



## Linda Lou Watts

October 18, 1943 - October 28, 2023

Linda Lou Eckman Watts, 80, of Mooresville, NC passed away early morning, Saturday, October 28, 2023, at S. Mitchell Mack Hospice House in Mooresville.

Linda was born October 18, 1943, in Mooresville, to the late Charles (Charlie) Markwood Eckman of Baltimore, MD and Wilma Anita Howard Eckman of Sherrills Ford, NC.

In 1991, after serving over 27 years she retired as a Staff Officer with the National Security Agency at Fort Meade, Maryland. She traveled extensively and served overseas tours in England and Germany. For over twenty years, Linda was a dedicated Volunteer with Hospice and Palliative Care of Iredell County (HPCIC).

Linda is survived by her loving husband, Robert (Bob) Watts; one son, Charles (Chuck) Nevin of the home, and a brother, Charles Barry Eckman of Burlington, NC; two sisters, Gail Anita Eckman of Yadkinville, NC, and Janet Marie Eckman of Annapolis, MD, two stepdaughters; Wendy Lynn Garland of Douglas, MA; and Tammy Lee Manning of Danielson, CT; step Grandchildren, Corey Thomas Frost of Utah, Stacey Lynn Frost of New Hampshire, and Megan Rose Manning of CT.

A celebration of Linda's life will be held at the chapel of Cavin Cook Funeral Home at 2:00 PM, Wednesday, November 1, 2023, with Rev. Tony Moreau and Rev. Dr. Robert Kerr officiating. The family will receive friends from 6:00 - 8:00 PM, Tuesday, October 31, 2023, at the funeral home.

A graveside service will be held at 10:00 AM, Thursday, November 2, 2023 at Salisbury National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hospice and Palliative Care of Iredell County, 2341 Simonton Way, Statesville, NC 28625.

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home, Mooresville is proudly serving the Watts family.

# Cemetery Details

## Salisbury National Cemetery

501 Statesville Blvd  
Salisbury, NC 28144

# Previous Events

## Receiving Friends

OCT **31**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home  
494 E. Plaza Drive  
Mooresville, NC 28115

## Funeral Service

NOV **1**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Cavin-Cook Chapel  
494 E. Plaza Drive  
Mooresville, NC 28115

## Graveside Service

NOV **2**. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Salisbury National Cemetery  
501 Statesville Blvd  
Salisbury, NC 28144



# Tribute Wall

BB

“ *I have wonderful memories of Linda in elementary school thru high school. Sub Debs to our Sweetheart Ball.  
Deepest sympathy to the family.  
Barbara Platzer Bahner*

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**Barbara Platzer Bahner** - March 15, 2024 at 03:55 PM

JK

“ I believe the following poem says what Linda would want from all of us.

*Death is nothing at all*

*I have only slipped away into the next room. I am I, and you are you, whatever we were to each other, that we are still.*

*Call me by the old familiar name. Speak of me in the easy way which you always used. Put no difference into your tone. Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow. Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes that we enjoyed together.*

*Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be ever the household word that it always was. Let it be spoken without an effort, without the ghost of a shadow upon it.*

*Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was. There is absolute and unbroken continuity.*

*What is this death but a negligible accident?  
Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?  
I am but waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near,  
just round the corner.*

*All is well.*

*(Henry Scott Holland)*

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**Jim Kimmett** - January 10, 2024 at 11:34 AM

WW

“ Kind, Giving, Adventurous, Loyal, Happy, Helpful, Classy, Loving, to name a few.

Thank you Linda for making my Dad Happy for over 40 years. Soul Mates ❤️

I will Forever be grateful.

I know when it's my time you will be waiting with that Beautiful Smile of yours.

Until then, please watch over us.

Angels among us 😇❤️

Love you

Always & Forever

Wendy

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Wendy Watts-Garland - November 05, 2023 at 06:54 AM

TA

Perfectly said sis ❤️

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Tammy - November 05, 2023 at 10:12 AM

JS

“ There will never be another Linda, so kind, giving, non judgmental, best friend to many. The time the 49'ers spent together were memorable, we laughed all the time, solved all the problems in the world but mostly enjoyed each others company. When the trip ended we would return to our homes energized, ready to take on the world. For years we have had a zoom meeting once a week which we loved (even with the technical problems we encountered!) helping us to keep in touch. I was very sorry to miss the service but Mary represented all of us. Honor Linda but spreading kindness in this ever changing world.

