



## Lenora Ann Cordray Austin

July 6, 1956 - September 11, 2020

At the age of 64, went home to be with her Lord on September 11, 2020 at the Roper Hospice Cottage in Mt. Pleasant, SC. She was surrounded by her loving family.

Beloved wife, cherished mother, faithful sister, and dedicated friend, she was born Lenora Ann Cordray on July 6, 1956, the daughter of John (Johnnie) William Cordray and Lottie Clements Cordray. She was the youngest of four children. Lenora is preceded in death by her beloved husband, Larry Edward Austin, and cherished daughter, Sarah Anne Austin.

Lenora graduated from Summerville High School, Winthrop College with a B.S. in Spanish Education and Physical Education, and Florida State University with a Masters degree in Exercise Physiology. She moved to Hilton Head to begin her teaching career and soon met the love of her life, Larry. After marrying, she and Larry moved to Edison, NJ where she continued to teach while Larry pursued his MBA at New York University; during this time of “starving student” and “starving teacher”, they could only afford to get each other a pair of fingernail clippers for Christmas, a family tradition which continues to this day.

Her beautiful blue eyes and bright smile would light up every room she entered. Her nature was always loving, and in spite of all her trials, she never would complain – unless we dared to interrupt The Andy Griffith Show or Jeopardy!

As a devoted wife and mother, Lenora enjoyed spending time at family events

and dinners. She was an accomplished seamstress, sewing anything that couldn't be found in a store.

As a follower of Christ, Lenora used her teaching skills to teach Sunday School and participate in Bible study at Sauldam Baptist Church, where she also served as the chair of the Church History Committee. While living in Tucson, AZ she served as a deacon at St. John on the Desert Presbyterian Church.

Lenora was the widow of Larry Edward Austin and was preceded in death by her daughter Sarah Anne Austin and her parents, Johnnie and Lottie Cordray. She is survived by her son, William Lawrence Austin; her brother John W. Cordray, Jr. (Harriet); her sisters Marian Cordray and MaryLou Cordray; nephew John William Cordray III; as well as numerous cousins, aunts, uncles, and friends. She will be sorely missed.

Family and friends are invited to attend her visitation on Friday, September 18, 2020 from 6 o'clock to 8 o'clock at James A. Dyal Funeral Home, 303 S. Main St., Summerville, SC 29483. Funeral Service will be on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at 2 o'clock at Sauldam Baptist Church, 5945 County Line Road, Ravenel, SC 29470 with internment at White Church Cemetery to follow. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Samaritan's Purse, P.O. Box 3000, Boone NC, 28607.

James A. Dyal Funeral Home and the family require that facial coverings are used and social distancing is observed. The service will be recorded and streamed for those unable to attend. A reception will be held at a later date. A memorial message may be written to the family by visiting our website at [www.jamesadyal.com](http://www.jamesadyal.com).

ARRANGEMENTS BY JAMES A. DYAL FUNERAL HOME, 303 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUMMERVILLE, SC 29483 (843)873-4040.

# Cemetery Details

## White Church Cemetery - Ravenel

Highway 165  
Ravenel, SC 29472

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **18**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

James A. Dyal Funeral Home  
303 S. Main Street  
Summerville, SC 29483  
(843) 873-4040  
<https://www.jamesadyal.com>

## Service

SEP **19**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Sauldam Baptist Church  
5945 County Line Road  
Ravenel, SC

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lenora Ann Cordray Austin*

September 29, 2022 at 10:11 AM



“ *I was going through an old photo album from 1979. I lived next door to Lenora in Tallahassee Florida. She was the kindest, sweetest person I have ever known. When her picture came up I was devastated, she hadn't changed a bit. I'm so sorry for your loss.*

**Carol House** - March 30, 2021 at 05:11 PM



“ *Lenora's service was such a beautiful tribute exquisitely arranged and fitting for the wonderful, kind, smart and fun lady. I cherish the many times she arranged for her and William to spend time with the Minnesota Austins. No matter what her situation was she kept on going, determined to make great memories. You will be missed Lenora. I trust, Isabella, my Bichon Frise met you at the Rainbow Bridge. She always said if ever a dog could convince her to have one it was Isabella.*

