



Charlyne "Char" LaFaye Brand

July 27, 1932 - July 6, 2022

The world was made a brighter place when Charlyne LaFaye Medenwald was born July 27, 1932 in Lidgerwood, ND. Char was the first born of six children to Art and Louise Medenwald. She was baptized and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church in rural Claire City, South Dakota where her parents farmed the Holst homestead. The family then moved to their own farm in Hankinson, North Dakota.

Everyone who knew Char loved her and her legacy continues today through her family. She is survived by her two loving daughters Sharla Louise Brand and Chrisann (Dale) Telle; her beloved grandchild Kaiya Telle; brother Mark Medenwald and sister Donna Bohn; brother-in-law Walt Baumann, sister-in-law Fran Medenwald; Aunt Doris Bull (104 yrs old); many cousins, nieces and nephews and countless friends. John Wilson was like a son to her, so supportive.

At the age of 89 years old, Char passed from this life into Heaven on July 6, 2022. Joining her parents Art and Louise Medenwald; siblings Charlie (Donna) Medenwaldt, Dean Medenwald, Diane Baumann, and Mike Medenwald; as well as many other family and friends.

Throughout her life, Char, aka Ava, or Ollie if you're Uncle Mark, accomplished much across her professional and personal life. This spunky,

diverse woman did everything from driving semis, to working with Northwestern Bell for twenty plus years, to being a food demo extraordinaire at Rainbow Foods where she met many lifelong friends. Her greatest accomplishment was in raising her two daughters in a safe, loving community as a single mother in St. Anthony Village. Above all, her greatest joy was in being a Mom to Sharla and Chrisann, and Grandma to Kaiya.

Some of her hobbies & interests included: refinishing antique furniture, enjoying a glass of wine, going out for a meal, chit chatting, shopping, going to Como Zoo and Conservatory, laughing out loud at a good joke, story, or movie, playing cards and Mexican Train with friends at Autumn Woods, watching movies and shows, playing miniature golf, and gardening with her Holst green thumb gene, sharing her bounty of colorful flowers and raspberries (in cool-whip containers of course) with neighbors, family and friends. She excelled at kind gestures and acts of service.

Her outreach of being welcoming, inclusive, friendly, and warm, stretched far and wide. One of her great talents was in conversing with everyone no matter how young or old they were. To Char, there were no strangers, they were friends she hadn't met yet!

Char's family would like to give a special thank you to the St. Anthony Village Fire and Police Departments, Hennepin EMS and the Hennepin MICU team who gave amazing care to her in a time of great need. You were truly our Mom's angels and ours too.

A Celebration in Char's honor will be held on July 30th at 2:00pm, with a 1:00pm visitation at Washburn-McReavy Hillside Chapel 2610 19th Avenue N.E., Minneapolis, MN 55418.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 30. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Hillside Chapel
2610 19th Avenue N.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Chapel Service

JUL 30. 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM (CT)

Hillside Chapel
2610 19th Avenue N.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Tribute Wall

LO

“ My thoughts are with you, Chrisann and Sharla, during this sad time. Your mom was a sweet lady, and her light will be missed. Hugs to you both. -Lori Edgren

Lori - July 30, 2022 at 12:29 PM

DS

“ Debbie Sykes purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Charlyne "Char" LaFaye Brand.



Debbie Sykes - July 29, 2022 at 04:23 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Charlyne "Char" LaFaye Brand.



July 28, 2022 at 05:58 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Charlyne "Char" LaFaye Brand.



July 28, 2022 at 04:31 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charlyne "Char" LaFaye Brand.



July 28, 2022 at 12:14 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Charlyne "Char" LaFaye Brand.



July 26, 2022 at 08:28 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charlyne "Char" LaFaye Brand.



July 23, 2022 at 10:02 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charlyne "Char" LaFaye Brand.



July 22, 2022 at 08:49 PM

PS

“ Char was a bright light. We would talk sometimes for hours, and I loved her zest for life. I will miss our talks. I will look up and know that bright star shining has her name, and she is looking down saying “life was good”. To that bright star “Char” you are loved.

Pam Saastamoinen - July 17, 2022 at 07:23 PM

LS

“ Laura Saastamoinen lit a candle in memory of Charlyne "Char" LaFaye Brand



Laura Saastamoinen - July 15, 2022 at 01:24 PM

LS

Char was such a bright light to be around. It was fun to talk and laugh while spending time. Now she can brighten heaven. All My Love Laura

Laura Saastamoinen - July 15, 2022 at 01:27 PM

CT

I like that Laura, thank you for sharing those thoughts and a sweet relationship with Mom! I'm so glad you two girls had fun talking and laughing! Such wonderful memories to hold in your heart. Blessings to you!

Chrisann Telle - July 15, 2022 at 03:25 PM



“ I have known Char for over 30 years, and she was such a great lady. So happy and touched so many people. When Char walked into a room, she greeted you with a hug and a kiss. When she squeezed you you felt loved. When she laughed, I swear the room laughed too. Char was a second mom to me, she worried about me and checked in on my and when she bought wine, she would say I wonder if Jennie would like this? Char was thoughtful and amazing. Char could tell a story too, she wanted to know all about you, and she was a curious soul. She wanted to know all about what was happening with me, and I know she loved me with her whole heart. I will miss hearing her voice. I can close my eyes and hear her call my name. I loved her! She was a beautiful friend and mom.

Jennie Hawkins - July 15, 2022 at 11:33 AM

CT

Oh my word Jennie, it makes my heart happy reading your personal testimony of Mom's love for you and yours for her, it means so much! You described her so well!! Thank you for sharing your heart for her! I'm so glad you had so many wonderful, meaningful and fun experiences with Mom. She was fortunate to have a beautiful friend in you, she loved you! It feels so good to know Mom had so many people in her life who loved and appreciated her for who she was. She is missed in a big way!!
Love & hugs to you dear one.

Chrisann Telle - July 15, 2022 at 01:20 PM

MP

“ This is such a lovely tribute. Many condolences. I didn't know Char, but I went to St. Anthony with Chrisann and Sharla, and am good friends with Chrisann, who are both beautiful souls, who no doubt took after their Mother❤️

Maria Psychogios - July 14, 2022 at 08:55 PM

CT

Thank you, so much dear friend, for your thoughts and kind words. I know Mom would have loved you! I was hoping that one day you and I would have been able to host a mom/daughter get together with the four of us, we all would have had a wonderful time visiting!
Much love to you, Maria

Chrisann Telle - July 15, 2022 at 01:33 PM