Love and hugs, Jane Strong

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Jane Strong - November 03, 2023 at 11:39 AM

MC

“ So many wonderful memories and fun times. You are loved and dearly missed. Our hearts and prayers are with you. Martha & Jim

martha chapman - November 03, 2023 at 10:04 AM

PT

“ To my dearest Aunt Linda💔 Incredibly difficult for me to believe you no longer walk this Earth with us. Many today are having a difficult time... You were my dad's Irish twin, Mom-Mom's right hand, Chuckie's mum, Uncle Bob's forever love, Pop Pop's conscious, your sisters' confidant, Paul, and my aunt, our 3 children, Andrew, Katie Belle, Matthew's loving aunt (and playmate), a wonderful step-mother to Wendy and Tammy, the 49 ers rock, a sister-in-law, Hospice's faithful volunteer for 20+ years, everybody's friend, but to me (and our children) you were my / our aunt Linda☐ The one I could tell anything to without judgement and knowing it always stayed between us. You made everything special and loved me for me and were the epitome of the perfect auntie☐ My heart is heavy as you were the glue, the rock, that kept everyone (the Eckman/Howard clans) together and made life incredibly fun! You never let anyone feel out of place or unwanted, always opening your heart and home without question. Today, God called you, His Angel Home to Heaven. It wasn't supposed to end like this but God was ready and so were you. Today your beautiful wings took flight as you found your way home. I know Mom Mom and Pop Pop, and Paul were all waiting☺☐ Heaven just got a little more fun. Please send me signs as I know this isn't goodbye but I'll be seeing you ☐☐ I love you, Aunt Linda and will carry you in my heart forever☐ Your loving and devoted niece,  
Priscilla x  
(Mike, Andrew, Katherine and Matthew too-we shall miss you☐)

Priscilla Eckman Thomas - November 01, 2023 at 10:43 AM



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**Charles Eckman** - November 01, 2023 at 10:58 AM

“ *The Eckman and Thomas families are honored to share Linda's love, friendship and how she has touched each of our lives. We start with her childhood with her vibrant and positive behavior which she never lost until her final earthly breath. She was life's model for all of us - upbeat, encouraging, lasting friendships, family and helping others. After our mother Wilma passed away Linda became the Matriarch of our family. She was the Leader of her precious 49ers. One of her 49ers said "You are the leader of our pack and leading us on your last earthly journey. I am comforted knowing when it is my turn you will be waiting as always showing me the way. Thanks for all you taught us, you opened worlds and ways of understanding." Another 49er wrote "I could not begin to tell you all the things you have taught us, one of the major things is kindness to everyone. You were always there when I was sick calling me and visiting me which meant the world to me. Thank you for being you. I love and admire you beyond words." Linda's hours of attention to our Father and later Mother as death approached each was indeed God's gift to us. What would we have done without Linda!*

*Linda served our Country at the National Security Agency. She touched many in the international community with her professionalism and friendships. She was highly commended for her communications security liaisons with our Australian and Canadian partners. She served two international tours of duty in both England and Germany. It was in Germany she met and married her partner for life, Bob. Linda's memorial is as much about her as it is about our tribute to Bob and Chuck for their end of life caring and love.*

*Who do we turn to in our hour of grief and sorrow. Linda would say the Holy Scriptures. In our grief, death and loss we have hope that surpasses all understanding. It's a hope that stems from our faith in God, who is ever-present, ever-loving and ever-faithful. God is right here with us, sharing in our grief, wiping away our tears, and offering his divine comfort.*

*We offer this prayer for Linda - Breathe on Linda, Breath of God so she shall never die, but live with Thee the perfect life for all eternity. So, we don't say goodbye, we say see you soon.*

*Brother and Sisters: Barry, Gail and Janet;*

*Niece: Priscilla Thomas*

*Grand Nephews and Nieces: Andrew, Katherine, Matthew*

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**Charles Barry Eckman** - November 01, 2023 at 09:13 AM

BE

*Truly a wonderful woman and a great loss.*

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**Benjamin Eckman** - January 19, 2024 at 07:39 PM

