



## Melva Atkinson

January 9, 1950 - August 8, 2008

Funeral services for Melva Atkinson, 58, will be held at 4:00 p.m. Monday, August 11, 2008 at Swift Creek Baptist Church. The Rev. David Deming and Dr. Allie Brooks will officiate with burial in the church cemetery. Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home is serving the family. The family will receive friends Sunday, August 10, 2008 from 4-6 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the South Carolina Cheerleaders Coaches Association, Nickie Moose Scholarship Fund in memory of Melva Atkinson, c/o Patti Turner, 1844 Tinker Creek Road, Union, SC 29379 or Florence Area Humane Society, Box 527, Florence, SC 29503.

Ms. Atkinson died Friday, August 8, 2008. Born in Hartsville, SC, she was a daughter of the late Melvin Joseph and Mona Smith Atkinson. She was a graduate of Hartsville High School and Francis Marion University.

She served the students of Florence School District One by teaching at Wilson High School in the Science Department for 35 years. She loved her subject and her students. Her enthusiasm was reflected in her creative teaching style.

She also served the school in other capacities. She was a regular season judge for the Wilson Academic Team and a tournament judge at the Pee Dee Regional Tournament Competition at Francis Marion University. She was also the "Community Bunny." She took minutes at meetings, kept up with birthdays, and sent out announcements.

Her passion was cheerleading. She was a devoted coach at Wilson High

School for 29 years. She was a founding member of the South Carolina Cheerleading Coaches Association. She was secretary on the executive board for 19 years. In 2006, she was awarded the Non-Competitive Coach of the Year by the South Carolina Cheerleading Coaches Association. She was a skilled cook and was a devoted part-time employee at Chick-Fil-A for 25 years.

Melva is survived by her cousin and spouse, Melvin and Pat Atkinson of Ridgeway, SC; aunt, Myrtle Jolly of Darlington, SC; cousins and spouses, Malcolm and Sandra Atkinson of Norwood, NC, Margaret Griggs of Hartsville, SC, Russell and Joanne Atkinson of Darlington, SC, Jerry and Beth Atkinson of Marshville, NC, Bob and Gloria Atkinson of Bishopville, SC, Bobby and Kathryn Kirven of Darlington, SC. She will be greatly missed by family, friends, colleagues, students, and her beloved cat, Jumanji.

# Previous Events

## Service

AUG 11. 4:00 PM (ET)

Swift Creek Baptist Church  
413 N. Center Rd.  
Hartsville, SC

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ It’s 2024 and I remember like yesterday you visiting my dream. At the time I was in school when you past, you were my teacher for science and loved your job. and so nice to me. Before summer I help you to your car with your things, you ask do I want anything because you’re going to throw it out anyway. I wish I would have taken something but I said no and have a great summer. You smiled at me and said you too and me for my help, I smiled back and left. Then I heard you past and was so shock, the whole day I kept saying out loud “ima miss Ms. Atkinson💕 so that night you came to me in my dream I was literally the only One outside not sure why I was just standing there at my house and you came walking from the side right up to me and gave me a hug and whisper in my ear “thank you” and simply walk away. I thank you so much for coming to me Ms. Atkinson it showed me souls DO hear you. I’ll never ever forget that dream and the smile you had approaching me before you hug me. You made my whole year just by coming to do that. Love you forever and see you again one day ❤️ from: Rachel Simmons🙏❤️see you again

Rachel Simmons - May 25, 2024 at 11:12 AM



“ You will be missed Ms. A##imported-begin##Jamarr Matthews##imported-end##

August 14, 2008 at 10:40 AM



“ To the family of Melva Atkinson. I am sorry to hear of Melva's passing. I remember so well spending time with her and her parents when they lived on Richardson Circle. May the God of peace encourage and sustain you.

Cynthia "Cindy" Lunn Watts##imported-begin##Cindy Watts##imported-end##

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August 13, 2008 at 11:43 AM



“ I am very sorry about the loss of Mrs. Atkinson my son is a student at Wilson and he did talk very highly of her and said that she was a very nice person and was always nice to students regardless of how they acted. She will be missed and much prayers go out to the family.##imported-begin##Johnson Family##imported-end##

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August 13, 2008 at 09:20 AM



“ Atkinson Family,

I wanted to express my sorrow for your loss. I never had the opportunity to meet Melva, however, in reading the guestbook, it's obvious to see that she was loved by many. In addition I wanted to share with you what has brought me great comfort when I lost loved ones in death. In John5:28,29 there the Bible promises that soon those who have died have the hope of coming back to life here on earth. I realize that this doesn't take away the sting of death, however, this promise is a guarantee that will soon be realized. I once again am sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##Jason Owen##imported-end##

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August 13, 2008 at 06:44 AM



“ I've had the pleasure to be under the guidance of a "SUPER" woman! Ms. A was an excellence cheerleading coach that encouraged me to always strive for perfection. You are sadly missed!

