



## Helen Carrigan Lyerly

September 2, 1932 - August 5, 2025

Helen Lee Carrigan Lyerly, 92, of Mooresville, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at the Gordon Hospice House in Statesville, NC.

Born September 2, 1932, in Iredell County, Helen was the second daughter of the late Harry Lee Carrigan and Sarah Cordelia "Cordie" Hobbs Carrigan of Mooresville.

In addition to her parents, Helen was preceded in death by her husband of sixty (60) years, Joe Richard "Dick" Lyerly.

Helen is survived by her loving family: son Rick Lyerly (Barbara), daughter Kathy Lyerly (Cheryl), and grandson Adam Lyerly of Mooresville, NC; granddaughter Melissa Mimms (Charlie) and great grandchildren Margaret and Marion of Columbia, SC; sister Jean Carrigan Baker of Huntersville, NC; daughter Nancy Dilks (Gary) of Mt. Mourne, NC; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Helen graduated from Mooresville High School in 1950. She went on to attend Anderson College in Anderson, SC, which was an all-girls school at the time, and graduated Cum Laude in 1952. While at Anderson College, she was also crowned May Queen. Helen's college was located a mere seventeen miles from Clemson College, back then an all-male military college. Regular travel

between Anderson and Clemson was commonplace for Helen. Her affection for her college days caused a stir when she would frequently state to her family, several of whom graduated from Clemson, that she was the first diehard Clemson Tiger fan in the family. Enthusiastic sparring for bragging rights would usually ensue. Helen tried to never miss watching her Tigers play, even in her later years.

Helen's life's work took her from Dr. Creighton Wrenn's office in Mooresville, to the Railroad Retirement Board in Salisbury and finally to the career she cherished the most, the United States Secret Service in Charlotte. There, she served as the Office Manager and later as Administrative Officer during her 37-year career in the Charlotte Field Office, ultimately retiring in 1996 with a total of 43 years of federal service. Helen thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie with office personnel and the many special agents who transitioned through the Charlotte Field Office during her tenure.

Helen's faith was extremely important to her. She described attending church when she was growing up as a way of life. A lifelong member at Prospect Presbyterian Church in Mooresville, Helen was baptized and married in this church. She served the church in many ways and held various office and leadership roles during her lifetime. In 2005, the Presbyterian Women presented their annual Honorary Life Membership to Helen of which she was immensely proud. The honor was bestowed to her as a faithful servant of God; as a person who had given unselfishly of her time and talents to the different areas of church life and the community; and as a devoted family member. In 2023, Helen was inducted into Prospect's Hall of Fame.

Helen's faithfulness described her life's mission - to do for others. Following her retirement, she became the primary caregiver to her husband, Joe Dick, for 19 years until his death in 2015. And on any given day, Helen could be found delivering Deluxe Ice Cream to special friends and homebound

parishioners as a gesture of thoughtfulness and kindness. The Deluxe Ice Cream brand, once sold by the Mooresville Ice Cream Company, held significant meaning to Helen as her father, the late Harry Carrigan, worked there for over 40 years.

Helen set high expectations for herself and others, especially her family. In her role as a wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin, friend, or colleague, it was all equal opportunity in her mind for everyone to always demonstrate their best. And if not, you could expect some suggestions from her about what you might do differently next time. Known as Granny to her great-grandchildren, grandchildren, and their friends, Helen was always happy and available to demonstrate boundless love, enthusiasm, and support in their presence and in all their activities and endeavors.

The Lyerly family would like to thank the staff and caregivers at Cadence Mooresville and the Gordon Hospice House who were truly a blessing to Helen and her family.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 23, 2025, at Prospect Presbyterian Church, Mooresville, with the Reverend Will Gipe officiating. The family will receive friends following the service in the Family Life Center.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Prospect Presbyterian Church, 9425 W. NC 152 Hwy, Mooresville, NC 28115 or Hospice and Palliative Care of Iredell County, 2347 Simonton Road, Statesville, NC 28625.

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home & Crematory, Mooresville, is serving the Lyerly family. Condolences may be made to the family at [www.cavin-cook.com](http://www.cavin-cook.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG **23**. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

Prospect Presbyterian Church  
9425 NC-152  
Mooreville, NC 28115

## Receiving Friends

AUG **23**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Prospect Presbyterian Church  
9425 NC-152  
Mooreville, NC 28115

# Tribute Wall

WB

“ Rick and Kathy: I just read of your dear Mom's passing and am so sorry. She had a long life and I know all thr wonderful times you had with her will help get you through this time of loss.

