



Christina Grunder

March 19, 1947 - December 10, 2016

Christina Kay Grunder, age 69, of Johnson City, returned home to be with the Lord on Saturday, December 10, 2016, at the Johnson City Medical Center surrounded by friends and family. She was born on March 19, 1947, in Carrollton, OH. Christina was a graduate of Carrollton Exempted Village School System, Carrollton OH. Christina continued her education at Milligan College where she earned her degree in sociology, and at Case Western Reserve University to work on her MSSA.

She returned to Tennessee where she was devoted to the community. She worked for the UETHDA as a Head Start teacher, social worker, and summer youth worker. She was a member of the community organization ABSA for its duration. For 25 years, she worked for DHS. She was also a charter member of New Covenant Family Church (Jubilee World Outreach). There, she served as Deacon from March 2001 to August 2008. She was mostly concerned with the quality of life of others, and was willing to serve and love everyone. She desired to love all as God had loved her and encourage them to be all God was calling them to be.

Christina was preceded in death by her parents, Kenneth and Esther Grunder; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Brower and Jay Wayne Grunder; and a very special sister Patricia Burum.

She is survived by her son Robert Grunder and his wife Brenda; grandsons Levi and Malcolm Grunder; sister Elizabeth (Donald) Sweeny; special "brother" Kenneth McGrath; and special "sisters" Viola Patton, Carrie Belle

Johnson, Lynne Hill McKinney, Cheryl Ray, Vanessa Rhea, San Stephens, Carrie Whittington, and Alberta Harris.

Christina was affectionately named Big Mama, Ms. Tina, Mama T, and also Thunder! Big Mama had family members she adopted along the way. The Forney Family (Gladys, Neal, Missy, Diana, and Jonathan), Nancy Gardner Simpson, Katie Bailey Hayes, Margaret "Sugar" Easterly, Vicky Evans Moore, Carolyn Milan, Pat Chrapliwy... and many, many more! She certainly enjoyed cooking for and entertaining her extended family, especially her "Boys"!

A visitation will be held from 1:00 until 2:00 PM Sunday, December 18 at Jubilee World Outreach located at 1409 Indian Ridge Road, Johnson City, TN 37604, with a celebration of life service following.

Cemetery Details

Westlawn Cemetery

Lowell St.
Johnson City, TN 37601

Previous Events

Service

DEC 18. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Jubilee World Outreach
1409 Indian Ridge Rd.
Johnson City, TN 37604

Visitation

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

Jubilee World Outreach
1409 Indian Ridge Rd.
Johnson City, TN 37604

Tribute Wall



“ *Christina Grunder*

January 29, 2023 at 10:28 PM



“ *I love you, sweet lady!*

RG - September 13, 2022 at 12:18 PM



“ *Robert W Grunder was added to the Family Tree.*

Robert Grunder - April 23, 2017 at 09:49 PM



“ *Elaine, Kelin, Mya, Mike Hall lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder*



Elaine, Kelin, Mya, Mike Hall - December 18, 2016 at 10:46 AM



Thank you so much!

Robert Grunder - April 23, 2017 at 09:45 PM

HB

“ *Hattie Barkley lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder*



Hattie Barkley - December 18, 2016 at 12:05 AM

AS

“ *Your Family is in our Prayers. Mr and Mrs Allen Sanders.*



ALLAN SANDERS - December 16, 2016 at 04:48 PM

PB

“ *Praying for the family Pam and Ronny Bolden*



Pam Bolden - December 16, 2016 at 04:41 PM

SL

“ *Sharon Richardson Lagina lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder*



Sharon Richardson Lagina - December 15, 2016 at 10:05 AM

GD

“ Tina Kay and I knew eachother for 69yrs.As babies we grew up side by side in a duplex on 5th.st,Carrollton,Ohio,till the age of 4.We remained friends all through school and ever after.I know she is looking down from heaven with God's arms wrapped around her as he guides her through those Pearly Gates.Tina,I will love you forever and pray for you always.Your Loving Friend Gail (White) Dewalt

