



## Debbie Hennessee

August 24, 1955 - December 3, 2024

Debbie Hennessee, 69, entered into the presence of the Lord on December 3, 2024.

Debbie lived most of her life in North Augusta, South Carolina. An avid lover of education, she dedicated 35 years of her life to teaching third grade students at Douglas Elementary School. The faculty and students at Douglas held a special place in her heart and it brought her great pride to teach multiple generations. Forever a teacher at heart, Debbie's favorite students were her great nephew and niece, Reid and Adaline Oestreich. She spent much of her retirement taking them to book fairs and libraries, volunteering at their schools, and even creating folders of learning activities for them.

Debbie spent 27 summers from 1985-2012 at Noah's Ark in Panama City Beach Florida. Deemed the permanent resident of room 2, the staff remember her best for her wild antics and enthusiastic, though terribly off key, rendition of Father Abraham, which she proudly performed on stage each night. Debbie always knew how to make others laugh, and while she was the adult chaperone in many instances, she was never too old to participate in prank wars with the college staff.

Debbie was always unapologetically exactly herself. Whether she was tricking her siblings by saying she could do magic and turn their popsicles white (then

sucking out all the flavor before returning plain ice to them, working her way into James Browns private funeral, embarrassing her nieces, or making videos of herself trying to carry a tune to show her musician friends, Debbie created waves of fun and laughter wherever she went.

She is survived by her stepmother, Simone Hennessee; sisters, Tammie (Glenn) Meadows, and Brenda Hennessee (Robby Osborn); as well as her nieces and nephews, Krystal (Kyle) Oestreich, Megan (Will) Kuckro, Ryan Tengel (José Ibarra), Karoline (DJ) Traynor, Kaitlyn (Hayden) Franklin, Tracy (Ray) Williams, and Robert Meadows. Great nieces and nephews include Reid and Adaline Oestreich, Mason, Baker and Hayes Franklin, Owen and Emma Traynor, Savannah (Steven) Manuel, and Summer and Autumn Archer. She is preceded in death by her parents, Rev. Dr. Robert L. Hennessee and Marjorie C. Hennessee, and brother, Robert L. Hennessee Jr.

Her family would like to thank the staff at Augusta Oncology for their care and support. Debbie looked forward to going to chemo because as she put it, she enjoyed her social time and being their “favorite patient”.

Funeral Services will be conducted Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock at Grace United Methodist Church with Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson and Dr. T. Joseph Lusk officiating. The family will receive friends at the church one hour prior to the service in the Wesley Center. Interment will be private.

Active Pallbearers will be Kyle Oestreich, Will Riggs, Will Kuckro, José Ibarra, D.J. Traynor, Hadden Franklin, George Briggs, Bud Ziph, Roger McWaters, Ed Ward, and Ray Williams. Honorary Pallbearers will be Debbie's great-nephews, cousins, the Women of Faith Sunday School Class, and her Noah's Ark Family.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that you make a donation to Grace United

Methodist Church (Women of Faith Sunday School Class) or Noah's Ark  
(Panama City).

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

DEC 9. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Grace United Methodist Church Wesley Center  
639 Georgia Avenue  
North Augusta, SC

### Service

DEC 9. 3:00 PM (ET)

Grace United Methodist Church  
639 Georgia Ave  
North Augusta, SC 29841  
(803) 279-7525

# Tribute Wall



“ *Posey Funeral Directors created a Tribute Video in memory of Debbie Hennessee*



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**Posey Funeral Directors** - December 06, 2024 at 05:01 PM

TM

“ *7 months without you! I love you so much! I miss you sis! You were complicated but man you loved your people!*



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**Tammie Meadows** - July 09, 2025 at 09:18 PM

GH

“ *Remembering our days working together at Douglas Elementary. Debbie, with her robust spirit for teaching, was always smiling. She'll always be remembered!*



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**Gloria Owens Huff** - December 09, 2024 at 06:30 PM

SE

“ *Staff of Edgefield County Adult Ed. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Debbie Hennessee.*



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**Staff of Edgefield County Adult Ed.** - December 09, 2024 at 09:08 AM

TM

“ *Terdell Mealing lit a candle in memory of Debbie Hennessee*



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**Terdell Mealing** - December 08, 2024 at 07:07 PM

CM

“ *Claudia and Rick Mahaffie purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Debbie Hennessee.*



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**Claudia and Rick Mahaffie** - December 08, 2024 at 05:16 PM



“ 143 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



**Posey Funeral Directors** - December 06, 2024 at 11:58 AM

DO

“ *Remembering the fun times we had working together, and knowing God was pleased to see His faithful servant!*



**Debra Oehlberg** - December 04, 2024 at 09:54 PM

BK

“ *Betty Kingdom purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Debbie Hennessee.*



**Betty Kingdom** - December 04, 2024 at 07:40 PM

LG

“ *Debbie had a great quest for life and she had a wonderful teaching life as well. I knew her at Erskine and that was a blessing. I will miss you.*

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**Lisa Galloway** - December 04, 2024 at 07:16 PM

JD

“ *Rest in peace Ms. Hennessy.*



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**Jacqueline Dobey** - December 04, 2024 at 06:49 PM

LA

“ *You were one of the best. Really cared about her students and love to have fun. You are already missed by so many. Rest in Heaven for a job well done.*

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**Latoya Andrews** - December 04, 2024 at 06:26 PM

SD

“ *Oh Debbie! Heaven gained a good one! The highlight of many summers was seeing Debbie's face light up the room! Never could tell me if the shell band was for sale... Thank you, Debbie, for the laughter and the many many memories. I'll cherish you forever! XO. Staci (Dennis) DeGregori*

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**Staci (Dennis) DeGregori** - December 04, 2024 at 06:08 PM

RB

“ *Hennessee was one of the most awesome educators and advocates for all learners. We worked together at Douglas and Adult Education. We always had a good time together and she cared deeply for her colleagues and learners. I am comforted that she is with her savior.*

*My prayers are with you all especially her little ones. She loved them and you all do much.*

*Rev. Veronica Michelle Brown-Mars*

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**Rev. Veronica Michelle Brown-Mars** - December 04, 2024 at 05:58 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Debbie Hennessee.*



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December 04, 2024 at 03:27 PM

CN

“ Oh Debbie what fun we had at Erskine!! As my suite mate for 3 years it was never a dull moment with you. Singing in our very small bathroom to riding invisible motorcycles in the hall were such fun times! I remember playing softball after dinners and cheering each other on! And you were the fellow classmate that gave me my nickname “Craigor!” at one of those first games. Afterwards you called me that name for the remainder of our College days. But by far the most memorable fun and biggest prank was the night we stole the Shoneys Big Boy and you were in the truck □ bringing it back to campus. What a hilarious story when the next morning there he sat on top of the area between Belk and the dining hall!! I remember being so tired and exhausted the next day after I helped hoist that guy up to the top. Then it made the newspaper!!



*You were and still are one of a kind. You're such a star!!*

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Cathy Craig Neil - December 04, 2024 at 03:17 PM

CM

“ Oh "Little Debbie", the things we all did!!! So much fun over many, many years. I am going to miss you and your stories. I love you girl. Go easy on the Angelic Choirs..better yet just mouth the words.

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Claudia R Mahaffie - December 04, 2024 at 01:08 PM