*Darla Austin*

**DARLA AUSTIN** - October 09, 2020 at 04:32 PM

ST

“ *My deepest sympathies to William and all of Lenora's family. I met Lenora when our sons went to University High School in Tucson. She was the kindest person I've ever known and completely selfless. I had so much fun volunteering with her at all the marching band events. She took on the huge job of RUMBA president and did a fantastic job. All the "band moms" would sit in the stands for all the football games and cheer on the marching band at half time. We spent many nights going out to dinner together. I will always treasure the beautiful memories I have of Lenora. I feel truly blessed to have been fortunate enough to know her. My heart goes out to her family and I am very sorry for your loss.*

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**Sharon Treister** - September 28, 2020 at 12:29 AM

“ My inbox has been flooded with tributes and memories of Lenora, from her faith community in Tucson. Here is a sampling:

*Oh my, she was one of the first people to welcome John and I to St John's. She was always up-beat and had a smile on her face for everyone. She is an inspiration to many of us and I will pray her journey is a smooth one and pain free. I pray Lenora feel God's comforting arms as she travels to meet Him. (Carol Morris)*

*I can't remember exactly how Gary gard put it but he once said when you visit her you get more from her than you give. We were new to the church at that time but I thought this is a person I want to know. I found his words were fully true every time I was with her, and gratefully that was often. (Donna Coloman)*

*So sad to hear about Lenora. She sure was a fighter and an inspiration! (Marcia Soriano)*

*Lenora was upbeat, positive, and always concerned for the well-being of others. (Janet Workman)*

*Lenora patiently showed me how to make the hymnal ribbon 'bookmarks' as my first volunteer project when I joined the church in 2011. She was always so friendly, welcoming, caring and optimistic no matter how she was feeling. I always knew God was walking with her. (Ardie Deering)*

*Lenora was such a brave and devoted Christian and now she is free of pain and safe in the arms of our loving savior. God is getting a perfect angel. George and Bernie Zimmerman*

*Your mother's life is legendary among so many of us who knew her courage and tireless service for St John and our Tucson community, a Southern lady in the best sense and a true steel magnolia. (Anita Green)*

*Lenora always had a smile for everyone and doggedly led the Presbyterian Women's group with humor, grace, love and compassion as a model of Christ to the people of St. John on the Desert. (Jeanie Mangold)*

*A brave woman, an inspiration to me. (Rhoda Hubbard)*

*Lenora had great taste in books introducing me to titles of some of the best books I've ever read, such as *These Is My Words* (Nancy E Turner) and *Jan Karon's Mitford series*. (Susan Taylor)*

**Lesley Abrams** - September 22, 2020 at 12:06 PM

PM

“ *Our paths in life did not cross often enough. I was always so impressed by her strength and vibrance. Lenora will missed in this world, but welcomed by god and uncle Larry. Thoughts and prayers to William and the rest of her family.*

**Patrick Murray** - September 21, 2020 at 10:58 AM

WA

“ *1 file added to the album Service*



**William Austin** - September 20, 2020 at 12:41 PM

CG

*Thank you so much for sharing this. We are so happy that we could witness this special tribute and memorial to such a wonderful woman. We are with you all in spirit and love as we share your memories. Lenora will be forever in our hearts. Please keep each other close and know that you are loved.*  
*Carol and Kreg*

**Carol and Frederick Gamble** - September 20, 2020 at 02:22 PM

SM

“ *Sonja Muckenfuss lit a candle in memory of Lenora Ann Cordray Austin*



**Sonja Muckenfuss** - September 19, 2020 at 02:44 PM

MC

“ *Madeleine and Russell Clements purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Lenora Ann Cordray Austin.*

