved all of her students. Her smile could light up a room, but you could hear a pin drop while she was teaching.

Mrs. Butts spent the majority of her time as an educator at North Augusta High School, where she taught "British Literature," "Advanced Composition," "Spanish Language," and served with the International Baccalaureate Programme as the "Extended Essay Coordinator." She also oversaw and taught the "Teacher Cadet" course through The University of South Carolina at Aiken for seniors who wished to pursue a career in the field of Education. Over the years, Mrs. Butts was a mentor to countless students, many of

whom later became personal friends.

Martha Butts was a woman of many talents. From editing formal documents, to writing numerous letters of recommendation for her students, to serving as a hostess for bridal and baby showers, and playing piano at weddings and funerals, Martha enjoyed giving of her time and her talents. Her interests were wide and varied. She also loved to travel, especially to the mountains, and she enjoyed taking her grandchildren to the beach. Martha enjoyed shopping trips and lunch outings with her friends. While devotion to friends was paramount, family meant everything to her.

Christmas was Martha's favorite time of year. Her giving spirit was most associated with this joyous holiday. At North Augusta High School, she and her Teacher Cadets organized a school-wide project which included a toy and clothing drive for local families in need. Each year, the entire school gathered to enjoy the Christmas Program, where gifts were displayed, the band played, and Martha served as "Mrs. Claus."

Music was Martha's favorite language. A gifted pianist, Martha was always at peace when she played, whether alone, or for others. When she played the piano, Martha seemed to be in another world, and it was clear that this was when she felt closest to the LORD. Martha often ministered to others by recording her music and gifting those who were unable to attend church services.

Martha was a devout Christian. Over the last 8 ½ years, she fiercely and courageously battled a number of extremely serious health issues. Throughout her life and especially during her many illnesses, Martha never wavered in her faith or questioned GOD'S will for her life. She was brave; she was kind; she was always hopeful. She was a warrior. With GOD'S grace and her faith, Martha won her battle on her own terms.

Posey Funeral Directors of North Augusta in charge of arrangements (803.278.1181). Visit the registry at www.POSEYCARES.com

Cemetery

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery

1182 Old Jackson Highway
Jackson, SC, SC, 29831

Events

AUG **Service** 10:00AM
13

Matlock Baptist Church
980 Main Street, Jackson, SC,
US

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Posey Funeral Directors - August 11, 2020 at 04:30 PM



“ Thank you God for lending us this BEAUTIFUL SOUL!!

Traci Williams - August 13, 2020 at 08:10 AM



“ Judy Peterson lit a candle in memory of Martha H. Butts



Judy Peterson - August 14, 2020 at 11:02 PM



“ Regenia Flowers lit a candle in memory of Martha H. Butts



Regenia Flowers - August 14, 2020 at 06:03 PM



“ Graham T Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Martha H. Butts



Graham T Mitchell - August 14, 2020 at 08:53 AM



“ Rick I am so saddened by Martha's passing. She was a wonderful friend and I pray she knew how much she was loved. I will miss her texts and calls trying to solve the problems of the day. This just breaks my heart for you all. My oncology friend!! You will be missed. Till we meet again dear friend. 😊



sharon Eagler - August 13, 2020 at 10:55 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Graveside Service



Posey Funeral Directors - August 13, 2020 at 02:21 PM



“ Martha was a truly a wonderful women
I took care of her mother in law I saw her many times a week and even though she was feeling bad was always there for others

Kandy Bish - August 13, 2020 at 01:48 PM



“ I Have known the Butts Family most of my life, I met Martha when she and Rick started dating long ago. I talked to Martha many time during her many struggles with her health. I always had great admiration for her ability to continue to fight and to keep living. She gave her entire live to the things she believed in the most, in God, her marriage, her family and her students, she always tried to smile no matter how bad she felt. REST IN PEICE MARTHA, YOU WILL BE MISSED BY ALL THAT KNEW YOU!



glen oerman - August 13, 2020 at 12:38 PM



“ See you soon, Martha. We can make some beautiful music together. Love you lots.

