



Susan Lynne Halliday

July 4, 1959 - May 15, 2026

Susan Lynne James Halliday, 66, of Mooresville, passed away Friday, May 15th, 2026 surrounded by family, following a relentless life-long battle with various cancers starting at age of five. Susan will be remembered as the ultimate cancer survivor with nine rounds of four different types of cancers. Her deep faith in Jesus Christ carried her through her cancer challenges, while providing numerous miracles along the way.

Susan was born July 4th, 1959 in Ravenna, Ohio to Dale and Janice (Allshouse) James. Susan spent most of her early years in Ohio. She was a 1977 graduate of Waynedale High School. She then attended Otterbein College in Ohio, where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education in 1981. While piano was her primary instrument, she excelled at trumpet, french horn, and sang soprano in numerous choirs. She enjoyed marching band, plays and musicals but always had a passion for working with students.

Susan taught elementary music in Bay Village and Southeast Local schools in Ohio. After marrying her first husband, Kenneth Stoltzfus in 1983, they moved to North Carolina to enjoy the warm weather and Lake Norman. They welcomed their son, David James in 1987, and daughter, Leanne Marie in 1993.

Susan continued teaching elementary music in the Iredell-Statesville School

System until she retired in 2022. Throughout her career, she enthusiastically served 800-1000 students each year and was fondly known as "Ms. Music" throughout the community. Each year, Susan directed elaborate musicals with vocals, instruments, and costumes. She believed music was the universal language and was a skill that students could enjoy the rest of their life. The love she gave to those students, the joy she sparked through music, and the kindness she showed every day created a ripple effect that will continue far beyond what anyone can see. Susan was very proud that many of her elementary students went on to pursue band, choir, and participate in musicals while in their secondary education. Susan inspired many, specifically her daughter, Leanne, to be an elementary school teacher herself.

While teaching music, Susan wore many hats. She taught private piano lessons, helped young couples purchase their first home as a realtor, and was a landlord, all with a smile. One of her favorite things was singing in the church praise & worship team and being a part of many different bible studies.

In 2017, Susan married Peter Halliday, a life long friend from Canada. She was his "Carolina Girl." They enjoyed their time at the lake, boating, and visiting his cottage in Canada. Their biggest joy was spending time with their combined kids; David, Katie, Jonathan, and Leanne and especially their beloved grandkids; Hunter, Austin, Luke, and Adam. Susan was proudly promoted from amazing Mom to fabulous Mimi, a name she cherished.

Susan's Dad always joked that she had "wheels on her butt" because she loved to be on the go. She enjoyed vacationing with family in Florida and Canada, going on family cruises, jetsetting to European exploration trips, going on local adventures to the North Carolina mountains and beaches, and simple day trips to local museums and parks.

Susan's small stature was in contrast with her big personality, colorful style,

and statement jewelry. Susan was a force of nature. She was a leader, a planner, and was endlessly enthusiastic about anything her people were passionate about. People were drawn to her due to her magnetic personality. Throughout her many stays in hospitals, she always seemed to find the nurses that went above and beyond. She was genuine and kind, even in the face of incredible surgical pain and the insurmountable odds of healing over and over again. Locally, she was called "Super Susan" through her incredible journey fighting and surviving many different types and rounds of cancer.

Susan will be deeply missed by her husband Peter Halliday; her children David (Dannielle) Stoltzfus and Leanne (Austin) Rose, both of Mooresville, NC; Peter's children Katie Ward and Jonathan Halliday of Canada; brother Scott (Anjanette) James of Wooster, Ohio; sister Sherri (Tom) Machamer of Wooster, Ohio. She will be missed by many nieces and nephews in Ohio, friends and countless students in North Carolina. Her legacy will continue within the hearts of those that loved her.

Susan was preceded in death by her parents, Dale and Janice James formally from Fredericksburg, OH.

A true Celebration of Life Service will be held on Sunday, May 24th at 3:30 p.m. at Williamson's Chapel, Mooresville with Reverend Toni Ruth Smith officiating. Please join the family in celebrating Susan's spirit by dressing in her favorite color PINK and fun floral patterns. Following the service, friends may visit and celebrate with the family.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in her honor to the American Cancer Society or the Tucker Hospice House in Kannapolis.

Cemetery Details

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home & Crematory

494 E. Plaza Drive
Mooresville, NC 28115

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY **24**. 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (ET)

Williamson's Chapel United Methodist Church
575 Brawley School Road
Mooresville, NC 28117

Tribute Wall

NG

“ I had the privilege of teaching with Susan at Lake Norman Elementary School. She embodied what we called her, “Mrs. Music.” She was a bubbly person who filled all our lives with joy. The 4th grade students were introduced to recorders as they learned to read music and perform songs. What an accomplishment each year. She did musical performances with other grade levels . Mrs. Music gave students opportunities to excel and develop a love for music that will last their lifetime. Susan was a gifted teacher and a beautiful person. May God comfort her family.

Nettie Gambill - May 22 at 09:09 PM

CK

“ Casey & Adam Kaszuba purchased the Pretty Pleasure for the family of Susan Lynne Halliday.



Casey & Adam Kaszuba - May 22 at 09:49 AM

MA

“ Marshall-Hale purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Susan Lynne Halliday.



Marshall-Hale - May 21 at 10:58 PM

MA

“ Marshall-Hale planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Susan Lynne Halliday.

Marshall-Hale - May 21 at 10:58 PM

LL

“ Liz L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Susan Lynne Halliday.

Liz L. - May 21 at 08:58 AM

MF

“ Miller/Parrot Families purchased the Angel's Embrace Bouquet for the family of Susan Lynne Halliday.



Miller/Parrot Families - May 20 at 08:27 PM

JW

“ Sending love from The Wagner Family. ♡♡ We will cherish ALL of our childhood memories. Susan, you will be missed!

Judie Wagner - May 19 at 05:13 PM

OR

“ Susan was the ultimate musician, teacher, friend, and lover of music for students. She was full of life, joy, warrior of life, and such an inspiration to all of us who were honored to work beside her. She lived with strength and was loved well by all who knew her. This world was better because of Susan. It was my honor to work with Susan and witness her amazing spirit. I will truly miss Ms. Music!!!
Olivia Riddle

Olivia Riddle - May 19 at 11:25 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Susan Lynne Halliday.



May 19 at 09:07 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Susan Lynne Halliday.

May 19 at 09:07 AM

LF

“ Lorie& Dennis, Aaron& Jordan& families purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Susan Lynne Halliday.



Lorie& Dennis, Aaron& Jordan& families - May 19 at 08:45 AM

TF

“ *The Yates Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Susan Lynne Halliday.*



The Yates Family - May 19 at 07:37 AM

MB

“ *Susan, such a ray of sunshine! I worked with her at Coddle Creek Elementary while she was the Music Teacher there. The kids absolutely adored her due to her positive attitude and love for music! She battled so much in her life that could have broken her but she chose to give it all to God and made a positive impact in so many ways toward the children she taught and the people around her. I send deepest sympathy to her family!*

Meredith Booth - May 19 at 07:28 AM

LA

“ *Ms. Music was my music teacher at CCE, and now as a college graduate, I still remember what an amazing teacher she was. She was so passionate about teaching us little kids how to play our recorders and helping us learn “Fifty Nifty United States.” She made music class something we all looked forward to and left such a positive impact on me as a young student. I am deeply saddened to hear of her passing, and my thoughts are with her family and everyone whose lives she touched.*

Laney - May 18 at 11:53 PM