



Rita Karen Clonch Altizer

July 6, 2019

Rita Karen Clonch Altizer, 65 of Scott Depot passed away July 6, 2019. Born in Montgomery, WV, Rita was a daughter of the late William Joseph Clonch and Janet Elizabeth O'Dell Clonch. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her son, Nick Altizer and her "heart dog" Buddy Lee.

Rita retired from Kanawha County Schools after 30 years of service as an elementary school counselor and music teacher. Some of her favorite things were traveling, hiking and camping and she was passionate about Papillon animal rescue.

She is survived by her husband Rick Altizer; children, Molly and her husband Bryan Morrison, Brett Altizer and Katy Melius; grandchild, Briar; brother, Roger Clonch (Betty Jo) of Covington, VA; sister, Gail Tephabock (Alan) of Kingsport, TN; niece, Karin Williams (Scott) and nephews, Kevin Lynch and Shane Clonch.

Funeral service will be held at 11:00am Wednesday July 10, 2019 at St. John United Methodist Church, 4536 Teays Valley Road, Scott Depot with Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson officiating. The committal service will be at 2:30pm at Tyler Mountain Memory Gardens, Cross Lanes, WV.

Visitation will be from 6-9pm Tuesday at Chapman Funeral Home, Hurricane.

In lieu of flowers, monetary donations are encouraged to the St. John United Methodist Church Jr./Sr. High Youth Program. Envelopes will be available at the services.

You may share memories of Rita by visiting her tribute page at ChapmanFuneralHomes.com

Chapman Funeral Home, family-owned and located at 3941 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane is honored to serve the Altizer family.

Cemetery Details

Tyler Mountain Memory Gardens

5233 Rocky Fork Road
Cross Lanes, WV 25313

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **9**. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Chapman Funeral Home Hurricane
3941 Teays Valley Road
Hurricane, WV 25526
(304) 757-7531
info@chapmanfuneralhomes.com
<https://www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com>

Funeral Service

JUL **10**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John United Methodist Church
4536 Teays Valley Road
Scott Depot, WV 25560

Tribute Wall



“ *Rita Karen Clonch Altizer*

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ *The West Virginia and Kanawha County Associations of Retired School Employees extend their sincere sympathy to you, the family, in your sorrow. Blessings to all.*

Kanawha Co. Retired School Employees - July 15, 2019 at 11:18 PM



“ *I grew up with Molly and Nick and I am so sorry to hear about this. Rita was a wonderful lady.*

Cammy Long and family

Cammy Long - July 13, 2019 at 12:41 PM

“ HOW DO YOU SAY GOODBYE TO A LITTLE SISTER?

*When you were born I was the happiest big sister alive,
After years of begging and waiting, you finally arrived.*

*Often I told you I was your “real” mother,
You were greatly loved, also, by Roger, our brother.*

*Frequently sick with asthma, giving the family a fright,
Our parents took turns holding and rocking you all night.*

*Learning early to count, write and read,
Always a perfect straight A student, indeed.*

*Exhibited great love for your family and your many critters,
Loved to sing, learned to play the piano from Mrs. Lively in
Smithers.*

*We joked we were twins born eight years apart,
Finished each others sentences, connected at the heart.*

*From First Grade through College, too quickly went the years,
Marriage, precious children, choir director, teaching/counseling
career.*

*Helping anyone/critters with a need, “Ellie Mae” and Rick were
extremely generous,
Always putting others first, sometimes with recognition, other times
anonymous.*

*Enjoying early retirement with your wonderful husband, Rick,
Hateful cancer attacked your body, along with chemo, making you
sick.*

*Many prayers for your healing and I would have happily taken your
place,*

You told me you didn't ask "why me", rather "why not me", accepting with grace.

Totally out of sequence, reading your obituary is stunningly painful, Anticipating I'd go first, I feel I'm peering from a huge black hole.

Several of your childhood friends are honoring you this day, Seems like yesterday with Barbie's you would play.

With wounded, heavy hearts we grieve, It's devastating to watch a loved one leave.

Although Rita was prepared and ready to go, It's okay to reflect and let the tears flow.

As time softens the loss and healing hearts reconcile, May treasured memories bring many smiles.

No longer in pain, you received your eternal reward, Hugging Nick/Buddy Lee, directing the Heavenly Choir with your Savior and Lord.

Forever in my heart.

Love, Gail

Gail Clonch Tephabock - July 12, 2019 at 12:48 AM

CM

“*I worked with Rita when she was the counselor at Weimar and I was the school social worker. She was the best! I found her to be caring, kind, compassionate, and giving. She made such a difference in so many lives. I feel a deep sadness upon her passing. My prayers are with the family. Carolyn Brammer Morrison*

Carolyn Morrison - July 10, 2019 at 10:29 PM

MR

“ We were so sorry to hear of Rita’s passing. I have many happy memories of visiting Rita and my other cousins each summer vacations as far back as I can remember.