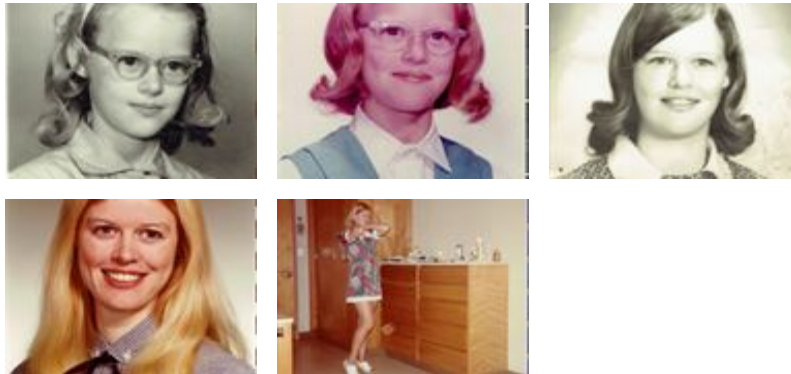


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**Madeleine and Russell Clements** - September 18, 2020 at 01:51 PM



“ 122 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**James A Dyal Funeral Home** - September 18, 2020 at 08:40 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lenora Ann Cordray Austin.*



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September 17, 2020 at 03:37 PM

PD

“ *Lenora was a sweet and loving person, sending prayers and love to the family.* ”



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**Patricia Day** - September 17, 2020 at 02:30 PM

TF

“ *The Gamble and Reinke Families purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Lenora Ann Cordray Austin.* ”



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**The Gamble and Reinke Families** - September 16, 2020 at 08:14 PM

CG

“ Lenora has always been God’s example of what a truly Christian person should be. Always strong, loving, fierce, caring, striving, finding the good in everyone and every situation, determined, smart, always planning and rewriting her future.

Lenora was always a good listener and really listened and understood what you were saying, even if she didn’t agree. In her gentle way she was always teaching and guiding me to be more loving and caring, helping me to find reason and understanding for things and to work through pain, sorrow, anger and frustration and come through to look for the positive and toward the future. Lenora taught me strength and perseverance. She taught me how to see a better life and to keep going, to live, to enjoy, to forgive, to see the good, to deal with loss and to know that God is always here with us and is waiting to bring us home when our time together on earth is over. I miss her so much but I know that she is watching us and she is here in my heart, and she will be waiting to be my friend in Heaven.

Please know that Kreg and I are feeling the sorrow and are with you all in your loss.

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**Carol and Frederick Gamble** - September 16, 2020 at 07:30 PM

JM

“ Lenora was a gracious, sweet soul. She was a strong person and fought all of the obstacles she faced throughout her life. I know you are all going to miss her greatly. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Joyce Hallex Myers** - September 16, 2020 at 01:59 PM

BC

“ *Style and Grace is the perfect example of Lenora's life. Regardless of the hardship and challenge, she had that unforgettable smile, almost a grin. Inspiring, she was! Her love of our Lord Jesus Christ was so evident in her personality. You are missed but your legacy of kindness remains. To William, Marian, John, MaryLou, John William, may your many years of family closeness provide comfort. Cannot imagine the excitement & happiness in Heaven when Lenora met Jesus, Larry, daughter Sarah, Uncle Johnnie & Aunt Lottie, and the entire Cordray clan anxiously awaiting her arrival. Must say I am envious..... Bill Cordray*

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**Bill Cordray** - September 16, 2020 at 11:35 AM

AC

“ *Lenora was very special. She was one of God's blessings to all of us. I loved Lenora, the brief time I knew her. She has gone home, and I know God is so happy to see her. She was blessed and carried it beautifully. Till we meet again.*  
*Austin Cole*

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**Austin Cole** - September 16, 2020 at 10:02 AM

FP

“ *Lenora was a beautiful lady. I loved the twinkle in her eyes when she spoke Spanish. I will miss her kindness to all. Prayers to her son sister's and brother. May peace be with you. Faye B. Parker*

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**Faye B. Parker** - September 15, 2020 at 11:18 PM

SM

“ *Sending love and prayers to the family. Lenora was an inspiration when we would see her at church. She will be missed.*

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**Sam and Sandy Moore** - September 15, 2020 at 03:36 PM

MC

“ The world was enriched by the beauty, grace and courage of Lenora Cordray Austin. She saved my little brother Larry when he was struggling and together they made beautiful music together. When William came into their lives, they were proud and happy. I still remember the phone call.