Sandra Gray - August 13, 2020 at 11:10 AM



“ Home room and English freshman year was my first introduction to Mrs. Butts and I'm so grateful for the years of her influence and mentoring as one of the best teachers I had at NAHS. She not only taught me English but she was my Spanish I teacher and when I didn't need an English credit I made sure to take her Lit Comp class because it really was a requirement. You had to continue taking any class she taught. Mrs. Butts, thank you for all that you taught me, for allowing me to continue to learn under you as a TA and for not taking your red pen to this message! I am forever grateful for your instruction and guidance and I pray for your family and all those that you touched!

Rebecca Alewine Hook - August 12, 2020 at 10:54 PM



“ Martha Butts was a special person that God placed on this Earth to serve others and help make lives better. She was a faithful Christian, a fantastic teacher, a supportive mentor, a remarkable colleague, a wonderful friend. She loved her family, her students, her colleagues, her high school, and her town. North Augusta has lost a pillar of the community, one who influenced thousands over the years. We all will carry her in our heart. I loved her laugh, her quick wit, her compassion for others, her passion for teaching, and her faith. Martha fulfilled her purpose on this Earth, and I know she was met at the gates of Heaven with "Well done, good and faithful servant." We will all miss you, Martha, but I rejoice that you are no longer in pain and have been reunited with those that have gone on before and are enthralled with the beauty and love in Heaven. I look forward to seeing you again one day, sweet friend.

Bobbie Lou Shipman - August 12, 2020 at 10:50 PM



“ Denise Stallings sent a virtual gift in memory of Martha H. Butts



Denise Stallings - August 12, 2020 at 09:05 PM



“ Woody & I are so very sorry & are lifting you all up in our prayers.

Denise Stallings - August 12, 2020 at 09:06 PM



“ My heart goes out to both, Ricky and John, as we all say goodbye to one of God's Angels, sweet Martha! She fought an awesome battle and I am so grateful to have called her my friend and mentor for all the weddings we shared with our local church family! Martha was always gracious, caring, leading, teaching, sharing her love of Jesus Christ our Lord. Sending y prayers and love to you as you learn how to forge your healing journey. May God bless you!

Marilyn Thompson - August 12, 2020 at 08:46 PM



“ As I high school student entering my senior year, I hated English and literature until I met Ms. Butts. The way she taught her class with so much passion, I found joy for English and literature I never had. I truly appreciate her and everything she taught me, and she will be missed.

Jay Harvey - August 12, 2020 at 08:45 PM



“ Ricky so sorry to hear about your loss! Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this difficult time.

Gregg Cato - August 12, 2020 at 05:57 PM



“ Mrs. Butts was a beautiful person, I never had her as a teacher but my brother (Wade) did and after his death she was always there for me, checking in on me and showing her heartfelt love and sympathy. She will truly be missed. Chad McPherson

Chad Mcpherson - August 12, 2020 at 03:56 PM



“ Ricky and John, my heartfelt sympathy to you and your family. Martha was an inspiration to and loved by so many; she will certainly be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Becky (Beard) Day - August 12, 2020 at 10:41 AM



“ Ricky, John and family,
I was so sorry to hear of the passing of your sweet wife/mother.
May the Lord bring to each one of you comfort and strength today and in the coming days. Thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Karen Copeland Kight - August 12, 2020 at 07:46 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Martha H. Butts.



August 11, 2020 at 11:19 PM



“ Martha was one of kind. Once you met her, you could not help by love her. She always had a smile on her face. We met when John and Travis were at Silver Bluff high school together. We were chaperones on many band trips over the years. The world is losing a special woman but Heaven has gained an angel. May God watch over Ricky, John, Michelle and those beautiful grand children. She could never stop talking about them!!!

Beryl Arbaugh - August 11, 2020 at 08:12 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Martha H. Butts.



August 11, 2020 at 05:59 PM



“ 35 files added to the album LifeTributes



Posey Funeral Directors - August 11, 2020 at 04:31 PM



“ Was so sad to hear of the passing of Mrs. Butts. She was my favorite teacher at NAHS and my senior year was the only year I enjoyed English class.