Gail (White) Dewalt - December 14, 2016 at 10:33 PM

RG

Thank you Mrs Dewalt

Robert Grunder - April 23, 2017 at 09:47 PM

PR

“ Pam Ray lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder



Pam Ray - December 14, 2016 at 09:47 PM

DE

“ Dear Robert and Brenda. I sit here trying to think of something that I can say that will make your loss easier, but there are no words that will ease your pain. I am heartbroken just knowing that Tina is no longer with us, I worked with Tina for several years and have such fond memories of her. She enjoyed helping others and always went the extra mile for those she served. The first thing that I think of when I remember Tina is the love and devotion that she had for you, Robert, from the day that you were born and then for your wife and children. She was so proud of you and your every accomplishment. The next thing that I think of when remembering Tina is her deep faith in God and her service to Him. As I continue to think of her, I remember her laughter, her loyalty to friends and the great tasting food that she prepared. Tina will definitely be missed by all who knew her, but she will always be with us in our special memories of her. You are in my thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time in your lives.

Donna Eades - December 14, 2016 at 08:00 PM

RG

Thank you so much!

Robert Grunder - April 23, 2017 at 09:47 PM

MD

“ Melvin Drumgoole lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder



Melvin Drumgoole - December 14, 2016 at 07:26 PM

LW

“ *LaKissha Williams lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder*



LaKissha Williams - December 14, 2016 at 06:36 PM

NF

“ *Christina & I graduated in the same class at Carrollton High School and were good friends except when she thought I was after a boy she liked! My fondest memories were of her in school plays, especially Bye, Bye Birdie. She was a great actress! I send my sympathy to her family and friends at this time of great loss.*

Nancy Brumbaugh Fierbaugh - December 14, 2016 at 03:25 PM

LL

“ *i considered Christina to be one of my good friends at Carrollton High School. She was always such a happy and fun loving person. May God bless her soul and bring comfort to all of her family. My prayers go out to all of you.*

Larry Ledford - December 14, 2016 at 02:19 PM

TR

“ *Tiffany Ryans lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder*



Tiffany Ryans - December 14, 2016 at 01:57 PM

MW

“ *MaryAnne Walls lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder*



MaryAnne Walls - December 14, 2016 at 01:41 PM

CF

“ *Carol Ford purchased the Sympathy Chocolates for the family of Christina Grunder.*



Carol Ford - December 14, 2016 at 11:25 AM

CF

“ *I remember Christina as a classmate at Carrollton (OH) Village Exempted Schools. We went through kindergarten until we graduated in May, 1965. The best I remember Christina was when our MYF was repairing hymnals in the early 1960's. Then, I was thrilled beyond words to see Christine at our 45th Class Reunion. She had disappeared many years and rumors she died at the Jim Jones awful event. So, it was good to see her alive and well.*

Carol Ford - December 14, 2016 at 10:14 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Christina Grunder.*



December 13, 2016 at 08:36 PM

TM

“ She was my other mom. She took me under her wing as soon as we met and that was that. All the long talks, the "therapy sessions" she would give me, as I called them...the laughter, the tears...and more laughter now seem too few and far between. We never could talk for just a few minutes..."Come here, baby" is all she had to say and before I knew it hours had passed...and I would be in stitches. And of course she directed my wedding as she did for so many of her babies...she made everyone feel so special and as if they were her favorite...but I actually was, of course. Lol...I just hope she knew and knows how much I loved her...how much I truly cherished her. No one could ever take her place. I'll always love you, Mamma Tina.

Toma Moore - December 13, 2016 at 08:33 PM

RG

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Robert Grunder - April 23, 2017 at 09:48 PM



“ Amber Grunder lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder



Amber Grunder - December 13, 2016 at 07:22 PM



Though I only had the pleasure of meeting Tina once at a family reunion in Carrollton, we kept in touch thru Facebook. Robert, you and your family were the world to your mom. In a world with so much negativity, she was such a breath of fresh air with how positive she always was. I never knew of her to say anything bad about anyone. So many times her comments would brighten my day. I have no doubt she will truly be missed by many. Hugs and prayers to you and your family at this difficult time.