*Then the next phone call. Lenora was diagnosed with bone cancer. It devastated my brother.*

*When we lost Larry, Lenora faced the world with courage, determined to give William every opportunity. She succeeded brilliantly as she did with everything she touched.*

*Lenora was an inspiration to me. She travelled often to be with the Austin's and when I lost my husband tragically, she was there. I remember shopping with her and she said, "You will know when you're on your way to healing when your closet isn't full of black." She bought me a pink Victoria's Secret T-shirt that I still wear.*

*Lenora is an Angel now and we can rely on her to bless us and guide us. Her spirit is strong. She is a warrior. She is all love. I am a better person for the grace she brought into my life. Peace and blessings.*

*We are sad, but Lenora is happy. ❤️🙏❤️*



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**Mary Austin Crofts** - September 15, 2020 at 11:39 AM

MM

“ *My heart is so sad that Lenora's life on earth has come to an end. I have known Lenora for so many years, and her positive attitude spoke volumes to me and to others. Though Lenora has left this earthly life, I know that she is now free of pain and struggles in her heavenly home.*

*Love and prayers,  
Margaret Muckenfuss*

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**Margaret H Muckenfuss** - September 14, 2020 at 04:13 PM

“ *My Treasured Friend*

*My heart was so heavy,  
As I was thinking of you today.  
I counted my blessings,  
And, for you, I began to pray.*

*You see, Lenora,  
You've always been  
An inspiration to me  
And a very dear friend.*

*We grew up together and our younger years Were full of laughter  
and fun -  
GA's, Acteens, 4-H camping in the rain,  
Snow Storm of '73...the list goes on and on.*

*In adulthood, we shared enjoyment and pain - Bible Study, WILSAR  
Blessing Bags and more.  
And, yes, we both experienced the trials  
That being diagnosed with breast cancer bore.*

*But, no matter all the battles  
That you so often faced...  
You always came through  
With style and grace!*

*Yes, "Job" is the person  
Whom I often compared you to,  
Because no matter the circumstances  
Your spiritual strength came shining through.*

*Oh, there will be many days  
That we will reminisce about old times,  
And days that we will have you  
Continually on our minds.*

*I will miss you so much more  
Than words could ever say,  
But, I know we will meet again,  
In Heaven, one glorious day!*

*Thank you, Lenora,  
For the joy you brought to so many...  
But mostly, Lenora, thank you,  
For the treasure you gave to me.*

*With love that will never forget,  
Kathy Muckenfuss*

*Proverbs 18:24  
"A faithful friend is a treasure."*

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**Katheryn Lee Muckenfuss** - September 14, 2020 at 03:13 PM

SP

“ *We can't say enough good things about  
Lenora Ann. We are so blessed, so enriched  
to have known her...witnessed her  
strength..her strong faith. She will be missed  
but there is no doubt of her eternal home!*



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**sandy parker** - September 13, 2020 at 05:41 PM

JP

*With Love and Prayers for William and all the family... God Bless, John  
L and Sandy*

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**John L nd Sandy Parker** - September 13, 2020 at 06:31 PM

EG

*Lenora was such a strong, loving friend and neighbor. Our lives are  
better for our friendship with her. Much love to her loving son William  
and the entire family. Mike and Elaine Gooch*

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**Elaine & Mike Gooch** - September 13, 2020 at 08:21 PM

JM

*Love and prayers for dearest Lenora, William and her family. Lenora was such a beautiful person, inside and out. She cared so much for her family and friends. Her strength was beyond compare. She is in the hands of our Lord who will give her comfort and peace!!*

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**Jan Murray** - September 17, 2020 at 03:14 PM