Amanda (Poston) Wales c/o 1995

amanda wales - August 11, 2020 at 10:38 AM



“ Love to and prayers for Martha's family and friends.
April & Tom Lowry
(parents of one of her students - Rebekah Lowry Epting- at NAHS class of 2009)

April G Lowry - August 11, 2020 at 09:01 AM



“ Prayers for comfort to all of the people who's lives great lady touched.

Russ Starnes - August 11, 2020 at 08:32 AM



“ May God bless this family in this time of sorrow.

Robert and Mary Whatley - August 11, 2020 at 04:45 AM



“ During my senior year of high school, I technically didn't have to take an English Language Arts course since I had enough credits already. However, I CHOSE to. Why? Because EVERYONE wanted to take a class where Martha Butts was teaching. She was legendary. I signed up for Advanced Composition Honors, and my life changed forever. Sixth period was what I looked forward to EVERY SINGLE DAY.

I have always had a passion for writing, and Mrs. Butts saw that talent immediately. I wanted to be a journalist. I knew what I wanted in life and I went after it. In fact, Martha Butts encouraged me to go after any desire or dream I had. When those dreams wouldn't totally turn out the way I envisioned, I'd walk in her classroom, or call her up (post High School) and chat about the new possibilities that surrounded me. She always encouraged me. She's a huge reason I entered the teaching field instead of journalism. She believed in me. At one point, she called me her "shining star". You see, I wasn't just another student to Martha Butts. I was one she truly cared about. She cared about ALL of her students, and most of all - the students of NAHS. Everyone who met her knew that she adored North Augusta.

Now, she rests in the arms of Jesus. She's my hero, y'all. She fought a battle with cancer and she won the ULTIMATE reward; a home in Heaven . I love you Mrs. Butts. I hope I can inspire students the way you inspired me. YOU are now MY shining star. Guide me forever.

#theteacher #inspiration #myhero #cancerfreeinthearmsofjesus

-Caroline (Price) Sparrow c/o 2005

Caroline Sparrow - August 11, 2020 at 12:13 AM



“ i never had Mrs.Butts for a teachers but i remember bagging her groceries,she was a sweet lady and i love her very much,i'm at a loss for words,but i will see you again in heaven,i love you Mrs.Martha Butts.i will miss you something awful.
Danny Akin

Danny C Akin - August 10, 2020 at 11:43 PM



“ You were an angel here on earth and now you are continuing in heaven above. Thank you for the education that I was lucky enough receive, for the friendship you shared and the love you bestowed. Forever in our hearts!

Lauren Felder Amos - August 10, 2020 at 11:14 PM



“ Mrs Butts was not only a wonderful teacher, but she was a great friend! She helped me get through my chemo, even while she was going through her own. She always had a positive word for me every treatment. I'll definitely miss seeing her and talking with her. My heart is broken, but I know you are in the arms of our Lord and savior. No more pain, no more fighting. God's grace has taken you home where I know you will be watching over all of us.

April White - August 10, 2020 at 10:49 PM



“ Curtis & Jessie Wheeler lit a candle in memory of Martha H. Butts



Curtis & Jessie Wheeler - August 10, 2020 at 10:31 PM



“ We lit this candle for Mrs Butts whose light will always shine in our hearts. Love, Curtis Wheeler & Family

Curtis - August 10, 2020 at 10:45 PM



“ She was someone who was a TRULY good person. I'd never heard a negative thing about her and she made an impact on a lot of folks. My most sincere condolences.

Michael White - August 10, 2020 at 10:18 PM



“ It was such a privilege to teach with Martha at NASH. Even though we moved from North Augusta in 1985, we stayed in contact through the years. She was always an inspiration & encourager. She truly lived her faith daily.

Marveena Lynch - August 10, 2020 at 10:14 PM



“ Martha made such an impact on my life. She guided me and encouraged me thru one of the most trying times of my life. Her words and the love and understanding she showed will never be forgotten. May she rest in peace

Sherri Falllaw - August 10, 2020 at 10:07 PM



“ Mrs. Butts was my son's teacher. We are very sad to hear of her death.

