



Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson

July 27, 1949 - January 1, 2026

Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson passed away on January 1, 2026, at ECU Health Medical Center after a lengthy battle with congestive heart failure and diabetes. She was 76 years old.

Gwen was born July 27, 1949 – the second of Hazel and Herbert Lee’s four daughters. After completing her primary education in Greenville and her secondary & collegiate education in New York, she began her teaching career in Chicago in the mid-1970s. After returning to North Carolina in the early 1980s, she became a dedicated educator in places such as ECUs Brody School of Medicine, ECUs Lifelong Learning Program and Beaufort County Schools.

Education was not her only passion, however. Creativity and community service were as well. She was a long-time member of the Greenville Quilters Guild and the Iota Kappa Omega chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. She was also a historical reenactor with the Eastern Carolina Village & Farm Museum, demonstrating her soap making techniques and sharing the history related to it. She supported PBS North Carolina, Ronald McDonald House, Sheppard Memorial Library, and cancer/breast cancer charities.

Gwen was predeceased by her parents and older sister. She is survived by her sisters: Janet Lee Coleman of Atlanta, GA and Jennifer Lee Story of

Montclair, NJ; her nieces: Wendi Mair of Durham, NC, Ranesha Pitt of Montclair, NJ and Gwendolyn Steele of Atlanta, GA; her uncle, Jimmye Jones of Greenville; one great niece, one great nephew, two great-great nieces, and a host of other relatives, neighbors and friends – all of whom will miss her dearly.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 14 at 2pm at Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church. Repast will be in the church fellowship hall immediately following the service.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR 14. 2:00 PM (ET)

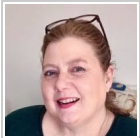
Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church
1001 Hooker Road
Greenville, NC 27834

Tribute Wall

NE

“Gwen and I became friends when she moved to Chicago. After she returned to the Carolinas, we remained friends. She was a warm, loving and supportive friend. I'm devastated that I didn't know she had been ill and I am just finding out that she has passed away. We shared so many wonderful memories.

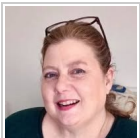
Nancy Ellis-Robinson - May 05 at 04:24 PM



“Ginny Taylor lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson



Ginny Taylor - April 19 at 03:36 PM



“Gwen was one of my late mother's best friends. I have fond memories of her warm and loving heart, beautiful smile...and common sense delivered with kindness.

Ginny Taylor - April 19 at 03:35 PM

DE

“ *To the family and friends
I remember Gwen and her siblings. I grew up in Sycamore Hill and sat with Grandma Lee every Sunday as a little girl along with others my age. I would always be excited when the family would as we would say come from up north. Pat and I sang in the Young Adult Choir for many years.
May God bless and keep you all as the days go on
Sincerely
Deborah Hall Ebron*

Deborah Hall Ebron - March 14 at 03:19 PM

LL

“ *My heartfelt condolences for the loss of my dear cousin, Gwen. May we find peace in knowing she is resting in the comfort of God's arms. I will forever remember her beautiful smile and joyful spirit. She would always light up any room with her presence. Her beautiful legacy shall forever live in our hearts. May her dear soul rest in Heavenly peace. - Lucy Levett & Family*

Lucy Banks Levett - March 14 at 01:49 AM

LL

“ *Lucy Banks Levett lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson*



Lucy Banks Levett - March 14 at 01:40 AM

JL

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Gwen when I started working at ECU SOM around 1988. She was always smiling and so pleasant. Sending Sincere Condolences to her Family



Julia Lodge



Julia F. Lodge - March 11 at 03:05 PM

MP

“ Michael Purvis & Demetrice Ward Purvis lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson



Michael Purvis & Demetrice Ward Purvis - March 10 at 11:26 AM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jennifer Story - March 06 at 11:58 AM

GV

She was a 21st Century Tabitha. Her life of service is an inspiration to all of us.

Gracie M Vines - March 14 at 01:54 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jennifer Story - March 05 at 10:22 AM

JR

“ *Judy Ruffin lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson*



Judy Ruffin - March 03 at 10:44 PM

VH

“ *Gwen was a dear friend of mind. We first worked together in Beaufort County Schools. We were also members of Greenville Quilters Guild. She gave excellent advice about life as I would discuss my problems with her many times. She was an excellent crafts person in that she could make almost anything out of scraps of fabric. She would make gifts all the time to give to her friends and relatives. She went with us to our Ft. Caswell Quilting retreat for many years. I loved Gwen very much and will miss her deeply.*

Vicki Harrell - March 01 at 11:27 AM

IM

“ *Indigo Metellus lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson*



Indigo Metellus - February 27 at 11:11 PM

GA

“ *Cousin Gwen was beautiful inside and out, kind in word and deed, and generous beyond measure. Thinking back, she always made me feel appreciated and loved. I really enjoyed being around her because she was full of love, joy, and compassion. She was a breath of fresh air. She had a way of making everyone around her smile, laugh, and feel at ease. Cousin Gwen, forever in our hearts and always remembered.*

~ Gayle (Banks) McNeil & Timeka McNeil

Gayle - February 20 at 06:19 PM

EC

“ *Gwen was a Dear Friend of my Mom, Liz Shumate. We'll always remember Gwen's sweet spirit and infectious Love for our Lord. She and my Mom could talk for hours about our Lord. We will miss you Gwen. Give Mom a Hug from us.*



Love Liz's Children, Beth ,Loretta , Robert ,Kathleen and Margaret.