Mike Rader - July 10, 2019 at 10:16 PM

SH

“ Rita & I taught together at Sprong Hill Junior High & have reconnected a few years ago through Facebook! I have been praying for her to be healed which she is really healed now with a new body in heaven! Praying for all the family! I am so sorry that I can't attend her service as I am in Columbus at Nationwide hospital with my grandson! May God grant you comfort during this time!
Sara Hammett

Sara Hammett - July 10, 2019 at 03:19 PM

AS

“ Rita's family and mine grew up together in Cannelton. She was a pretty little girl and grown woman.

Alice Spainhour - July 09, 2019 at 11:42 PM

PC

“ Pamela Crist sent a virtual gift in memory of Rita Karen Clonch Altizer



Pamela Crist - July 09, 2019 at 11:40 PM

KM

“ Rita was one of my good friends at Montgomery High School. I have many good memories of those days. I am very sorry for your loss.
Kathy Collins McNeill

Kathy McNeill - July 09, 2019 at 08:56 PM

FS

“ I am a friend of Rita's sister, Janet GAIL Clonch Tephabock. I have known them for many years . I recently saw Rita at a Kanawha co school, where I was a substitute. I knew her whole family. We grew up together. Very fine people. I am so sorry about Rita. I hope she's in peace and with her son. *Frances Dalporto-schmitt*

frances d schmitt - July 09, 2019 at 05:04 PM



“ The Clonches lived next door to us and are lifelong friends. My most vivid memory of Rita was her beautiful engaging smile and, of course, her love of animals. The Myers Family is grieving because we loved her. *From Sherry Myers Lipps*

s - July 09, 2019 at 04:13 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rita Karen Clonch Altizer.*



July 09, 2019 at 11:44 AM



“ *Mrs.Rita was my counselor at Weimer Elementary...she was a very nice lady who was caring and compassionate, she will be missed...send prayers to the family...*

Amanda Adams - July 09, 2019 at 08:46 AM



“ *We haven't seen her in quite a few years, but we are both tremendously saddened by this news. Rita was such a special lady, with a beautiful soul and a caring heart that touched us both. We've followed her journeys on Facebook and have kept her and the whole family in our hearts and our prayers. Rick and Brett, loving condolences to both of you.*



Patrick and Leah Felton

Leah Felton - July 08, 2019 at 10:14 PM



“ *We at Central Elementary School in Saint Albans send our thoughts and prayers for Rita and her family. We will miss Rita strolling down our hallways in the future. She was a very sweet and caring young lady and we will miss her* 💔

Central Elementary School - July 08, 2019 at 07:23 PM



“ *Rick, I am so very sorry to learn of Rita's illness and death. Rely on your faith and trust God to give you the strength you need to get through this difficult time. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Nesi Hickman*

Nesi Hickman - July 08, 2019 at 06:20 PM



“ Rick, Molly, and Brett, I am so sorry for the loss of Rita. I worked with her for many years at KCS (as well as Rick and Molly for a shorter duration). Rita was such a warm and compassionate individual and I so enjoyed working with her prior to her retirement. It was also a joy to meet up with her again in one of our shared schools as she continued to spend time with the children following her retirement. There will never be another Rita. Such a treasure! Such a huge loss! 😞

Judi Jones

Judi Jones - July 08, 2019 at 04:52 PM



“ Our household sends love, thoughts & prayers for Rita's human family & fur babies. Although we never got to meet in person we talked quite a bit as rescue fosters. She was a awesome lady. I have no doubt her arrival at the Rainbow Bridge was ushered in by a multitude of fur babies. Chris, Duane & AJ Curtis

Christine Curtis - July 08, 2019 at 11:17 AM



“ I am so devastated at Rita's passing. I loved her dearly and will treasure my memories of her. I loved visiting and seeing how many dogs we could get on the sofa with all of us sitting there. Will always remember the memories of all of our rescue days and the dogs we saved. She was a truly good, kind and caring person. May God give you all strength in what lies ahead.

Sherry Goodyear - July 08, 2019 at 11:06 AM

BB

“ So sorry about Rita's passing. A lot of good memories go back to when Jennie and I were dating for both of you. I pray in the next days and months ahead that God gives you comfort and strength.

Bobby

bobby boggs - July 08, 2019 at 07:02 AM

N(

“ So sorry for your loss. Rita will be remembered for her sweet disposition, her sharing heart, and her positive attitude. She encouraged her students by being a positive roll model.

nellie jones. (cousin) - July 07, 2019 at 08:36 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rita Karen Clonch Altizer.



July 07, 2019 at 07:45 PM