



Donna Joy Gunnells

July 26, 1954 - February 14, 2016

Ms. Donna Joy Gunnells, 61, of Charlotte, died at her home on Sunday, February 14, 2016.

Born in Charlotte on July 26, 1954, Donna was the daughter of Donald Jackson Gunnells and Myrtle Joyce Simpson. She was a lifelong resident of Charlotte. While she enjoyed many things in life, she most enjoyed time spent with family and friends and she will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

In addition to numerous other family members and friends, Donna is survived by a son, Matthew Fortson of West Valley, Utah; a daughter, Dana Fortson of Brooklyn, New York; two sisters: Julie Whisnant and Lisa Shapiro; and two brothers: Donnie Gunnells and Ricky Gunnells.

Private family services are being planned and a more detailed obituary will be posted in the days ahead. Please take a moment to share memories and photos on Donna's tribute wall. To be automatically notified to updates to Donna's online memorial page, please select the "More" tab above and then subscribe to updates.

On behalf of the family, thank you for keeping them in thoughts, prayers and for your acts of kindness, those done and those yet to be.

Tribute Wall



“ *Donna Joy Gunnells*

October 05, 2023 at 07:26 AM



“ *Donna Joy Gunnells*

October 24, 2022 at 08:52 PM



“ *Thinking of you often. I miss our visits together. We shared a beautiful friendship. You will be missed.*

Tony Purser

Ellen Ponton - June 01, 2016 at 09:46 AM



“ *I remember when we visited North Carolina and Donna would make us grape kool-aid Popsicles and help us pull the butts of the lightning bugs off and stick them to our ears. So fun. We'll miss her.*

Todd Simpson - March 01, 2016 at 10:51 PM



“ *Lisa Shapiro lit a candle in memory of Donna Joy Gunnells*



Lisa Shapiro - February 24, 2016 at 06:27 PM

LS *Blue candle lit for you and me. Reminds me of you in so many ways my big sister Donna ... Carolina blue skies, Carolina Panthers our team, lighting candles together like Mama and I used to do making us feel closer across the miles. I'll continue to light our candle to represent your eternal flame of life. The laughs we shared, jokes we giggled at, long talks we had about everything and nothing at all. I'll miss having coffee together on the weekends. Miss talking about family. Miss your infectious laugh. Miss sharing music with each other. I'm missing all of you ... the big and the little things in life. Thank you for being there for me through it all. You got me and I you. Shine on DG ... Shine on. I'll be here looking up at the sky for you and know we'll be together again one day. Give me a long hug and kiss first then strike up the band, get the music going and let's dance our dance of joy, Joy, JOY.*

Lisa Shapiro - February 24, 2016 at 06:30 PM



“ 7 files added to the album Memories Album



Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home - February 22, 2016 at 12:19 PM

LI

Ooh I love every single one of these pictures. They bring back so many wonderful memories and happy times. I love you all so very very much. God is holding us all in His loving Grace. I just know it, Lisa

Lisa - February 22, 2016 at 03:26 PM

HA

“ *Nana Donna, I will miss all of your calls, even the buzz at school. ?❤️? I will never forget when we came and surprised you 3 years ago and we took you to Bojangles. I will also never forget all the text messages and voicemails, I will always keep them. ❤️❤️ I hope you are playing that air guitar of yours and watching my family. Love and Miss you!?!💕?*

Halie - February 21, 2016 at 05:08 PM

SF

“ *My grandma was very loving and she cared about everyone. My fsvorite memory was recently a couple days before this tragedy. Well it was that me my sister my brother and dad called her and we pulled a prank on her saying that my dad got his ears pierced and she actually believed us but she eventually found out because of all the giggles and then she laughed it was great. Oh I miss her so much. she is a beautiful lady.*



Shalyissa Fortson - February 20, 2016 at 10:27 PM

JE

“ Jennifer lit a candle in memory of Donna Joy Gunnells



Jennifer - February 20, 2016 at 09:27 PM

KF

“ Dearest Donna ❤️

Not only did you accept me as your daughter in law but as your daughter. You were always so ever sweet to me making me feel so loved and special by always telling me how beautiful you thought I was and how special I was to you . You always let me know how much you appreciated me taking such good care of Matthew and the kids. We never ever had a dull short conversation . Some were crazy some were emotional and most were so sentimental . I know how much you loved your grand babies and they too loved you ! I will never ever forget that bad ass mean air guitar that you could play ::: Bow wa wow wow wow :: (This has me laughing and crying so hard at the same time right now thinking of it) ! Your corkiness will be missed for sure!!!!

Love you lots!!!! Xox

Kristie .

Kristie Fortson - February 20, 2016 at 06:36 PM