



## Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker

September 16, 2025

“For He shall give his Angels charge over Thee” Psalm 91:11

Virginia King Smith Coker, 95, of Hartsville, SC, passed peacefully in her retirement home in Daleville, VA on Tuesday, September 16, 2025.

Virginia was born in McCormick, SC, to the late James L. Smith and Odessa King Smith. She was preceded in death by her husband, Samuel Pressly Coker, Jr.; her sons, Andrew Lee Coker and Edward Thomas Coker; Son-In-Law, Mark Virgil Crisman and sister Dorothy Cornelia Smith Pruitt. She is survived by her son, S. Pressly Coker, III and daughter, Virginia Celeste Coker Crisman; grandchildren, S. Pressly Coker, IV, Katherine Lee Coker and Kathleen Susan Coker; their mother, Susan McCall Coker; brother, James L. Smith, Jr. and many nieces and nephews.

Virginia loved the written word and was forever a student. She was awarded top honors in high school and excelled academically at Winthrop College. She was chosen as the mezzo soprano in The Winthrop Sextet, a travelling group representing the college. Upon Graduation, she accepted the position of Public School Music Supervisor in the Hartsville School System.

She was a member of First Baptist Church for 45 years. While there, she was a member of the choir, performed solo work and soloist for many weddings.

She was the teacher for an adult Sunday School class which was a special joy. Virginia and Mr. A.L.M. Wiggins worked together to establish The First Baptist Church Kindergarten where she was Director for 3 years. Later in life, Virginia became a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

Virginia's eye for spotting antiques and the ability to design and create led her to establish Fireside Décor Shoppe which consumed her for 28 years. When she closed Fireside, she threw her energy and interests to collecting and planting Gold Medal peonies and First Prize daylilies numbering in the thousands. Virginia possessed boundless energy and enthusiasm for God's many gifts. Virginia was invited to become a member of The Thursday Study Club, the second oldest club in SC. She was the longest sustaining member having been in the club for 50 years. Her last paper was entitled: 'The Development and Execution of the Atomic Bomb'. She resigned in 2021 to move to Virginia to be near her daughter, Celeste. There, she developed a love for watercolor and joked that she might be the next Grandma Moses. Her interests never ceased. Virginia left a legacy of Godly faith. Her grandchildren called her "Gina."

A service to honor her life will be held at a later date at First Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in her honor to First Presbyterian Church, 213 W. Home Avenue, Hartsville, SC 29550.

# Tribute Wall

KB

“ *Much love to you all. What a lovely lady. I am so sorry for your loss.* ”



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**Kathly Brown** - November 19, 2025 at 09:45 PM

PY

“ *I'm so sorry Press , Celeste and family!* ”  
❤️🙏



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**Phyllis Yarborough** - September 24, 2025 at 01:12 PM

AB

“ *Amy Blackburn lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker* ”



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**Amy Blackburn** - September 21, 2025 at 09:46 PM

SB

“ Virginia was a friend of mine. After she moved to Virginia we corresponded by mail. I received many beautiful letters from her - sometimes with some of her drawings. Because of my husband's illness and death, I had not corresponded with her in several months. I am so very thankful to Celeste for face timing me and giving me the opportunity to speak with her. I have lost a friend - my heart is broken! This world has lost a beautiful soul, but Heaven has gained an Angel. My condolences to the family!



Suzanne Skinner Beasley - September 21, 2025 at 09:01 PM

TE

“ Tru And Ed lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker



Tru and Ed - September 21, 2025 at 08:19 PM

WM

“ Mrs. Coker was a sweet beautiful lady.



Wanda Moore - September 21, 2025 at 10:04 AM

MH

“ *Martha Hall lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker*



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**Martha Hall** - September 20, 2025 at 11:47 AM

MH

“ *Mel Martha Hall lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker*



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**Mel Martha Hall** - September 20, 2025 at 11:46 AM

RW

“ *Virginia was a dear friend and mentor!!!*

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**Ron Wall** - September 20, 2025 at 09:20 AM

SR

“ *My friendship with Virginia was very special. I enjoyed seeing her in Hartsville and at Myrtle Beach. She was a very beautiful and talented Christian lady. I loved the awesome Christmas lights saying "Merry Christmas" that she faithfully put out in front of her house on W. Home Ave. every year.*

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**Susan D. Reynolds** - September 19, 2025 at 11:57 PM

RW

“ Amy and I send love to Pressley, Celeste, and the entire family.