RJ

*A year has passed but not the memory of my dear cousin, Linda. We all miss her but she is in a better place now. Soon we will all join her.*

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**Ray Jones** - November 27, 2024 at 01:48 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Linda Lou Watts.*



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October 31, 2023 at 03:44 PM

PE

“ *Pat and Coleen Elbert purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Linda Lou Watts.*



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**Pat and Coleen Elbert** - October 31, 2023 at 01:16 PM

LJ

“ My hubby and I met Linda and Bob when we moved to NC. Linda and I became great friend's and being from the UK, Linda often told me stories when she was in UK. I admired how she even entertained my parent's who came to visit Tom and I in USA. We have some wonderful photo's and memories and I will truly miss Linda she was a loving soul. God bless and I know Linda will give my parent's a big hug in heaven for me.



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**Laura Janicki** - October 30, 2023 at 11:12 PM

SF

“ Seddon Family lit a candle in memory of Linda Lou Watts



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**Seddon Family** - October 30, 2023 at 07:49 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Linda Lou Watts.



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October 30, 2023 at 04:14 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Linda Lou Watts.*



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October 30, 2023 at 03:57 PM



“ *Bob and family, I am saddened to hear of Linda's passing. We had lots of laughs and conversations at "shift change" at Mack Hospice House. She was a sweet soul that I know you will all miss dearly. Our world is a better place for having known her. Prayers for your family for the journey ahead without her.*



*Judy Morrow*

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**Judy Morrow** - October 30, 2023 at 12:43 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Linda Lou Watts.*



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October 30, 2023 at 12:24 PM

CG

“ OUR HEARTS ARE FILLED WITH TEARFUL GRIEF  
As death slipped in and took our Chief  
Linda has been with us through thick and thin  
And without her presence who knows what would have been  
She brought us comfort feedback from a farther world  
To help us see a bigger picture  
She is the flour,butter, and eggs that keep strong our mixture  
And her beautiful cards that brought forth good memories  
Will for each of us remain a fixture  
Life will go on as they say  
And Linda will be watching out for us by day  
And her name will be in our lips as we pray  
The 49ers will see you soon as time is flying by  
So have tea ready in your favorite pot when we come to say Hi  
Thanks for the best memories from our first trip  
And with that our dear friend.RIP  
Forever love from The Forty NINERS

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connie Gray - October 30, 2023 at 12:11 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Linda Lou Watts.



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October 30, 2023 at 11:28 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Linda Lou Watts.

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October 30, 2023 at 11:28 AM

WE

“ Wendy Edge lit a candle in memory of Linda Lou Watts



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Wendy Edge - October 30, 2023 at 09:58 AM

FL

“ I am so sorry Bob. Linda was a beautiful soul with a bright countenance. She will be missed. Fred Lowry

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Fred Lowry - October 30, 2023 at 05:33 AM

ME

“ Bob, was sorry to learn of Linda's death today. She was always so full of life. A great hostess and entertainer. The two of you shared a thrilling life with each other in your travels. We are never ready to say goodbye. God knows the depth of your love and only He can bring the comfort your heart needs. Praying He'll be your strength and give you peace as you go through this.

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Melody Edmiston - October 29, 2023 at 08:41 PM

TW

“ Bob, Chuck, Gail, Janet, Barry and the multitude of others who loved & cared about Linda please accept my sincere condolences and know I share your loss. Linda was a good & kind woman who did what she could, while she could to help others. Her services to country and to community as a friend and hospice volunteer were many and greatly appreciated. My first memory of her was the day we met nearly 25 years ago at a hospice volunteer training class that I was facilitating. I knew we were going to be great buddies when I announced feeling a bit of anxiety as theirs was my first class. I apologized in advance for the errors I was sure to make. Linda was the first and then others followed to assure me that all was well and we that would learn together. Linda was an excellent volunteer that treated each of her assigned patients as they were family. She truly lived by the Golden Rule. It was my honor to know and work with Linda and call her my dear friend. Cherish & celebrate your many wonderful memories of & with her! Teresa Ward, Retired Director of Volunteer Services at Hospice & Palliative Care of Iredell County.

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**Teresa Ward** - October 29, 2023 at 01:33 PM