Carolyn Williams - August 10, 2020 at 09:53 PM



“ Martha was a strong yet kind friend. I will miss her and her encouragement

Joe Holt - August 10, 2020 at 09:50 PM



“ Martha was an amazing teacher, mentor, and friend to many of us at North Augusta High School. As a new teacher I found her checking on me from time to time to see how I was adjusting. She always had a kind word and wisdom to help me with anything. Our Christmas program every year ended with me shedding a tear because her thoughtful words always touched my soul. Even after she left, she made it a point to check up on me through Facebook. She was a true inspiration to me and many others and my life will forever be changed by the compassion and love she showed me. I will be thinking of you all and sending you wishes for peace and comfort.

Shawn Laxson - August 10, 2020 at 09:33 PM



“ To be around Martha was like seeing Jesus at work. She always had a smile and a soft, kind word. I greatly admired her determination to battle each medical challenge, and they seemed to keep right on coming. I'll bet the devil was running out of things to throw at her. I remember Martha telling us how she actually taught the Bible by using it in her literature classes. Her skills at the piano were phenomenal and it was always such a treat for those blessed to hear her. Martha will be greatly missed. My prayer is that Ricky and John will take comfort in knowing she is no longer in pain and rejoice in their memories. You can rest in the knowledge you will be reunited.

Pat Osteen - August 10, 2020 at 09:30 PM



“ For 41 years, Martha has been my mentor and advisor as well as a dedicated and loyal friend. I will miss her texts and phone calls. I loved Martha and will miss her.

Dianne Smiley - August 10, 2020 at 09:30 PM



“ Absolutely the best of the best. Godspeed.

Cindy McNeill - August 10, 2020 at 09:24 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Martha H. Butts.



August 10, 2020 at 09:23 PM



“ My heart breaks for y'all. She was an amazing lady and I'll always remember her kindness and sweet spirit. I know she'll be greatly missed. Prayers for all of you in the days ahead. She's healed and in her fathers arms...

Teresa Baxley Morris - August 10, 2020 at 08:48 PM



“ She was absolutely the best! Praying for her family, friends, colleagues, and all who were blessed to know and love her!



Jennifer Stone Harley - August 10, 2020 at 08:30 PM



“ Ricky, we are so sorry for your family's loss. Martha was truly one of a kind who inspired many and was loved by all. She was one of our mom's dearest friends and I'm sure mom was one of the first to meet her when she crossed over. May God grant comfort and peace to your family in this time of sorrow.

Jim and Betty Beard - August 10, 2020 at 08:10 PM



“ Martha was a great encourager and friend to all those around her I pray for GOD'S peace to bless Ricky and the family as they treasure all the memories she left for them heaven's gate opened wide and welcomed this precious lady home with love and respect Rhonda Coward Davis

Rhonda Davis - August 10, 2020 at 08:04 PM



“ Deepest sympathy to the family.

Richie Lou Porter - August 10, 2020 at 07:51 PM



“ “Martha was a great person and good friend. She directed our wedding, many years ago. We will always love and remember her. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.”

Sandra & Blair Jones - August 10, 2020 at 07:32 PM



“ Ricky and family. I am so very sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Julie Burnside Whitaker - August 10, 2020 at 06:46 PM



“ We know Heaven is rejoicing while Martha is playing the piano while the angel sing! We all were truly blessed every time Martha played “The King is Coming ” at church! Martha was such a great friend to so many people! We enjoyed talking school and grandchildren. She LOVED sharing stories about Nicholas and Katie!

Martha was such an amazing lady and will be truly missed ! We are praying for you Ricky , John and family.

Luann and Clint Baker - August 10, 2020 at 06:39 PM



“ Prayers for the family, May God give you comfort

Michael Martin - August 10, 2020 at 06:11 PM



“ You will be missed by so many. Thank you for sharing your life with so many of us. We are all better people because of you! Praying for your grandbabies.

Ginny Maxwell - August 10, 2020 at 05:42 PM