*We've added you all to the Elim Methodist Church of Lamar prayer list, where I am the pastor.*

*I grew up in the Coker home, as her late son, Ed were great childhood friends, attending summer tennis camp together more than one summer. Her late husband, Pressley Sr. and my father were a part of a weekday "Hartsville businessmen breakfast club" that originated at the old Lakeshore Motel Restaurant in the 1970s, and continued on for years both there and later elsewhere, when the motel restaurant (very sadly) closed.*

*Amy and I send love to you and the entire family.*

*We've added you all to the Elim Methodist Church of Lamar prayer list, where I am the pastor.*

*Blessings!*

*Rev. Andy and Amy Williams, FNP-C*

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**Rev. Andy Williams** - September 19, 2025 at 03:52 PM

RW

*We are living moment by moment and sometimes it's easy to get lost in our perspective. But when we get into Gods Word and read about the lives of other people, it can infuse our faith to see how good God really is.*

*Rev. Andy Williams*

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**Rev. Andy Williams** - September 19, 2025 at 04:11 PM

DM

“ *Denise McLain lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker*



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**Denise McLain** - September 19, 2025 at 12:05 AM

DN

“ *Dan And Kathy Newsome lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker*



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**Dan and Kathy Newsome** - September 18, 2025 at 11:20 PM

AM

“ *Angie & Lewis Moore lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker*



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**Angie & Lewis Moore** - September 18, 2025 at 10:04 PM

JM

“ *Prayer for Pressly and family for your loss.*

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**James McKenzie** - September 18, 2025 at 09:40 PM

LR

“ *Lester And Lori Reynolds lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker*



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**Lester and Lori Reynolds** - September 18, 2025 at 08:15 PM

PG

“ *Phillip Gandy lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker*



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**Phillip Gandy** - September 18, 2025 at 04:14 PM

MW

“ *In loving memory of Ms. Virginia Coker. My wife and I had the honor of working for her for several years, and she always made us feel welcome. Her kindness, warm smile, and gentle spirit were a joy to be around. Peace and strength to her family and all who loved her. She will be deeply missed. Marion and Susie Wilson*



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**Marion and Susie Wilson** - September 18, 2025 at 01:15 PM

BW

“ *I first met her when she was music teacher at Thornwell school & first out of college. I loved her singing in FBC choir. Sending prayers for her family.*

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**Becky Wadsworth Walker** - September 18, 2025 at 09:29 AM

KL

“ Praying for this precious family, love and hugs! Kathy Lawhon

Kathy Lawhon - September 18, 2025 at 07:58 AM

MH

“ Mel And Martha Hall lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker



Mel and Martha Hall - September 18, 2025 at 12:34 AM

GC

“ Richard and I have known Virginia well before she became our Sunday school teacher in the Special Studies class at First Baptist many years ago. She was a close Christian friend. Virginia was multi-talented. Everything she touched seem to turn into gold. Besides being very intelligent, she had considerable creativity -- singing, playing the piano, decorating flowers and home furnishings, writing, etc.. Indeed, she excelled in each activity in which she engaged. We missed her when she moved to Virginia but continued to stay in regular contact. We are thankful for having known Virginia. Hartsville has lost one of its jewels.

Gail Culyer

gail culyer - September 17, 2025 at 10:27 PM

DS

“ My sincerest condolences 🙏



Dana Stone - September 17, 2025 at 09:44 PM

CV

“ What a Beauty, and What a Friend!  
She was a force of nature, and so much Fun!  
She remains unforgettable in our hearts and  
minds.  
God Bless you all.



Claire Howle VB - September 17, 2025 at 07:46 PM

RC

“ Richard & Jane Cheshire lit a candle in  
memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker



Richard & Jane Cheshire - September 17, 2025 at 07:03 PM

WT

“ Wally And Sarah Turbeville lit a candle in  
memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker



Wally and Sarah Turbeville - September 17, 2025 at 02:14 PM

WT

*Virginia was a lovely and extremely talented lady. We are sending our thoughts and prayers to her family.*  
*Wally and Sarah Turbeville*

**Wally and Sarah Turbeville** - September 17, 2025 at 02:16 PM

CB

“*Tom and I are so very sorry to hear about Virginia. She was a lovely, interesting lady. She loved hosting events in May when her prize peonies were in full bloom. I was fortunate enough to be in the Thursday Study Club to hear some of her informative papers that she presented. She will be greatly missed. All of you have our deepest sympathy and may God grant you peace.* Cecelia Brown

**Cecelia D Brown** - September 17, 2025 at 12:49 PM

SH

“*Sharon Howle lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker*



**sharon Howle** - September 17, 2025 at 12:43 PM

DB

“*Dick Brown lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Virginia King Smith Coker*



**Dick Brown** - September 17, 2025 at 11:48 AM

LT

“ Virginia was a beautiful lady with a lot of class. She was very talented in the world of home decorating. My condolences to her family. Sending thoughts and prayers!!



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**Linda Thompson** - September 17, 2025 at 11:13 AM