Elizabeth Kelly Shumate Chapman - February 12 at 05:32 PM

CA

“ *I had the absolute pleasure of meeting Ms. Gwen during my brief time helping Lifelong Learning at ECU. She had such a great spirit and wonderful smile. I wish I could have taken more time to sit and enjoy her company, but the brief times I got to spend with her were always super pleasant and very memorable. Sending prayers of peace and comfort during this time, she will be greatly missed.*

Cassie - February 03 at 03:28 PM

CS

“ *Cecily Sene lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson*



Cecily Sene - January 31 at 04:20 AM

GS

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Gloria Schwartz - January 18 at 06:32 AM

GC

Lit a candle in honor of Ms. Gwen. May she rest in peace!

Gil Catlette - January 29 at 06:26 AM

SJ

“ *Sonia Joyner lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson*



Sonia Joyner - January 17 at 07:28 PM

PC

“ *Patricia Cox lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson*



Patricia Cox - January 15 at 05:22 PM

BH

“ *Barbara Henderson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson*



Barbara Henderson - January 15 at 04:09 PM

BH

“ *Barbara B. Henderson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson*



Barbara B. Henderson - January 15 at 03:52 PM

SP

“ Sarah G. Pritchard lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson



Sarah G. Pritchard - January 14 at 08:27 AM

YJ

“ Yvette Jackson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson



Yvette Jackson - January 12 at 07:40 PM

NJ

“ I have such warm memories of Gwen. Her smile and gentle voice always lit up a room! May you rest well in the arms of Jesus now!



Nancy Johnson - January 12 at 12:36 PM

BH

“ Rest in peace Soror Gwen 🙏



Brenda Huntley - January 11 at 08:23 PM

MM

“ Our friendship extended over 25 years. Green, was loving family member, a dedicated teacher and gifted quilter. She had a gift of knowing when someone needed her. May she rest in peace



Mary Miller - January 11 at 06:19 PM



“ Janice Reid lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson



Janice Reid - January 09 at 11:34 PM

MA

“ Mallettes lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson



Mallettes - January 09 at 09:16 PM

BN

“ Betty Nurse lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson



Betty Nurse - January 09 at 07:46 PM

AP

“ Annette Barnes Parker lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson



Annette Barnes Parker - January 08 at 02:25 PM

LD

“ In fond appreciation and memory of Gwen and her life of service sharing her talents, adventures, and her unwavering love for others, I extend my condolences to her family and friends.

Lea H DAVIS - January 08 at 12:38 PM

JC

“ Jennifer King Congleton lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson



Jennifer King Congleton - January 08 at 11:54 AM

DK

“ The Lord brought you into my life at a much needed time. Your jovial spirit lifted mine. You are one of the reasons I decided to join our sisterhood finding a niche to be active in our community. I'm saddened we never got to work on quilting together. You will be missed. Rest on until we meet again.



Darlene Keene - January 08 at 08:29 AM

RK

“ Family, please accept my deepest condolences for your loss. I did not know Gwen personally but I did work with her older sister, Pat. Pat would talk about Gwen and the twins on many occasions. She loved her younger sisters and her family dearly, and her uncle, Jimmye Jones. Family, lean on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. My prayers are with you at this time of sorrow.

Rev. Joyce King - January 08 at 07:49 AM

EH

“ My Prayers Are With The Family 🙏🙏🙏



Evangelist Gwen Hudson - January 07 at 08:58 AM

HD

“ Hazel Brown Davis lit a candle in memory of Ms. Gwendolyn Lee-Tyson



Hazel Brown Davis - January 07 at 06:50 AM

DF

“ With heartfelt sympathy, I honor the legacy of my sorority sister, Gwen Lee-Tyson. Her historical knowledge and storytelling touched many lives.

Rest well, dear sister. ☐💚



Dr. LaVette Lang Ford - January 07 at 05:46 AM

CS

“ Congleton Funeral Home and Staff wishes to express our sincere condolences on the passing of your love one. We light this candle in their memory.



Congleton Funeral Home and Staff - January 06 at 07:09 PM

GS

Gwen was the gentlest, kindest, and sweetest person I knew. We would sit at my house and sew and jab away. She was in my writing class and she had some awesome stories. She worked with me on Genealogy classes and doing them. We have lost a very smart lady, but she is at rest with God. I will miss you dearly

Gloria Schwartz - January 18 at 06:30 AM

JF

I met Gwen through a support group about 10 years ago. Her gentle, supportive ways truly touched my soul. Her kind words/actions were exemplary and I know she helped a lot of people. I will miss her sweet addition to groups and classes that we attended together.

Jean Fitzpatrick - February 03 at 03:36 PM

RH

Gwen had so many wonderful qualities, but the one I had most experience with was listening to her read her stories in our memoire class. She was smart and funny and feisty and kind and wise. She lived some of the most important history of our country and shared it with us. She will be greatly missed.

Roberta Harrington

roberta harrington - February 05 at 03:37 AM