Amber Grunder - December 13, 2016 at 07:27 PM

MW

Dear Robert and Brenda, I only know you through your mom and she was so very proud of you both and of course, loved those precious grandsons. Though I grew up in Carrollton with Tina, I didn't get to really know her until our Milligan days. Tina was the one in our dorm who would plan our parties, decorate our rooms and listen to our "love" problems and usually solved them for us! She will always live on within us!! Love to you all. We can not be there Sunday due to obligations at our church and watching our granddaughters while Mandy is at MD Anderson. We will be thinking of you all and know God's Love will be there to comfort you. Blessings to You, MaryAnne Walls

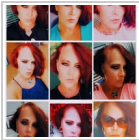
MaryAnne Walls - December 13, 2016 at 07:49 PM

BF

“ *Beth Farrace lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder*



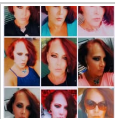
Beth Farrace - December 13, 2016 at 06:13 PM



“ *Tammy Deal lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder*



Tammy Deal - December 13, 2016 at 05:42 PM



She will truly be missed.. Such an amazing and beautiful person inside and out

Tammy Deal - December 13, 2016 at 05:44 PM

JZ

“ Robert, I loved your Mom, she was a dear person, loved, served, & praised Godand she loved so much, you blessed her heart and life in ways you will never know....the day you came into her life, "was the best day of her life".....as she said to me. I know with all my heart when she took her last breath on this earth, your Mom opened her eyes looking into the face of Jesus, her face was in her hands, he kissed her forehead....in that moment she was given what she lived her life to receive, eternal life with her Heavenly Father and His only begotten Son.

My heart is heavy for you, Brenda, the grandchildren and the people she loved so very much.....I love you, will be praying for you and your family. God Bless you always. Love, Joyce Zukas

Joyce Zukas - December 13, 2016 at 05:41 PM

TM

“ She was on wonderful woman. Her meals were wonderful. Especially her stir-fry, mac n cheese, chicken salad, chicken casserole, and much moore. She was extremely talented in her decorations. She kept her house and many others looking wonderful. She cared for many kids including myself. I'll never forget when we lived beside each other. Yummo!!! She will be missed, but she is resting in peace arguing with my mom in heaven. Lol. They are fighting over how to decorate the Christmas tree.



TK. a.k.a. Meata - December 13, 2016 at 05:27 PM

TM

Typos. Oops.

TK. a.k.a. Meata - December 13, 2016 at 05:28 PM

TF

*"I know you'll grieve and wish I was still here, but I am in the memories that you all hold dear."
We love you Tina.*

Tony and Beth Farrace - December 13, 2016 at 06:31 PM

SA

*“ She will be missed, but she has left many wonderful memories to bring smiles to all! 🙏
God bless you all with his arms of comfort and peace 🙏*



sandra - December 13, 2016 at 04:10 PM

SL

“ Sharron Livingston lit a candle in memory of Christina Grunder



Sharron Livingston - December 13, 2016 at 11:59 AM

LF

“ I worked with Christine from July 1987 until she retired. She was devoted to family and friends . May she rest in peace

Linda Foster



Linda Foster - December 12, 2016 at 10:14 AM

DH

Christina was a friend to many as well as a person of faith, love, and caring. Her sense of humor and her concern for those around her provided her with meaningful involvement and a cushion to help take the bumps out of life while maintaining her grace. She will be greatly missed by those of us who loved her. David Hall, classmate from Carrollton.

David Hall - December 14, 2016 at 07:55 PM

RG

Thank you so much Mr. Hall

Robert Grunder - April 23, 2017 at 09:45 PM

JP

“ Robert & Brenda with a heavy heart I say I am truly sorry. I loved her so much she adopted me as her own. She taught me so much about people and values Godly values!!! ❤️❤️❤️ Oh how she loved you all. You ALL WAS HER LIFE. Another one of my saint friends has left me but I Know I will see her again soon. My love to you all and her precious grandsons. You will forever hold a special place in my heart. I LOVE YOU ALL

Jewel Price Peterson - December 11, 2016 at 03:25 PM

PD

*“ What a precious women of God - Tender, Loving and Genuine! My children adored her for all that she gave in love, support, encouragement and just being Ms. Tina. I appreciate her for being such a wonderful example to them. Whenever I had the privilege of being with her I enjoyed her sweet wit and gentle way of speaking. She raised such a wonderful son and I have such admiration for her. She will be truly missed but she has left hearts filled with love - She will not be forgotten!
Pam and Bentley Daniels*

Pam Daniels - December 11, 2016 at 03:18 PM

NF

“ Deeply saddened to hear about Christina's passing. I cared for Christina many times while at Johnson city medical center over the past 2 years. She was an amazing woman and she will forever have a special place in my heart. Condolences for her family at this time.

natasha fairbairns - December 11, 2016 at 09:47 AM