



## Cynthia Lynn Candler

September 13, 1950 - January 22, 2025

Cynthia Lynn (Henderson) Candler, a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, teacher and writer, peacefully went home to be with the Lord on January 22, 2025, at the age of 74 after a battle with Alzheimer's.

Born on September 13, 1950, in Dallas, Texas, Cynthia grew up with a deep appreciation for learning and service. She graduated from Kimball High School before earning a Bachelor of Science degree in History with a teaching focus from the University of North Texas.

Cynthia's passion for education shaped her life's work, and she grew into a cherished educator who encouraged her students to think deeply, express themselves through writing and embrace the power of words. She began her career as a preschool teacher at the Presbyterian Church in Terrell before transitioning to middle school education. For 27 years, she inspired students at Furlough Middle School in Terrell with her dedication and compassion. In recognition of her exceptional contributions to education, she was honored as Region 10 Teacher of the Year in 1998. After retiring in 2016, Cynthia continued serving the Terrell community by delivering Meals on Wheels.

Cynthia's life was enriched by her many passions. She loved the beauty of nature, literature, and music, but her true passion was writing. For years, she wrote a weekly column for The Terrell Tribune, sharing her thoughts and

reflections in beautifully written words. Her faith was her guiding light, and she frequently reminded others of God's love and faithfulness. A lover of cats and an advocate for kindness, Cynthia's compassionate heart touched everyone who knew her.

Her greatest joy, however, was her family. Cynthia's legacy will live on through her loving husband, Mike Melugin; her children, Erin (Dave) Oertli, David (Amanda) Candler, Katharine (Cody) Teel, Sean Melugin, and Sarah (Marty) Ontko; her sisters, Janet (Doug) Abbott and Kathy Horton; her 10 beloved grandchildren, many cherished nieces and nephews, and countless former students, friends, and loved ones whose lives she touched.

A Memorial Service will be held on March 1, 2025, at 12:00 PM at The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Terrell. Following the service, there will be a casual reception where guests are welcome to come and go as they please, sharing memories and celebrating Cynthia's life.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions made in Cynthia's memory to the team ' Friends of Cynthia Candler' with the Walk to End Alzheimer's at: [https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2?idb=1019554649&df\\_id=60499&FR\\_ID=18909&mfc\\_pref=T&PROXY\\_ID=940034&60499.donation=form1&PROXY\\_TYPE=22](https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2?idb=1019554649&df_id=60499&FR_ID=18909&mfc_pref=T&PROXY_ID=940034&60499.donation=form1&PROXY_TYPE=22)

Memorial Contributions may also be made in honor of Cynthia at the American National Bank in Terrell, Texas under the name "Friends of Cynthia Candler.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

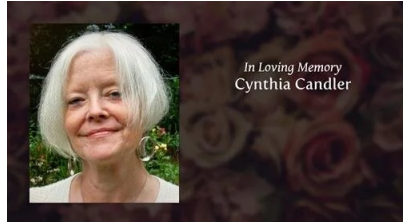
MAR 1. 12:00 PM (CT)

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church  
200 W. College St  
Terrell, TX 75160

# Tribute Wall



“ *Max Slayton Funerals and Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Cynthia Lynn Candler*



Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations - April 21, 2025 at 12:05 PM



“ *375 files added to the album Memories Album*



Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations - April 21, 2025 at 12:05 PM

JP

“ *Mrs. Candler said many kind and encouraging things to me while I was in her class, and for that I will be forever grateful.*

Joy Pope - March 03, 2025 at 04:11 PM

CS

“ Dear Mike, Erin, David, Katharine, Sean, Sarah & family,

Was so sorry to hear of Cynthia's passing. Friends for many years & coworkers at Terrell Middle School. Our children grew up together.

She was a beautiful lady, educator & friend who touched the lives of many & the World is a better place because of her! She will be missed but never forgotten! RIP sweet friend! Keeping all of you in our thoughts and prayers now & in the days to come!

With Deepest Sympathy,  
Karo & Wilson & family



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**Carolyn (Karo) Smith Stewart** - March 01, 2025 at 12:15 PM

CH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Carolyn Haynes** - March 01, 2025 at 10:10 AM

CH

Cynthia is in Pop's lap and our cousin David is in Mom's lap. This precious photograph documents my earliest memory of my cousin Cynthia. Janet is sitting between Mom and Pop. Sylvia, Bill, and Carolyn and standing.

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**Carolyn Haynes** - March 01, 2025 at 10:16 AM

GL

“ Cyn was my soul's sister, and my guiding light for over 20 years. She taught me how to be a better friend, teacher, mentor, wife, and person. Though she may be gone physically, the hearts and lives she has impacted are forever changed for the better. Her mission lives on in every kid we teach and every one we help. Love you my dear dear friend.



Glenna - March 01, 2025 at 08:50 AM

LR

“ Love, David, Ginny & Matthew Roe planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cynthia Lynn Candler.

Love, David, Ginny & Matthew Roe - February 27, 2025 at 04:11 PM

LR

“ Love, David, Ginny & Matthew Roe purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Cynthia Lynn Candler.



Love, David, Ginny & Matthew Roe - February 27, 2025 at 04:11 PM

BG

“ Cynthia was one of the kindest and most intelligent ladies I have ever known. The world is a better place because of her life. My condolences to all her family and may she rest in peace.



Beverly Goff - February 24, 2025 at 01:25 AM

AF

“ *She was not only a phenomenal educator but also an extraordinary human being—beautiful inside and out. Her presence touched so many lives, and she will be deeply missed.*

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**Amanda Fuentes** - February 11, 2025 at 03:59 PM

BS

“ *She was a wonderful lady and a long time friend She and Mike were great neighbors and we will miss our walks and conversations as they would pass by the house and stop to talk to Oscar, Mary and I*

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**Bobby Lee Spears** - February 08, 2025 at 03:29 PM

MM

“ *Marianne McCorkle Mason purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Cynthia Lynn Candler.*



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**Marianne McCorkle Mason** - February 08, 2025 at 12:53 PM

KM

“ *Mrs. Candler always lit up every room she walked in. She was full of such wisdom and her compassionate and devoted heart will leave a mark on her students, friends and family, and myself. She was an unremarkable, amazing, and sweet woman. Her legacy will remain with us.*



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**katie miramontes** - February 08, 2025 at 11:49 AM

BD

“ As I think of Cynthia, I recall a woman who lived her life with fierce passion. I remember each time we interacted, she so fully attended to our conversation and made such intense eye contact that I felt nothing was more important than that moment we were sharing. What a rare gift she had of connecting with others in the deepest way.  
I am so saddened that the world has lost this remarkable woman.

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**Bonnie Dockery** - February 08, 2025 at 11:16 AM



“ Rest In Power and Peace our friend.... You are loved and missed by many..

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**Donna Meridith** - February 07, 2025 at 12:17 PM

BH

“ Becca Hamm Hood sent a virtual gift in memory of Cynthia Lynn Candler



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**Becca Hamm Hood** - February 07, 2025 at 10:20 AM