



Barbara Joyce Williams-Kanode

November 10, 1942 - July 15, 2025

Barbara Joyce Williams-Kanode died peacefully at her home in Christiansburg, Va. Joyce was preceded in death by her parents, John Earl Williams, Sr. and Myrtle Mae (Poff) Williams of Christiansburg. She was also preceded in death by her brother, John Earl Williams, Jr. of Lynchburg, Va.

She is survived by her husband of 19 years, Roy Kanode, of Christiansburg, and two daughters, Katherine Hall and Karen Estep (Dale), both of Floyd, VA.

Joyce attended Christiansburg High School and Radford University. As a high school English teacher, primarily teaching at Floyd County High School, Joyce was known for her flashy red Corvette (Baby) and her sense of style. Many claimed she never wore the same outfit twice.

More importantly Joyce taught thousands of students in her 36 years and stayed in touch with many of her colleagues after retirement. She loved seeing her students as adults and hearing stories about her impact on their life.

After retiring, Joyce spent her time shopping at the beach, painting, golfing, and spending time with her family. Her church family at Faith Missionary Baptist was a great source of support to the family in her final days.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, July 18, 2025, at 2:00 P.M. in the Faith Missionary Baptist Church with Mike Vest officiating. Interment will follow in Roselawn Memorial Gardens. The family will be receiving friends from 1-2:00 P.M. before the service.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Faith Missionary Baptist Church, 475 Clearview Dr., Christiansburg, Va. 24073

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Memorial Gardens

2880 N. Franklin Street
Christiansburg, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 18. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Faith Missionary Baptist Church
475 Clearview Drive
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Funeral Service

JUL 18. 2:00 PM (ET)

Faith Missionary Baptist Church
475 Clearview Drive
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Tribute Wall

SY

“Joyce was my English teacher many years ago. I have remained in Floyd County and no matter where I had the pleasure of seeing her beautiful smile she always spoke to me never failing to call me by my first name.

Joyce was always a breath of Spring Air no matter what. She will be sorely missed by many. I will be saying prayers for her family and all that will miss her!

Sharon Young - June 18 at 10:32 PM

RN

“ My name is Ron Neely and I graduated from Christiansburg in 1964. When I was a Freshman in high school, I would pass Joyce in the hallways or outside on the football field practicing cheerleading routines. I always thought she was pretty and felt good about her taking time to talk to me. I always remembered her as a good person and pretty. I even worked a part-time job at Krogers in town with her brother John. He was a good fellow too and I never forgot him.

Even though I graduated from high school and moved onto college and jobs in the Richmond area as well as military pursuits, I remembered both of them. Joyce and I last communicated when I asked about a book that her husband, Roy had written on the history of Christiansburg. You did a good job Roy.

Living in the Richmond area, I usually do not get the word on old friends quickly as I moved away from Christiansburg over 50 years ago. And as sad as it is to see old friends pass away, good memories are still important.

I pray for both Joyce and her family.

Ron Neely

Ronald Burke Neely - August 31, 2025 at 04:59 PM

BB

“ Sweet Joyce really was a best friend to so many people. Sometimes we would have to cover a class together and we would play Good teacher/ crazy teacher. She would be the good teacher and go talk to whoever was acting up. She would whisper that she had no idea what I might do and she would hate to see them get hurt! Joyce was so kind if you had a bad day and sooo funny in the teacher’s lounge.

Love you my friend,
Brenda Bobbitt

Brenda Bobbitt - July 17, 2025 at 10:36 PM

SW

“ Sending our love, Mike & Debbie Williams planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara Joyce Williams-Kanode.

Sending our love, Mike & Debbie Williams - July 17, 2025 at 11:10 AM

SW

“ Sending our love, Mike & Debbie Williams purchased the Sweet Solace Spray for the family of Barbara Joyce Williams-Kanode.



Sending our love, Mike & Debbie Williams - July 17, 2025 at 11:10 AM

BD

“ *Best friends from FCHS English Dept. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Barbara Joyce Williams-Kanode.*



Best friends from FCHS English Dept. - July 16, 2025 at 09:14 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Barbara Joyce Williams-Kanode.*



July 16, 2025 at 05:39 PM

SW

“ I had the wondrous pleasure of being truly Joyce's very best friend....multiple times.....for at least five seconds each time! The world is shining a little less brightly now, but there are hundreds, if not thousands, of best friends, many of whom started a special relationship with her when they were her students, left to remember her loving nature, her ability to make people laugh and then to move from the laughter to thinking more deeply than we had before conversations with our "best friend. All of her chums in what was "our" English Department will carry her in our hearts until we someday join her.

The truth, however, is that being "best friend" never trumped being Karen or Kathy. Mother and daughters have been quite the loving trio, totally devoted to one another! And all of us best friends know that it is Roy Kanode, the husband with whom she spent the last nineteen years of her life, who has been the absolute best friend a woman can have, happily creating adventures and activities for her to enjoy, caring for her when health issues would arise. Every princess needs a prince, and he has definitely been hers. I pray that God will provide moments of comfort to Roy, Karen, and Kathy. So many memories! One of the best is the recessional parade around the football field in her Corvette on the last day she worked before retiring. Joyce always knew how to do everything with style, beauty, and graciousness even in January's freezing temperature. She will fit right in with all the other angels in heaven.

