



## Barbara Ashley Firesheets

April 11, 1939 - August 16, 2025

Barbara Ashley Firesheets, beloved mother, grandmother, sister, teacher, and friend, passed away peacefully on August 16, 2025, at the age of 86. Born on April 11, 1939, in Tappahannock, Virginia, Barbara lived a life devoted to family, education, and community.

A graduate of New Kent High School and Mary Washington College, Barbara married her childhood sweetheart, Tyrus Firesheets, on July 8, 1961. Together they built a life in West Point with their two children and created memories with a large circle of colorful friends and characters. For nearly four decades, Barbara dedicated herself to the West Point school system, beginning as a teacher and basketball, softball, and field hockey coach, as well as a driver's education instructor. After years on the playing fields and in the classroom, she embraced a quieter role as the elementary school librarian until her retirement in 2000 to play a lot of golf and enjoy her grandchildren. Many of her players continue to stay in touch with their beloved coach over the years, a testament to the enduring relationships she built and the lives she touched.

Barbara's impact reached far beyond academics—she inspired confidence in her students, nurtured their talents, and celebrated their successes as if they were her own children. She was inducted into the West Point Athletics Hall of Fame in 2019 and was a lifelong member of Wares Lower King and Queen Baptist Church.

She is survived by her two children, Suzi and Scott (Melanie); four cherished grandchildren, Jack, Ford, Nick, and Ashley; her brother, Jim (Frankie); and her nephew and niece, Jay and Kendahl. She was preceded in death by her husband, Tyrus, and her parents, Bessie and Jake Ashley.

Barbara's love for animals was lifelong, and she shared her home with many beloved pets, including Maggie and Miss Kitty. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in her memory to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, your local ASPCA, or the West Point High School Athletic Department, 2700 Mattaponi Ave., West Point, VA 23181.

The family wishes to express profound gratitude to those who cared for Barbara with compassion and kindness: Nancy Hazzard, Jessica Sears, Cathy Massok, and the Visiting Angels team; Claire Weill, Shawnell Senegals, and the dedicated staff at Amedisys Hospice. A special thank you to Frances Madison for her unwavering friendship for over 60 years and especially during her illness. Barbara's life was a testament to dedication, kindness, and quiet strength. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered by those who knew and loved her.

A funeral service will be held 11 AM, Tuesday, August 19th at Lower King and Queen Baptist Church, 204 Timber Branch Rd., Mascot, VA 23108, with burial to follow in the church cemetery. Visitation will be held 6 to 8 PM, Monday, August 18th at Vincent Funeral Home, 417 11th St., West Point, VA 23181.

# Cemetery Details

## Lower King & Queen Baptist Church Cemetery

204 Timber Branch Road  
Mascot, VA 23108

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 18. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Vincent Funeral Home, West Point Chapel  
417 11th St  
West Point, VA 23181  
(804) 843-2550

## Funeral

AUG 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

Lower King & Queen Baptist Church  
204 Timber Branch Road  
Mascot, VA 23108

# Tribute Wall

SK

“ Barbara was such a great friend and co-worker. Our time spent working on yearbook, library experiences for the art classes will be a hallmark for generations.

Love to all 🙏❤️

Sue Kurfees - September 07, 2025 at 10:23 AM

MN

“ Mel And Marie Norman lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets



Mel and Marie Norman - August 23, 2025 at 10:38 PM

SH

“ Staci Hunt lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets



Staci Hunt - August 21, 2025 at 03:35 PM

AW

“ Avie Williams lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets



Avie Williams - August 20, 2025 at 12:47 PM

AW

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



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**Avie Williams** - August 20, 2025 at 12:18 PM

GC

“ Dear family loved ones and friends,  
I am so sorry for your loss.  
Barbara was a beautiful lady both inside and  
out. She and Tyrus were a gorgeous couple.  
At NKHS they were admired as the King &  
Queen of couples. She, Dottie and I helped with the decorations for  
the NKHS REUNIONS for several years that were held in  
Williamsburg.  
Cherish your precious memories.  
With heartfelt sympathy,  
Gloria Couch (formerly Foster)



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**Gloria Couch** - August 19, 2025 at 07:42 PM

MC

“ Mary Hudson Crowe lit a candle in memory of  
Barbara Ashley Firesheets



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**Mary Hudson Crowe** - August 19, 2025 at 11:16 AM

VG

“ *Amazing lady, had such a good time taking drivers Ed over the summer and driving to the beach, lol, she was such a dedicated mentor to our communities young people!!! I will always remember her fondly!*

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**Vickie Grimes** - August 19, 2025 at 10:45 AM

LW

“ *Barbara Firesheets was one of my favorite faculty members at WPHS. She was beautiful, wise and supportive; a wonderful role model.*

