



Cheryl Pitts Hicks

December 30, 1947 - April 7, 2026

"When peace like a river attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say it is well, it is well, with my soul."
Cheryl Pitts Hicks, the only daughter and oldest of three children born to Charlie Eugene Pitts and Ida Rachel Cochran Pitts, was born on December 30, 1947, at Crawford Long Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia and passed away on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 with her husband Jerry Hicks, and her children, Kimberly Madison and Kevin Feil at her side. Cheryl was the cherished heartbeat of her family, a gracious Southern lady who left a legacy of faith, family, and friends.

In Cheryl's words, she enjoyed an idyllic childhood on Rockhaven Circle and later, Cedarbrook Court in Atlanta, Georgia along with her two brothers Ronnie and David. From the moment she was born, Cheryl was the apple of her family's eye. Growing up, she was a member of Inman Park United Methodist Church. Cheryl was a girly girl through and through loving all things that involved fashion and design. A talented seamstress, and impeccably stylish, she often made her own clothing and home decor that complimented the latest fashion and design trends throughout her life. It was nothing for her to move furniture or redecorate as her family slept. In addition, she enjoyed the hobby of cross stitching and could often be found creating samplers during her children's extracurricular activities. Cheryl spent her teen years babysitting and working at Sears. She was a 1966 graduate of Gordon High School in

Atlanta, Georgia and was a member of the Davidson's Teen Board. Following graduation, she attended Dekalb Junior College.

Cheryl married her first husband, Larry Feil in 1968 and lived on Warner Robbins Air Force Base and later College Park. In 1970, she became a mother to twins Kevin and Kimberly. She moved with her family to Fayetteville, Georgia in 1974. Here, she raised her family, was a member of Fayetteville First United Methodist Church, where she also played on the church softball team, and later became a charter member of North Fayette United Methodist church. Cheryl worked simultaneously as an administrative secretary for both Barber and Tedder Construction as well as the honorable Juvenile Court Judge, Claude L. Goza. Once her children started school, Cheryl began working for the Fayette County Board of Education where she worked as a secretary for almost 29 years, until her retirement.

In July 2003, Cheryl married her husband of 22 years, Jerry Hicks. Together, they enjoyed a life full of faith, family, friends, laughter, music, travel, walks in the neighborhood, and numerous adventures while residing in Peachtree City, Georgia and Newnan, Georgia where she and Jerry attended Central Baptist Church since 2018. Cheryl and Jerry loved traveling all over the country including the beach and her favorite destination, Jackson Hole, Wyoming. One of her favorite pastimes was attending concerts with Jerry, "digging in the dirt", as well as visiting with family and friends. Cheryl spent her life as a devoted wife, daughter, mother, sister, mother-in-law, sister-in-law, niece, and cousin. She was deeply loved by all who knew her, including her family and countless friends. One of Cheryl's favorite roles was that of "Gigi". She adored her grandchildren and could often be found in the stands cheering them on at football and baseball games as well as attending chorus concerts, dance recitals, and a host of other events. In addition, she adored her granddog Riley Grace as well as her grandcats Vincent and Giada.

Cheryl's life took a different course when she was diagnosed with Mantle Cell Lymphoma in 2012. Throughout her cancer journey, Cheryl fought hard with the continuous support and encouragement of her husband Jerry, family, friends, and countless others for fourteen years. Cheryl faced her diagnosis with indeterminable strength, patience, compassion, optimism, and grace. In the midst of her journey, her goal was to "just live", a sentiment she encouraged those who loved her to follow. Also, in early 2026 she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. However, her sudden passing was the result of an unexpected injury.

