



Diane Blair Morris

April 26, 1940 - May 17, 2026

Diane Blair Morris, 86, lovingly known as “Bunky,” passed away on May 17, 2026 surrounded by her family who faithfully stayed by her side every moment of her final two weeks on this side of Heaven, a reflection of how deeply loved she was and the lifelong impact she made on everyone fortunate enough to know her.

Diane was born on April 26, 1940 in Durham, NC to the late Cullie Paul and Martha Bunting Blair. She grew up in Roxboro, NC, also the hometown of her beloved husband, Gary Morris; although they did not meet until they were both living in Chapel Hill, NC. They spent 50 amazing years together before Gary’s death in 2013. Those years were filled with adventure, service at NSUMC, travel, a Godly love admired by everyone who knew them, and an unwavering devotion to each other.

Though Diane was an only child, she remained deeply connected to her cousins and extended family throughout her life and was known for her intentionality in keeping relationships strong no matter the distance.

Diane was a longtime, dedicated member of North Springs United Methodist Church where she served faithfully. To her children, Diane was Super Mom, a quiet helper to those in need, and the maker of the world’s best fried chicken. To the grandchildren, Bunky was adventurous, a “cool grandmother” with chic

clothing, fascinating stories, an amazing baker of gumball cakes, American flag cakes, and her famous pound cakes.

She loved her Mercedes convertible and never missed an opportunity to pile her grandchildren inside for a joy ride with the top down, the wind in their hair, and Johnny Cash, Janis Joplin, and Willie Nelson playing through the speakers. Diane carried a rare free spirit that made life more vibrant for everyone around her.

Mostly, Bunky was known for simply being present. She was a staple not only in the lives of her grandchildren, but also the lives of their friends. Bunky was always at sporting events, award ceremonies, competitions, but really in the everyday life of her grandchildren. Her greatest gift was her time and she used it generously and intentionally to invest in her grandchildren and others.

Diane is survived by her children, Brent Ashley Morris, his wife Hope and Beth Ashley Morris Self. Her beloved grandchildren, McKinley Morris Self Berthon and her husband, Paul, Cullie Charles Morris, Anna-Blair Cameron Self, Alissa Faith Morris and Wright Ashley Self and Lance Harkins and Amanda Styles and her husband, Justin, and Diane's sister-in-law, Jane Morris, along with many extended family members and cherished friends, especially her precious Atlanta neighbors, Jamie and Matt Dranove and their children, Eli, Sammy and Mia, whose love, inclusion, and faithful care meant so much to Diane and her family.

Diane will be remembered as a quiet server who was intentional in all of her actions. She would always redirect conversations back to how you were doing, regardless of how she herself was doing. She was kind, compassionate, and giving; yet never one to be messed with. Those closest to her felt her love easily through long text messages, midnight birthday calls to be the first one to say it, or, if you were lucky, a thoughtful Facebook message.

She will forever be with us.

A memorial service will be held at Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church on Thursday, May 21 at 2:00 followed by a reception with the family in the Jane Haris youth building. The family will receive guests in LMPC's fellowship hall prior to the service beginning at 12:30. Officiating the service are Rev. Ed Salter and Rev. Brian Salter.

In honor of Diane's generous and service-oriented spirit, the family asks that, in lieu of flowers, please make a donation of time or money that will put a smile on a child's face, something Diane did so naturally throughout her entire life. Donations may also be made to The Chattanooga Free Store, a ministry that serves local children and families in need. <https://www.chattfreestore.org/monetary-donations>

Arrangements are entrusted to Ryan Funeral Home and Crematory.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **21**. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church PCA
316 North Bragg
Lookout Mountain , TN 37350

Memorial Service

MAY **21**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church
316 North Bragg Ave.
Lookout Mountain, TN 37350