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**Leslie Wyatt** - August 19, 2025 at 10:13 AM

TN

“ *Teresa Nice lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets*



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**Teresa Nice** - August 19, 2025 at 07:14 AM

BR

“ *Precious Memories...*



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**Beverly & Jim Ross** - August 18, 2025 at 09:05 PM

VB

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to Suzy, Scott and the entire family. We remember Barbara from back in high school when she was cheerleading for New Kent High School and Tyrus when he was such a likeable teenager . In later years we had the great pleasure of singing with them as members of the Celebration Singers: Some of the happiest times of our lives. Barbara was quite a special person and a true joy to sing with. She will indeed be missed greatly. It was a real honor to sing with her and we will always remember her fondly. We can picture her now singing and dancing with her wonderful husband, Tyrus.  
*Vic and Sharon Britton*

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**Vic and Sharon Britton** - August 18, 2025 at 08:17 PM

RA

“ *Barbara was a beautiful southern lady and enjoyed life to the fullest. May you find comfort in knowing so many care. With deepest sympathy, Ruth Adams*

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**Ruth Adams** - August 18, 2025 at 01:58 PM

FS

“ *Faith Silva lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets*



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**Faith Silva** - August 18, 2025 at 10:16 AM

TW

“ Sorry For Your Loss



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**Thomas Widgeon** - August 18, 2025 at 08:27 AM

NH

“ *Mrs. Barbara was our organist at Lower King and Queen Baptist Church and had been the piano player before that. She was also a very kind friend and I was glad to be able to help her in the last two years. Keeping the family in my prayers ! Carroll and Nancy Hazzard*

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**Nancy Hazzard** - August 18, 2025 at 08:19 AM

CC

“ *Cheryl Rowe Crabbe lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets*



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**Cheryl Rowe Crabbe** - August 18, 2025 at 07:20 AM

JP

“ *Barbara was a beautiful lady inside and out. She will be missed. Wonderful memories of Barbara and Tyrus. They were great dancers and I hope they are dancing again in Heaven. We send our love and sympathy to Suzy, Scott, Jim and Frankie and their families.*

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**Judy and Glenn Palmer** - August 17, 2025 at 09:28 PM

JR

“ *John And Vickie Roane lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets*



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**john and vickie roane** - August 17, 2025 at 08:47 PM

TC

“ *Lots of good memories of her being our coach, teacher, and also in drivers ed ...lots of hours spent together. Many prayers for her family.*

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**Tammy Cade** - August 17, 2025 at 08:21 PM

CD

“ *Many fond memories with Barbara! PE, basketball, and softball! Having remained in WP myself, I was fortunate to run into her from time to time and we'd chat and laugh. She was a special person for sure and will be missed. Sending love and prayers to Suzie, Scott and both of their families.*

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**Carol L. Davis** - August 17, 2025 at 07:32 PM

PC

“ *Pamela Carter lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets*



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**Pamela Carter** - August 17, 2025 at 06:13 PM

LB

“ *Many happy memories spending high school sports time with our “coach”! She was the best.*  
*Lee Skinner Bristow*

Lee Skinner Bristow - August 17, 2025 at 06:06 PM

LW

“ *Linda Wilson lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets*



Linda Wilson - August 17, 2025 at 05:37 PM

NS

“ *Nancy Vaughan Scott lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets*



Nancy Vaughan Scott - August 17, 2025 at 04:47 PM

CW

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Claire Weil - August 17, 2025 at 04:46 PM

CW

“ *Claire Weil lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets*



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**Claire Weil** - August 17, 2025 at 04:42 PM

SM

“ *Stacy Lewis McKinney lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets*



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**Stacy Lewis McKinney** - August 17, 2025 at 04:40 PM

CC

“ *Mrs. Firesheets and her family were always kind and friendly. She was a wonderful teacher and coach to me in basketball and softball. I offer my condolences to her family.*

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**Claudette Thorpe Canady** - August 17, 2025 at 03:31 PM

WF

“ *Ms. Firesheets was an amazing teacher and mentor. Prayers for her family 🙏*

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**Woodlyn Farley** - August 17, 2025 at 03:02 PM

MT

“ *Mike Tokarz lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets*



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**Mike Tokarz** - August 17, 2025 at 03:01 PM

BA

“ *Brenda Anerton lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ashley Firesheets*



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**Brenda Anerton** - August 17, 2025 at 02:11 PM

PS

“ *Ms Firesheets was always one of my favorite teachers. Sending prayers to the family.*



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**peggy Wiis Sanford** - August 17, 2025 at 12:47 PM

MH

“ *Prayers to the family*

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**Michael Haden** - August 17, 2025 at 11:39 AM