She is survived by her husband of 22 years, Jerry Hicks, her daughter Kimberly Madison, Kimberly's husband Mike Madison, their children, Nicholas Madison and Ansleigh Madison; her son Kevin Feil, Kevin's wife Michelle Feil; her stepson Jeremiah Hicks, Jeremiah's wife Ari Hicks, their children, Emily Hicks and Tabitha Hicks; her stepdaughter Cristina Truax, Cristina's husband Jerry Truax, and their children, Isaac Truax, Zachary Truax, Benjamin Truax, and Ethan Truax; her brother Ron Pitts, his wife Susan Pitts, niece Cassie Pitts, nephew Cochran Pitts and his wife Chelsea Pitts; her brother David Pitts, his wife Margie Pitts; her niece Tracy O'Donnell, several cousins, extended family, and a wide circle of friends. She was preceded in death by her beloved parents, Charlie Eugene Pitts and Ida Rachel Pitts; her grandparents Charlie and Martha Pitts, and grandparents Tea and Ida Pearl Cochran. Cheryl will be profoundly missed and remembered as a loving wife and mother, as well as for the boundless joy, kindness, happiness, and unconditional love that she so freely gave to others. Her memory will remain in our hearts, always and forever.

A celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, April 11th at Central Baptist Church, 14 West Broad Street, Newnan, Georgia. Visitation for family and friends will be from 1:30-3:00 PM

in the fellowship hall. Cheryl's wonderful life will be remembered in a service at 3:00 PM in the church sanctuary, officiated by Reverend Katie Faison.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that her life be remembered by a memorial contribution to the Lymphoma Research Foundation (www.lymphoma.org), the Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org), or the Kessler Foundation (brain injury research) (www.kesslerfoundation.org).

Online condolences may be expressed at www.mckoon.com

McKoon Funeral Home and Crematory 38 Jackson Street Newnan GA 30263.
770-253-4580.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 11. 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Central Baptist Church
14 West Broad St./P.O. Box 1221
Newnan, GA 30264

Funeral Service

APR 11. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Central Baptist Church
14 West Broad St./P.O. Box 1221
Newnan, GA 30264

Tribute Wall

KF

“ To my beautiful Mom,

They told you the mountain was too high to climb. When you were diagnosed with Mantle Cell Lymphoma in March of 2012, the experts used words like "aggressive" and "unbeatable". They gave you a timeline of three to six months. However, they didn't know you.

Watching you take those six months and turn them into more than fourteen years wasn't just a medical miracle, it was a masterclass in how to live with courage. You proved to everyone who witnessed your journey that your spirit was far stronger than any diagnosis or timeline could be. You didn't just survive Mom; you lived every one of those fourteen years with a fierce and determined purpose.

For Kimberly and me, being your twins was AND is our greatest honor. You navigated through life with the two of us in tow, never once letting your own battles dim the very light and warmth you provided for us. You were our protector, our teacher, a best friend, and most of all our loudest cheerleader. We see you in each other every single day; in our shared strength and the way we refuse to give up, just like you taught us. Anyone that knows the both of us, knows we don't quit! We often referred to it as "Wonder Twin Powers".

The most beautiful part of your victory is that it didn't end with us. You fought with the Lord by your side, and your grandchildren were able to witness what a true hero is. I have seen your fire, kindness, and strength reflected so clearly in Nicholas and your light, grace, and love for all things in Ansleigh. They are the living proof of the love you poured into all of us. Because of you Momma, we all know exactly what a warrior looks like and what the word "Resilience" means. You fought with heart, love and grace lighting up every room you entered.

As you look down upon us with one palm resting gently in God's

hand and your other, hand in hand with family and friends, you can see a small glimpse of your life's story, and the profound impact you had in leaving your thumbprint on every heart here with us today. Through your eyes and heart Mom, I have learned that strength isn't just about the battle you win, but most importantly the love you give while you're fighting it.

You won your battle Momma. You defied the odds and left this world so much better than how you found it. Our promise to you is to keep your spirit alive in Nicholas, Ansleigh, and in everything we do.

We love you Mom, more than you will ever know, and we know in our hearts that you loved us more than life itself. A dear friend of mine sent me a passage that truly warmed my heart, and reminded me of versions of myself, Kimberly, Michelle, and Dad, from Ecclesiastes 4:12 which reads, "A person standing alone can be attached and defeated, but two can stand back-to back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple- braided cord is not easily broken". That being said, we will lean on each other for support, so you don't need to worry. Now you can rest in peace and enjoy the greatest gift of all as we will be taking it from here until we meet again.

With all my being and purpose, I love you so much, Momma.