WHS C/O 2000##imported-begin##Kimberly Koko Joseph##imported-end##

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August 12, 2008 at 04:52 PM



“ I considered "Melva" a friend. She always brought a laugh or a giggle when she and I were together. Her sense of humor was contagious! I am so glad that I was able to speak with her and get a hug at our recent clinic in Charleston. I'm sure Wilson High School will never be the same. Cheerleading in the state of South Carolina will also never be the same. So long, friend. You will be missed!##imported-begin##Patti Turner##imported-end##

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August 11, 2008 at 06:31 PM



“ Melvin, Pat and family  
You are in our prayers at this time of loss. We know you will miss Melva.  
God bless you all. We love you  
Barbara and Reed##imported-begin##Barbara and Reed Price##imported-end##

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August 11, 2008 at 04:37 PM



“ May the lord watch over you all and help you through this trying time.##imported-begin##Tynisha McKnight Robinson##imported-end##

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August 11, 2008 at 04:33 PM



“ I was not only a student of Ms. A's but also one of her cheerleaders for two years at Wilson High School. Ms. A was highly spirited, greatly ambitious and a feverously determined teacher and cheerleading coach. She taught her students and her cheerleaders to strive for perfection and excellence in everything you do.

*If it's not what you take when you leave, but what you leave behind when you go; then we are all better off having had Ms. A in this world.##imported-begin##Shawnette James##imported-end##*

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August 11, 2008 at 03:36 PM



“ The Wilkes family sends its thoughts and prayers to the Atkinson family. Ms. A was a wonderful coach and humanitarian. She taught me (Jennifer) was it was to be a professional cheerleader and a respectable lady. She would always say, "Your job (cheerleaders)is to cheer the team on." She will be greatly missed, though I know she is always with us. I will carry her spirit with me always, especially when it comes to being a cheerleader.##imported-begin##Jennifer Wilkes##imported-end##

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August 11, 2008 at 12:46 PM



“ Melva was a wonderful friend and a dedicated member of the SC Cheerleader Coaches Assoc, but I knew her love was her students and her cheerleaders---they were very fortunate to be touched by such a caring and dedicated teacher and coach. I will personally miss Melva tremendously, and I know that South Carolina cheerleading will never be the same without her. May she rest from her tireless work in the arms of Jesus forever.##imported-begin##Jeni Smallwood##imported-end##

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August 11, 2008 at 09:40 AM



“ I was a friend and former FMU classmate with Melva. We graduated together in 1972. Melva was always the person that could cheer you up or help you through a tough day. It was just her nature to want to be a friend and help in any way. Once I had classes that overlapped in Biology, so Melva graciously offered to take notes for me so I wouldn't miss anything. I have never forgotten that. Melva was most certainly destined to be a great teacher. Although I haven't seen her since graduation I have thought of her many times and her thoughtfulness towards her friends. I am saddened to learn of her passing and will miss her in thought, Heaven has most certainly gained a wonderful teacher and angel.##imported-begin##Joe Broadwell##imported-end##

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August 11, 2008 at 01:19 AM



“ I have great memories of Ms. Atkinson as she was my science teacher as well as homeroom teacher @ Wilson. I spoke with Ms. Atkinson last year at Homecoming and commended her on the job she continued to do with the cheerleaders and how she did not age at all. She was always such a pleasant person with me. She will be greatly missed by all of the lives she touched over the past 35 years. Ms. Atkinson was a "TRUE TIGER".##imported-begin##Joan (Joanie) McClain C/O 1978##imported-end##

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August 10, 2008 at 06:07 PM



“ Ms. Atkinson was a very nice lady and always knew how to understand me no matter what it is. I kept my grades up in her class because it was easy as 123 to understand her. Every time you see her u will always get a hey or goodbye from her. She was very nice it just isn't much more to explain how nice she is. When ever I need Ms. Atkinson she was right there by my side but Ms. Atkinson we will always love you and may I see you when I get there with you. R.I.I. MS. ATKINSON I LOVE YOU!!!!##imported-begin##KIARA WILLIAMS##imported-end##

