



## John "Checkers" White III

September 1, 1948 - January 22, 2017

John Cephas "Checkers" White III of Matthews, NC passed away unexpectedly from an aggressive form of cancer on Sunday, January, 22nd 2017. He died at Carolinas Medical Center with family and friends by his side.

John was born in Charlotte, NC to John C. White Jr and Katherine Simms White on September, 1st 1948. He graduated from East Mecklenburg High School in 1966 where he excelled in golf, wrestling and baseball. He continued his education at Wingate and Baptist College of Charleston.

John spent most of his career at American Red Cross where he served in many roles, including many years as a product service coordinator. This role allowed him to support regional hospitals with the blood and platelet needs to serve their patients. After retiring, he became part of the maintenance team at Pine Lake Country Club.

Checkers loved many things in his life, especially his wife, daughter and family. Live music and beautiful mornings on the golf course were some of his favorite times and places. A native Charlottean, he had accrued a huge circle of friends over his lifetime.

Checkers married Cheryl Cummings White on May 1st 1981. They were married for 35 years and lived together in Matthews. He is survived by his wife

and one daughter, Melissa Cummings Peterson, with her husband Thomas of Morrison, Colorado.

Other surviving family members include his loving sisters, Alison White Bozeman with her husband Tony of North Carolina, and Katherine "Kay" White Slattery with her husband Michael of Caldwell, NJ, niece Julie Slattery Balsamo with her husband Phil of New Jersey, and nephews John Slattery with his wife Holly of Connecticut and Michael Slattery with his wife Christine of New Jersey.

His family would like to thank the wonderful staff of CMC-Mercy, Levine Cancer Center, and CMC- Main who all helped him be as comfortable as possible in his last days. In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation to the America Red Cross in his name.

Following the service, the family would like to invite everyone to a gathering at the Comet Grill at 22224 Park Rd. Charlotte, NC. All are welcome!

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Service

JAN **26**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home  
4715 Margaret Wallace Road  
Matthews, NC 28105  
(866) 682-4043  
info@loweneddo.com  
<https://www.loweneddofuneralhome.com>

## Gathering of Friends and Family

JAN **26**. 3:00 PM (ET)

Comet Grill  
2224 Park Road  
Charlotte, NC 28203  
<http://cometgrillcharlotte.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *John "Checkers" White III*

October 05, 2023 at 07:26 AM



“ *John "Checkers" White III*

October 24, 2022 at 08:52 PM



“ *Cheri , I'm so sorry to hear about Checkers. I luckily got to see him over Christmas while I was was in the states. Just shocking and sad news about one of my favorite friends. Condolences to you and your family. He will be greatly missed.*

**Fred Tuttle** - February 03, 2017 at 09:26 PM



“ *one week today....feels like a lifetime. will love and miss you always.*

**Ali** - January 29, 2017 at 01:09 PM



“ *Checkers will be missed but never forgotten; great man, great friend!*

**Jack Slesinger** - January 26, 2017 at 10:14 PM

KB

“ Always a fun time at Red Cross with John or "Juan Blanco"! From Belle Acres to walking the halls at Red Cross, fond memories of a great, caring guy. Sympathy to your family.  
Katherine Maddrey Barrier



---

**Katherine Barrier** - January 26, 2017 at 08:29 PM

JM

“ Very little to add here about the kindness, loyalty and true friendship always offered by "Checkers" but I will add one short golf story that I hope all will enjoy.

One busy afternoon at "Rev" the starter was on the loudspeaker calling the next group in line to the tee. It was myself, Checkers, Earl K. and Terch W. Well, since "White" was the shortest surname in the group we gave that name to the starter without a second thought. Knowing the predominant "ethnic culture" of Rev., you can imagine the uproar of laughter (from all nearby) when the starter announced, "Will the White group please take the tee"...twice. Yes, we were the only "white" group within earshot.

So many good memories of times with John "Checkers" White.

---

**Jack McDonagh** - January 26, 2017 at 06:42 PM

LS

“ Linda Sledge lit a candle in memory of John "Checkers" White III



---

**Linda Sledge** - January 26, 2017 at 05:31 PM

SY

“ I am so sad to hear about Checkers. I will always remember him as kind and fun with a smile on his face. Always wanting to hear how I was doing and what was going on in my life. Always encouraging and upbeat. What an incredible human being. I cannot imagine my next trip to Charlotte and The Comet without being greeted by Checkers with a hug.  
Wishing love, peace and comfort to his family.

Sharon Yopp

Sharon Yopp - January 26, 2017 at 04:50 PM

EN

“ Elaine Needham lit a candle in memory of John "Checkers" White III



Elaine Needham - January 26, 2017 at 10:39 AM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of John "Checkers" White III.



January 26, 2017 at 09:16 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. John was a great guy. We worked together years ago when I was in the Carolinas Region. My thoughts and prayers are with the family during this time.

Denise Brookie - January 26, 2017 at 07:35 AM

GS

“ Johnny was my first cousin`and my best buddy whenever we were both visiting our grandmother, MaNina. He taught me to play Monopoly, Dominoes, War, Old Maid, Go Fish and Gin Rummy. MaNina had a huge sandpile in her backyard. During daylight hours, we would make roads, build cities and plant twigs in the sand to represent trees. Once done, we would use our cars and trucks to go over and over all the roads and through the cities until dark fell. We had so much fun! When I think of him, I think of his infectious laughter, his warm smile and his sweet, kind soul. He was a gentle giant who loved everyone he met. I never heard him speak unkindly of anyone. He was a hard worker and was devoted to his wife and daughter - they were his life's joy. If Johnny loved you, you were his friend for life. I will miss him more than I can say. May God hold him, comfort him and bless him. I picture God placing him at the Main Gate to welcome and calm new arrivals. Johnny, "Well done thou good and faithful servant." You always served others - may you now be served in the presence of our Lord.