Love

Your Son, Kevin

Kevin Feil - April 11 at 10:42 AM

LH

“ Well Cheryl -where to begin?
I guess the first time Linda and I met you. What Charisma! From “I just love it” to “ Oh my God” in that southern accent of yours. It will be missed and so will the trips to Jackson Hole, Park City and even that Alaskan cruise. Shopping in Gruene and Wimberly every visit. Time spent by the pool while Jerry and Linda hashed the “What’s your favorite song or movie of all time whatever” which always included your favorite music and concert experiences with Jerry. You lived a glorious life full of joy and laughter that touched everyone around you and left us with unforgettable, great memories.
Love and Kisses,
Larry and Linda Hicks

Larry and Linda Hicks - April 10 at 11:58 PM

JP

“ My heart goes out to Cheryl’s family.I know she was your heart. She was such a good friend and such a beautiful woman inside and out. I still hear Cheryl’s laughter and see her big smile. We were a close knit family while working at FCBE and have such wonderful memories . She will be so missed but will add such a bright light in heaven . Pave the path for us Chery! We will see you again ❤️

Jo Ann Peek - April 10 at 09:56 PM



“ Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.



April 10 at 09:06 PM

FH

“ My Dearest Kimberly, Kevin, and Family, please know that my heart and prayers go out to you. I am so very saddened to hear about your beautiful mother and my sweet friend, Cheryl. Her passing caught me by complete surprise. She was indeed a living Angel right here on earth. I shall forever love her and treasure cherished memories of her. God be with you. I love you both very much. Faith HARDNETT

Faith Hardnett - April 10 at 03:56 PM

DB

“ Kevin & Kimberley we are saddened to learn of your Mother's death, however we feel she is at peace with God. Sorry we won't be to attend the funeral but you are in our thoughts and prayers. Love you both Dick & Mary Ann Beatty

dickie ronald beatty - April 10 at 11:56 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.



April 10 at 10:27 AM

PF

“ Peggy Griffeth and family purchased the Rose Tribute for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.



Peggy Griffeth and family - April 10 at 09:43 AM

TT

“ *The Delta 04-Mod Team purchased the Bountiful Rose Basket for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.*



The Delta 04-Mod Team - April 10 at 09:16 AM

BP

“ *Barbara, Steve, David & Christy Presley purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.*



Barbara, Steve, David & Christy Presley - April 09 at 05:50 PM

KG

“ *Karl and Michelle Gardner purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.*



Karl and Michelle Gardner - April 09 at 04:42 PM

KS

“ *Kaye & Grady Sikes purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.*



Kaye & Grady Sikes - April 09 at 03:09 PM

TO

“ Growing up as a child and spending so much time with my Aunt Cheryl, I always remember seeing this beautiful smile of hers. This smile along with her laughter always filled any room she was in with nothing but pure joy. I love you aunt Cheryl always and forever.



Tracy O'Donnell - April 09 at 02:22 PM

WO

“ With love Larry & Opie purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.



With love Larry & Opie - April 09 at 01:43 PM

WO

“ With love Larry & Opie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.

With love Larry & Opie - April 09 at 01:43 PM

SF

“ Susie, Danny, Dan, Jamie & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.



Susie, Danny, Dan, Jamie & Family - April 09 at 01:31 PM



“ *Heartfelt Memories was purchased for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.*



April 09 at 01:13 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.

April 09 at 01:13 PM



“ *Tracy & Ryan O'Donnell purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.*



Tracy & Ryan O'Donnell - April 09 at 12:41 PM



“ *Jerry and family, I met Cheryl when we were children and she and her parents visited her Pitts grandparents who lived next door to us. I have fond memories of those times and then we got reacquainted at Central Baptist. I pray for God's peace and comfort during this difficult time. Joy Thornton Williams*

Joy Williams - April 09 at 12:29 PM

TF

“ The Powell Family purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.



The Powell Family - April 09 at 11:42 AM

TF

“ The Powell Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.

The Powell Family - April 09 at 11:42 AM

DM

“ 2 files added to the album Cheryl Hicks photos



Deborah Montgomery - April 09 at 09:54 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.



April 09 at 08:46 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Cheryl Pitts Hicks.



April 08 at 07:36 PM