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August 10, 2008 at 05:11 PM



“ I met you at Wilson through my granddaughter. It was a pleasure to know you. You left a memory on my heart. you will truly be miss. May God keep you in his hand and I know you will truly be miss at Wilson. May God bless the Atkinson Family.##imported-begin##claudette w. Grant##imported-end##

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August 10, 2008 at 05:03 PM



“ *Melva was one of my dearest friends. We have been in this cheerleading world together many years and I know she will be missed as a coach. She loved her cheerleaders and the South Carolina Cheer Coaches Association so very much. I will miss that great smile of hers and her loving ways. Mel, rest in peace girlfriend. I love you, Elaine.##imported-begin##Elaine Elliott##imported-end##*

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August 10, 2008 at 09:51 AM



“ *Melva was a great lady with a big heart. I first met her back in 1996 while working with College Park Baptist Church in Florence. Even back then she made an impression on me. Latter I moved to Swift Creek Baptist Church in Hartsville and not long after I began seeing her there and realized that she had family and friends in the area. Her smile and kind heart will be missed!##imported-begin##Brian Gandy##imported-end##*

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August 09, 2008 at 04:37 PM



“ Ms. Atkinson and Ms. Register were the first teachers that I met when I visited with Dr. Allie Brooks on my arrival to Wilson High School. She introduced her self as the Cheerleading Coach and quickly discussed plans for the coming year. You could count on Ms. Atkinson. She taught 9th science, coached cheerleading, remembered everyone's birthday, and served as the "Community Bunny" for the Wilson Staff. When I talked with her on last Saturday, her conversation was about her "girls", the Wilson High School Cheerleaders, and plans for this season. We will miss Ms. Atkinson at Wilson High School. Her life and dedication remind me of lines in the USMA alma mater: "And when our work is done, Our course on earth is run, May it be said, 'Well Done; Be Thou At Peace.'" Thank you Ms. Atkinson!###imported-begin###Dr. Gerard Edwards###imported-end##

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August 09, 2008 at 12:34 PM



“ MELVA, I REMEMBER HAVING CLASSES WITH YOU IN HIGH SCHOOL. YOU WERE ALWAYS SUCH A HAPPY SPIRIT AND SO FUNNY.I LOVED HAVING THOSE CLASSES WITH YOU. YOU ALWAYS MADE THE HOUR FLY BY.THROUGH THE YEARS, WHEN I WOULD THINK OF YOU, I WOULD ALWAYS GET THIS BIG SMILE ON MY FACE. MELVA, YOU ARE SURELY IN A BETTER PLACE AND I KNOW THAT YOU ARE IN HEAVEN NOW MAKING GOD LAUGH.MAY PEACE BE WITH YOU ARE YOUR FAMILY. GOD BLESS.  
CORLISS###imported-begin###CORLISS HULSEY  
MAKSIN###imported-end##

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August 09, 2008 at 11:12 AM



“ *Melva, I will always remember your drive and commitment to your school, and your loyalty to people and your precious cat. May you have everlasting days of peace and happiness in heaven. We will miss you terribly.*

*Love Always,  
Peggy##imported-begin##Peggy Lineberger##imported-end##*

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August 09, 2008 at 09:54 AM



“ *She was the great teacher and she ment alot to me. The knowledge that she past on to me wasnt just in Bio. she taught me that I could do anything> She always made me and my classmates smile. And I will always love her. I pray for her and her family.*

*Love,  
Sara##imported-begin##Sara Hall##imported-end##*

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August 08, 2008 at 11:21 PM



“ *My sincerest and heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Ms. Atkinson. She will truly be missed by me!*

*Machell Sprauve##imported-begin##Machell Sprauve##imported-end##*

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August 08, 2008 at 10:50 PM



“ *Melva Atkinson*

*May you be in a better place today - Rest In Peace (RIP), my friend & dedicated teacher & coach !!!*

*CFM###imported-begin##Cliff Moriarty##imported-end##*

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August 08, 2008 at 05:02 PM



“ *Melva, Oh how you will be missed. Your caring special ways meant so much to us. We love you but GOD loves you best. To your family, I will keep you all in my prayers. Love, Ray & Susan###imported-begin##Susan Rollins##imported-end##*

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August 08, 2008 at 03:21 PM