Sharon Wood (honored to have been one of Joyce's "very best friends")

Sharon Wood - July 16, 2025 at 01:13 PM

RT

I have fond memories of Mrs. Joyce from High School. I am a 1978 graduate and her beautiful smile and caring words to all the students is very special treasure that many students share. She went as chaperone on our senior trip to Bush Gardens and, believe me, put up with all of our disruptions on the bus. Mr. Rutrough and Mrs. Joyce Hall both ended up with pillow feathers all over them and stuck in their hair when my class had a pillow fight and the pillow burst open. But the beautiful nature of our teachers were stern but after the fact laughter. She's a beautiful woman who has left many a students with feelings of being loved, cared for and protected. I know Jesus has welcomed her home and at God's appointed time with Him she will come in the clouds, open her grave and meet Jesus in the air to be forever Home in a glorified body as like Lazarus was. Love and prayers to Mrs. Joyce's family

Rhonda Terry - July 17, 2025 at 10:04 AM

MM

“ *Morris M. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara Joyce Williams-Kanode.*

Morris M. - July 16, 2025 at 11:22 AM

CQ

“ *Joyce was my best friend at Floyd County High School! But, of course, she was everyone's best friend on different occasions, and she was quick to tell you. She was a joy to be around, funny but serious. I am thankful for knowing Joyce and having the privilege to work with her. May God bless her family as they grieve and also have good memories.*

Carolyn Quinn - July 16, 2025 at 11:06 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Barbara Joyce Williams-Kanode.*



July 15, 2025 at 11:11 PM



“ *To Roy and family'*
So sorry to hear this. We went to high school together and she was always so friendly and nice to everyone. She will be greatly missed.

Claudette Burnette - July 15, 2025 at 10:55 PM



“ *I am so sorry for the loss of such a wonderful woman! From being my absolute favorite teacher ever to ending up being a friend years later, I have so many memories that I will cherish. From our shared love of Flowers for Algernon to her absolute love of Elvis. I will lift you all up in prayer as we cry together. ❤️ Shana Melvin Griffith*

Shana Griffith - July 15, 2025 at 09:11 PM

SG

“ Karen and Kathy, I have no doubt my friend is now in a wonderful place. I have so many memories of times past. Your mom, Cheryl and I had some unforgettable times on football/basketball/cheerleader trips for FCHS. From those we developed a team of our own and some pretty hilarious inside jokes. The last time I saw her I mentioned two things - horses and dill pickles - and we both collapsed in laughter and tears ran from our eyes. I will never pass Riner Foods again that I don't feel the urge to stop and get a huge dill pickle in her memory. We always had to get a “dill pickle fix”. I treasured your mom's friendship and knew she would be there ASAP if I called and she knew that door swung both ways. I will truly miss one of the best friends I ever had. My thoughts and prayers are with you girls and Roy. Hugs

Sheila Goff - July 15, 2025 at 07:30 PM

BS

“ Barbara (Williams) and Andrew Schaeffer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara Joyce Williams-Kanode.

Barbara (Williams) and Andrew Schaeffer - July 15, 2025 at 05:24 PM

BS

“ Barbara (Williams) and Andrew Schaeffer purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Barbara Joyce Williams-Kanode.



Barbara (Williams) and Andrew Schaeffer - July 15, 2025 at 05:24 PM

EP

“ Dearest loved ones -- Joyce loved you-Roy, Karen and Cathy with all of her heart and yet she still had enough love for those of us who cherished her as Friend and as "Buddy in Crime." Every time I start to cry, I think of sitting close by her in faculty meetings as she held up and read in view from the front of the room "The History of English Literature." Of course that was what was on the dust cover--she was actually enjoying one of her beloved "Bodice Busters" as she called them. So I start to cry and end up giggling as Joyce continues to touch my heart with the healing of wonderful memories. I know sweet memories will touch you also. I love you people.
Catherine Pauley

Emma C Pauley - July 15, 2025 at 05:22 PM



“ Joyce was everyone's best friend at FCHS. Part of the English Dream Team, specializing in manners and kindness. Much love and sympathy, Karen and Kathy. Her passing leaves a hole in our hearts. Mike and Nanette Johnson, Sarah Kim and Megan Scholz

Nanette Johnson - July 15, 2025 at 04:49 PM

LG

“ Karen and Kathy I am so very sorry. Your mom was such an awesome person and a fabulous cheerleader for all the FCHS students she came in contact with. She always gave smiles and had words of encouragement. She was loved and respected by us FCHS kiddos for sure even after we graduated. She will be missed. Love, hugs and prayers.

Lorrie Goff
Johnson City, TN

Lorrie Goff - July 15, 2025 at 03:51 PM

BM

“ Will always remember our sweet times together. A dear friend who always had a smile a soft spoken voice & kind words for everyone. Prayers for Roy & the family. 🙏💕🙏

barbara middleton - July 15, 2025 at 03:48 PM

JC

“ Karen, Kathy and family, we are so so sorry for your loss. She was a fun and beautiful soul in so many ways. I still remember her retirement party and parade from FCHS. All of you are in our prayers. John and Deborah Carter, Floyd, VA

John and Deborah Carter - July 15, 2025 at 03:10 PM