Tribute Wall

AD

“ *My sweet friend... You will be missed and you were so loved!! I loved you from the fist time I met ya!! If I could have picked a Mother it would have been you!! You were an amazing person with a huge heart!! You and Gary raised two wonderful kids but for Brent sake.. I think I would have been your favorite!! Of course I'm kidding, but I'm honest saying I loved you dearly and I am a better person because of knowing you!! I love you and will miss you and I'll even miss being scolded!! lol.. Your friend and third favorite.. Anna*

❤❤❤

Anna Dunsmoor - May 29 at 12:57 PM

BT

“ *Diane I will miss you so much. You were not only my cousin but one of my best friends. You were the one person who when Adron passed away knew what I was going through and there were many conversations that you helped me get through my grief. I loved you so much for that. You understood my grief as you had your own with the loss of sweet sweet Gary. I will miss the stories that you would tell me about my Mama. You kept her alive by talking about her and telling me stories of y'all growing up. I will forever keep those stories in my heart. I will miss you and you know that I love you and always have. You would always lift my spirits when I talked to you. This is not goodbye but a see you later. What a day that will be when I will see you again. That beautiful smile. To Brent and Beth and the grands. She loved you all so much and spoke highly and often about each of you. She would share stories about all of you and was so proud of you. Brent and Beth thank you so much for taking such sweet care of your Mama. You both stepped up where many children don't for their parents. You both helped her enjoy many adventures in her later years and she enjoyed them all. What a blessing you both were to her. She will be missed by everyone who knew her.*



Becky H Thompson - May 28 at 07:33 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Diane Blair Morris.*



May 21 at 01:27 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Diane Blair Morris.

May 21 at 01:27 PM



“ We loved Gary and Diane they were both very special people, we didn't get to see them that much but on special occasions when our families were together we always enjoyed being with them. We made a lot of special memories at weddings , birthdays, Thanksgiving . She made some pretty amazing pound cakes for those times. I loved getting her texted she was always so excited about all Cullie's adventures and would share them with me every chance she got. We will truly miss her kindness , her enthusiasm and especially her Smile. God got himself a good one 😊 Rest in peace our friend. ❤️

Lynne Bell - May 21 at 10:39 AM



“ I would like to extend my sincere sympathy and condolences to Diane's entire family. Diane was my mother's(Erva Delores Jones) best childhood friend. They grew up across the street from each other. My mother loved to tell me stories of their mischief with her brother Jimmy and laugh. When my mother passed away in 1998, Diane remained a connection to her for me sharing stories, photos, and my Grandpa Jones pound cake recipe. I will miss her greatly.

Celeste Massie - May 21 at 09:13 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Diane Blair Morris.*



May 21 at 03:54 AM



“ *Janice and Chace Chancey purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Diane Blair Morris.*



Janice and Chace Chancey - May 20 at 08:00 PM



“ *Celeste Massie and Troy Williams purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Diane Blair Morris.*



Celeste Massie and Troy Williams - May 20 at 06:38 PM



“ *Pat Lanthier purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Diane Blair Morris.*



Pat Lanthier - May 20 at 01:55 PM

TC

“ *the Casadabans purchased the Loving Grace for the family of Diane Blair Morris.*



the Casadabans - May 20 at 12:36 PM

TC

“ *the Casadabans planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Diane Blair Morris.*

the Casadabans - May 20 at 12:36 PM

DM

“ *Dr. Joe Payne/ Erle Miles purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Diane Blair Morris.*



Dr. Joe Payne/ Erle Miles - May 20 at 12:20 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Diane Blair Morris.*



May 20 at 09:31 AM

PL

“ I’m so thankful to have known Diane through Beth. She definitely passed along a legacy of a loving, caring spirit. As long as she could every year after Gary passed, she would drive to Bethlehem FUMC for the Lovelights Celebration where he was among those being remembered. Her joy was contagious even in times of sorrow. I know she is now resting in peace. With love to all her family, Pat Lanthier

Pat Lanthier - May 20 at 09:10 AM