Gail Skidmore  
Pilot Mountain, NC



---

Gail Skidmore - January 25, 2017 at 10:43 PM

EK

“ Twenty Six years ago John helped me move my family across the neighborhood to a new house and he volunteered his help. I didn't even have to ask him and that speaks volumes to his kind and caring personality. I battled Checkers in many rounds of golf and usually came up on the short end of the stick but he was a gracious winner and a gracious loser. Also remember a few months ago playing at his club where he worked and he was concerned about an employee who had rescued a dog and he gave her money for the vet bill. I worked with John for over 30 years at the Red Cross and he was a fantastic co-worker. He has left a great legacy and I will always treasure his friendship.

Earl Killian - January 25, 2017 at 10:11 PM

DT

“ Checkers you were one of the good guys! Always a gentleman! RIP!  
Debbie Tucker

Deborah Tucker - January 25, 2017 at 09:00 PM



“ 53 files added to the album LifeTributes



Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home - January 25, 2017 at 05:21 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of John "Checkers" White III.



---

January 25, 2017 at 04:07 PM



“ *Jeri & John Beaumont purchased the Small Garden Dish* for the family of John "Checkers" White III.



---

**Jeri & John Beaumont** - January 25, 2017 at 03:43 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of John "Checkers" White III.



---

January 25, 2017 at 01:44 PM



“ *Mary Blake lit a candle in memory of John "Checkers" White III*



---

**Mary Blake** - January 25, 2017 at 12:50 PM

MB

*RIP Johnny. We had some days to remember at ARC. I remember you and I bet who would be next to retire after you. I said it would be me. And you said I would never Retire. When something came up and I needed help you would say. "I'm not helping you" but you always did. That's the kind of person you were to work with a good one. I know you will truly be missed by all whose life you touched especially your family and friends.*

---

**Mary Blake** - January 25, 2017 at 01:03 PM

EP

“*Checkers was a remarkable man who never met a stranger. He had the gift of making you feel that you were the most important person in the room with his smile, laugh and warmth that he gave to all. Checkers loved his family as he did life . Truly a one of a kind man. In 25 years I never saw anything but a kind soul standing in front of me. Our last laugh and hug on 12/23 will always be close to my heart.*

---

**elizabeth porter** - January 25, 2017 at 11:50 AM

MS

“*Kay's brother, John White, passed away yesterday from complications from melanoma. Known to our kids as Big Johnny, and to his many friends here in Charlotte as "Checkers", Johnny was much more than a great brother-in-law. He was one of the nicest, big hearted guys you'd ever meet. He was just a kid when I showed up courting his big sister, but we soon became life long friends. He was a wonderful golfer and would never get mad at me when I screwed up at the McMillan member guest at EFCC. One year we actually won our flight! Big Johnny/ Checkers will be sorely missed by all. We will not see his likes again.*

---

**michael slattery** - January 25, 2017 at 10:07 AM

KS

*I have known Mr. Cummings for 23 years. He is our neighbor and Melissa and I went to school together. Everytime I saw him walking the dogs he always had a smile on his face and would speak walking by. I'm so sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Cummings. Your family is in our prayers.*

Kristy Whitley Spruill - January 25, 2017 at 04:52 PM



“*Checkers was the friendliest, kindest soul you could meet. News of his passing is such a shock. I, as well as many others, will miss his friendship and his kind words. Rest my friend.*”

Bee Finn - January 25, 2017 at 09:53 AM

CL

“*He played 'Sticky Fingers" and "Exile On MainStreet for me. My life went Technicolor that winter . Missed you for 42 years. Maybe we'll have an early morning time and own a couple of travelers where they have to double the back. You're up....Chuck Lemmons*”



Chuck Lemmons - January 24, 2017 at 10:29 PM



“*Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of John "Checkers" White III.*”



January 24, 2017 at 06:51 PM

EL

“ Elizabeth lit a candle in memory of John  
"Checkers" White III



Elizabeth - January 24, 2017 at 06:02 PM

BC

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Bob Craze - January 24, 2017 at 03:13 PM

BC

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Bob Craze - January 24, 2017 at 03:10 PM

TW

Thanks for the picture Bob. My great friend who added a positive aura  
just by his presence. Checkers you will be so missed by so many. TW

Terch Whitesides - January 25, 2017 at 07:47 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John "Checkers" White III.*



January 24, 2017 at 02:11 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of John "Checkers" White III.*



January 24, 2017 at 02:08 PM



“ *John was an amazing coworker at the ARC...He always had a huge smile, love for his family & friends. He was loving his retirement! I was saddened to hear of his illness and passing but know he is living the dream in Heaven. Hugs, love & prayers to all whom loved & adored him especially his family.*

**Tina McAninch** - January 24, 2017 at 11:56 AM



“ *Tina McAninch lit a candle in memory of John "Checkers" White III*



**Tina McAninch** - January 24, 2017 at 11:54 AM