God bless you all!

Willie Beaver

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**Willie B Beaver** - September 12, 2025 at 09:01 PM

GM

“ Kathy - I am so sorry I was unable to attend your Mom's funeral as we were out of town. I have very fond memories of your mother throughout my years in three of USSS offices in NC. Your Mom was always so friendly and helpful to me which I always appreciated. Hope you and the family are doing as well as can be expected.  
Best, Glenn Millan

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**Glenn Millan** - August 26, 2025 at 02:41 PM

UO

“ The Secret Service Charlotte Field Office sends its heartfelt condolences to the Lyerly family. Helen's many years of faithful service to the people of the United States and the Secret Service remain an inspiration to us all.

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**US Secret Service, Charlotte Field Offic** - August 22, 2025 at 12:52 PM

JL

“ So very sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Jason

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**Jason Lesnik** - August 13, 2025 at 04:38 PM

TF

“ *The Schwartz Family purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Helen Carrigan Lyerly.*



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**The Schwartz Family** - August 09, 2025 at 12:34 PM

TF

“ *The Schwartz Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Helen Carrigan Lyerly.*

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**The Schwartz Family** - August 09, 2025 at 12:34 PM

TA

“ *Kathy and families of Mrs. Lyerly. My wife Jewel and I extend our sincerest condolences to you and all family members.  
Terry L. Edwards, USSS 1980-2005; Retired ATSAIC Little Rock Arkansas.*

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**Terry L. Edwards, Retired ATSAIC-USSS** - August 09, 2025 at 12:44 AM

YF

“ *Your Madison Financial Family purchased the Ful I Of Love Bouquet for the family of Helen Carrigan Lyerly.*



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**Your Madison Financial Family** - August 08, 2025 at 09:37 AM

EA

“ Rick and Kathy and family,  
I am so sorry to hear Mrs Helen's passing. I remember her from my childhood years at Prospect. She was always so pretty dressed in her Sunday finest. Losing a parent is hard. All of a sudden no matter how old you are you feel like an orphan. You will have days you will wish you could talk to her. Your family will be in my thoughts and prayers as you navigate life without her  
Love to your families,  
Elizabeth Arthurs

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**Elizabeth Arthurs** - August 07, 2025 at 01:24 PM

VM

“ Victor & Lillian Martinez planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Helen Carrigan Lyerly.

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**Victor & Lillian Martinez** - August 07, 2025 at 12:04 PM

VM

“ Victor & Lillian Martinez purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Helen Carrigan Lyerly.



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**Victor & Lillian Martinez** - August 07, 2025 at 12:04 PM



“ Rick, Kathy and family: I will always remember your Mother and Dad. From riding motorcycles up and down the gas lines then trying to stay out of your dads garden as I sneak by to get there. Your mother was feisty and proud. She was a great woman. The neighborhood keeps losing the good folks and times are changing. I am so sorry to hear of Helen's passing. Your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Kevin Scruggs - August 07, 2025 at 10:18 AM



“ Love, MJ, Stacy, Marcy & Tracy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Helen Carrigan Lyerly.

Love, MJ, Stacy, Marcy & Tracy - August 06, 2025 at 11:38 PM



“ Love, MJ, Stacy, Marcy & Tracy purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Helen Carrigan Lyerly.



Love, MJ, Stacy, Marcy & Tracy - August 06, 2025 at 11:38 PM



“ I met Helen a couple of years ago. I was visiting Kathy and Cheryl and we took a trip to Cadence Assisted Living. I met a feisty, proud woman with clippings about her Secret Service career adorning the walls. The family's love was evident in Helen's care. I send my deepest condolences to all, and wish I could be there for her celebration of a life well lived. Mary Jo "MJ" McConnell

Mary Jo "MJ" McConnell - August 06, 2025 at 11:14 PM

SW

“ *Mrs Helen was one of the most classy ladies I ever knew. I was always so impressed with the way she carried herself...so accomplished.*

*Scott Wilkinson*

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**Scott Wilkinson** - August 06, 2025 at 06:45 PM

CS

“ *Rick, Kathy and family, mom wanted me to let you know that we're thinking about your family and sending our love. Praying for peace in the days and weeks ahead. Love, Carol Edmiston Stewart and Virginia Edmiston*

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**Carol Stewart** - August 06, 2025 at 06:29 PM