



Melinda Tolley Howard

July 9, 1961 - April 5, 2023

Melinda Gale Tolley Howard, 61, of Cleveland, passed away on Wednesday, April 5, 2023.

Born in Marietta, she was the daughter of Linda Swords Clark, and the late William Tolley. Mrs. Howard retired from Sevier Middle School, was a member of Grace in the Wilderness, and was a member of Cleveland First Baptist Church.

Surviving are her husband: James Barry Howard; one daughter: Jessica Bridges (Joseph); one daughter-in-law: Amber Howard; two brothers: Scott Tolley (Nancy) and David Tolley; and six grandchildren: Caroline Bridges, Bethany Bridges, Rebecca Bridges, Aubree Howard, Bentley Smith, and Brayden Smith.

Along with her father, she was predeceased by one son, Jordan Barry Howard.

The family will receive friends Monday from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Cleveland First Baptist Church.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Monday at Cleveland First Baptist Church. Burial will follow in the Howard Family Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Cleveland First Baptist Church, VBS fund, P.O. Box 305, Cleveland, SC 29635, or Grace in the Wilderness, P.O. Box 14848, Greenville, SC 29610.

The Howze Mortuary, Travelers Rest is in charge of arrangements. (864) 834-8051

Cemetery Details

Howard Family Cemetery

138 River Falls Road
Marietta, SC 29661

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 10. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Cleveland First Baptist Church
5 Church Dr
Cleveland, SC 29635
(864) 836-6964

Service

APR 10. 2:00 PM (ET)

Cleveland First Baptist Church
5 Church Dr
Cleveland, SC 29635
(864) 836-6964

Tribute Wall

JM

“ *Joy McCarson lit a candle in memory of Melinda Howard*



Joy McCarson - April 10, 2023 at 01:19 AM

AD

“ *Sweet lady. We were classmates all the way through school. Never a better friend.*

Ann Diamond - April 09, 2023 at 04:17 PM

KD

“ I posted this but I’m not sure it went through. I’ve known Melinda and her family since I was old enough to walk. We grew up in Church together along with Linda, her wonderful mother, Will, her father, graduated from TRHS with her brother David and knew her brother Scott too. Melinda and I kept in touch because we drove a HS Spec.Ed School bus together. We became really good friends. It’s how she explained her Lupus to me. Little did I know years later we would reconnect again because I had developed an Autoimmune Disorder, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Sjögren’s & Adrenal Failure. She and I would talk as much as possible every day as she explained all the years she had survived this disease. By then, I had become so sick from the treatments & all the side effects it had upon me. We both agreed that Praying to the Lord Jesus Christ was our way of getting through these hard times on a daily basis. Even when her son had died, I was there for her by phone. As by then I couldn’t see to drive. Melinda and her whole family has been such an Inspiration in my entire life. I just wish I had known she had been sick these past couple of months. The best memory I had of her and her mother was they came up to our home riding horses but it was a bad moment for Melinda as prior to arriving Melinda had been stung several times by yellow jackets in the woods. I remember my mother, Doris Poole helping Linda take care of Melinda with those bee stings. They stayed until she was stabilized and the pain had finally calmed down. Melinda was the Inspiration I needed after losing my mother and she always reminded me to keep believing in the Lord, and using that willpower inside my heart (even when I was overseas in Iraq) for one’s Willpower is only as strong as one’s Faith in the Lord God, Jesus Christ Our Savior and the Holy Ghost. I know someday soon we’ll all be together soon in Heaven. God Bless this wonderful Family “Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.” Matthew 5, “The Beatitudes”.

With Loving Memories, Kittie Poole Dailey.



Kittie Poole Dailey - April 09, 2023 at 12:56 AM

KD

“ I’ve known Melinda and her family since I was old enough to walk. We grew up in Church together along with Linda, her wonderful mother, Will, her father, graduated from TRHS with her brother David and knew her brother Scott too. Melinda and I kept in touch because we drove a HS Spec.Ed School bus together. We became really good friends. It’s how she explained her Lupus to me. Little did I know years later we would reconnect again because I had developed an Autoimmune Disorder, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Sjögren’s & Adrenal Failure. She and I would talk as much as possible every day as she explained all the years she had survived this disease. By then, I had become so sick from the treatments & all the side effects it had upon me. We both agreed that Praying to the Lord Jesus Christ was our way of getting through these hard times on a daily basis. Even when her son had died, I was there for her by phone. As by then I couldn’t see to drive. Melinda and her whole family has been such an Inspiration in my entire life. I just wish I had known she had been sick these past couple of months. The best memory I had of her and her mother was they came up to our home riding horses but it was a bad moment for Melinda as prior to arriving Melinda had been stung sev times by yellow jackets in the woods. I remember my mother, Doris Poole helping Linda take care of Melinda with those bee stings. They stayed until she was stabilized and the pain had finally calmed down. Melinda was the Inspiration I needed after losing my mother and she always reminded me to keep believing in the Lord, and using that willpower inside my heart (even when I was overseas in Iraq) for one’s Willpower is only as strong as one’s Faith in the Lord God, Jesus Christ Our Savior and the Holy Ghost. I know someday soon we’ll all be together soon in Heaven. God Bless this wonderful Family “Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.” Matthew 5, “The Beatitudes”.

With Loving Memories, Kittie Poole Dailey.

Kittie Poole Dailey - April 09, 2023 at 12:41 AM

GR

“ *Melinda was a true friend. We had so much in common it made it easy for us to talk. I loved to hear her laugh. She chose to see the positive side of everything. Melinda loved her family deeply. She will be missed by anyone who was blessed to know her.*

Ginger Reeves - April 08, 2023 at 11:06 PM

NT

And we were blessed...

Nancy Crosland Taylor - April 11, 2023 at 11:09 PM

MW

“ *She was our beautiful role model, always smiling; never complaining, no matter what life gave her. Mary Boyd Williams*

Mary Boyd Williams - April 08, 2023 at 01:36 PM

KM

“ *Melinda was one of my best friends in high school. We rode horses and drove school buses together. She was a great person and will be greatly missed by everyone whose life she touched. Sending love and prayers to the family!*



kjm martin - April 08, 2023 at 10:59 AM

NL

“ *Nancy Lance lit a candle in memory of Melinda Howard*



Nancy Lance - April 08, 2023 at 09:21 AM

PE

“ Prayers and much love from the Moody sibs to our "family", the Tolleys.,and the Howard family.Barry,you and yours are in our thoughts,and hearts.I'm so very sorry... We love y'all. We loved her.God Bless....



PeachieMoodyBuzbee - April 08, 2023 at 01:05 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Melinda Tolley Howard.



April 07, 2023 at 10:06 PM

RO

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with this dear family.
With heartfelt sympathy,
Daniel & Rebecca Owens

Rebecca Owens - April 07, 2023 at 09:19 PM

RC

“ I am so sorry to hear of Melinda's death , I know she suffered with her illness a lot of years. She was an inspiration to all who knew her, we went to school together and she and I drove school busses in high school . I pray God will carry you through this difficult time just knowing she is with Jordan gives me peace. God bless you all.Becky Presnell Coggins

Rebecca Coggins - April 07, 2023 at 05:15 PM

GB

“ *Gaynell Nathan Bayne lit a candle in memory of Melinda Howard*



Gaynell and Nathan Bayne - April 07, 2023 at 05:12 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Melinda Tolley Howard.*



April 07, 2023 at 04:58 PM

JC

“ *Rest in peace sweet lady/*



Janet Chandler - April 07, 2023 at 04:43 PM