



FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

Penny Willis

NOVEMBER 6, 1971 - MARCH 11, 2024



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Memorial Service

3 p.m., Sunday, March 17, 2024

Munden Funeral Home, Morehead City, NC

Officiated by Rev. Nelson Koonce

Opening Prayer	Rev. Nelson Koonce
"He Knows My Name"	Mary Willis
Memories of Penny	Libby Goodwin
Time of Remembrance	Family and Friends
"The Promise"	Mary Willis
Message & Scripture John 14:1-6	Rev. Nelson Koonce
"I Will Rise"	Mary Willis
Closing Prayer	Rev. Nelson Koonce

Penny Willis, 52, of Smyrna, North Carolina, passed away at her home on Monday, March 11, 2024.

A memorial service to honor Penny's life will be held at 3 p.m., March 17th at Munden Funeral Home. The family will receive friends prior to the service.

Penny was born November 6, 1971, in Morehead City, NC, to the late Tony and Dollie Gray. She was the apple of her daddy's eye, her being his first girl after having 5 boys.

Penny was a sweet and loving wife to Bobby Wayne "Shortie" Willis, and they would have been married 28 years on April 6th. Although they never had children of their own, they adopted her nephew Jakob, and nieces McKenzie and Madison and loved them like they were her own. She dedicated herself to her family and struggled to live for them. She bravely battled cancer for the past three years without complaint and Shortie dedicated himself to her care. She knew she was loved by the many relatives and friends who supported her in so many ways.

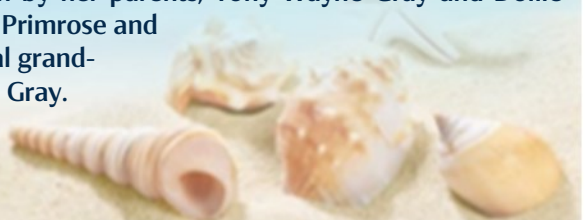
Penny was very easy going and her beautiful personality made her a person that everyone loved. She will be remembered as an excellent cook as she spent years cooking at Snug Harbor in Sea Level. No matter what she cooked, you knew it was going to be good. Penny loved traveling with her family and friends. She especially loved the trips to the mountains when the family would rent cabins or campsites and spend time cooking, going to the various shows, and enjoying the beautiful foliage.

Penny, although quiet by nature, would light up a room with her smile and beautiful blue eyes. She brought joy to those around her, and we will cherish the memories she helped us create.

Those remaining to cherish her memory are her husband, Bobby Wayne "Shortie" Willis, son, Jakob Brewer and daughters, Madison and McKenzie Brewer, all of Smyrna, NC; 6 brothers, Michael Gray (Tanya) of Smyrna, NC, Tony Gray (Maria) of Penn Yan, NY, Kenneth Gray of Prattsburgh, NY, David Gray of Long Island, NY, Dale Gray (Stacey) of Canandaigua, NY, and Corey Lupfer (Lori) of Smyrna, NC; brother-in-law, William Jeremy Willis (Janine) of Mt. Holly, NC; and several aunts and uncles, Juanita Baca (Glen) of Morehead City, NC, Gordie Mason (Jeannie) of Newport, NC, Shirley Mason of New Bern, NC, Joyce Gaskill (Kevin) of Stacy, NC, Perry Mason of Beaufort, NC, Phillip Mason (Kendra) of Atlantic, NC and Paula Howington (Daniel) of Beaufort.

Penny was preceded in death by her parents, Tony Wayne Gray and Dollie Gray; maternal grandparents, Primrose and Van Meta Mason; and paternal grandparents, Rutherford and Lydia Gray.

Arrangements by
Munden Funeral Home
Morehead City, NC
www.mundenfuneralhome.net



Blue Eyes

A heart of gold stopped beating, hard-working hands now rest.

This is going to be a long time of pain, suffering,
and grief but they do say God only takes the best.

We sat by your bedside for days on. I could see the misery in your eyes.
Your eyes, that used to be full of happiness and spirit, were then
full of pain and misery. Now that they are permanently closed,
I don't know what to do. Just to see those beautiful blue eyes again.

A life of many adventures, kindness, and laughter, your love for all
your family so true. You tried your best for all of us, but your body
was too weak, but we will always remember you. The 2 days before
you passed, Bobby said he loved you. You said, "Don't forget me".

How could we? Your smile, your laugh, your jokes, all the trips...
that's all in our hearts and that's where they will continue to stay.

I remember you saying when you got better, we would
do something fun. You did, you got to see your favorite dog,
your dad, your mom, and many more. I thank you for all your
dedication over the years that you gave toward us.

I wish I told you I loved you and goodbye and I regret not saying it.
But, until we meet again, your beautiful body will rest.
No more pain or suffering, just peace. I love you Aunt Penny!

Love,
Makenzie Brewer

