



## Sharron Hager Coleman Austin

October 30, 1939 - March 29, 2020

Sharron Hager Coleman Austin, 80, died peacefully in her home surrounded by family, Sunday March 29, 2020, in Sun City Bluffton, South Carolina.

Sharron was born in Lincoln, NE, but spent a majority of her life in the South. She attended Dobyns-Bennett High School (class of '57) in Kingsport, TN; received her Master's Degree from East Tennessee State University in Johnson City; and continued her advanced studies at Central State University in Edmond, OK. Her early professional life included jobs at Eastman Chemical in both Kingsport, TN, and Cincinnati, OH; Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, VA; and Coleman Reporting Service, a free-lance court reporting service she founded and ran. In 1980, Sharron joined the faculty of Virginia Intermont College (VIC) in Bristol, VA, serving as a professor in Computer Information Management until retirement after 22 years. While at VIC, she regularly taught in the Adult Degree Studies Program and was extremely proud to have coached her Division III Women's Intercollegiate Tennis team to 5 consecutive winning seasons. Sharron served as Faculty President; received the Sears-Roebuck Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence & Campus Leadership; the President's Award for Outstanding Service; the Outstanding Faculty Award; and was honored with Professor Emeritus status (the first year ever awarded) in 2002. After retiring from VIC, she moved to Sun City Hilton Head, SC, and continued to work part-time for NCS Pearson in Savannah, GA, for 7 more years.

Throughout her long life, Sharron remained extremely active in both sports and volunteer activities. In addition to being an avid traveler and hiker, she and her husband Roy enjoyed many years of mixed doubles and USTA tennis competition. Earlier in life, Sharron was an avid swimmer (water safety instructor), water and snow skier, tennis player, horse rider (hunters/jumpers), golfer, and runner. Sharron and her husband Roy are members of the Bluffton United Methodist Church in South Carolina.

Sharron is preceded in death by her father, Robert Franklin Hager, Sr., and her step-mother, Frances Pegram Hager, Kingsport, TN.

She is survived by husband Herbert (Roy) Leroy Rockwell Austin II, Bluffton, SC; son Samuel Walton Coleman IV (wife Shelley) and their children Sam, Jon, and Jorja, Charlotte, NC; daughter Sarah Coleman Wilson (husband Michael) Cincinnati, OH; stepson Rockwell Austin, Cookeville, TN; stepdaughter Deborah Austin (wife Charlotte) and their children Wilson, Anna, Olivia, Mary Alice, and Delilah, Sparta, TN; brother Robert (Rob) Franklin Hager, Jr. (wife Pam), Kingsport, TN. Also, surviving her are Sharron's special nieces Robyn, Rebecca, and Penny, and nephew Michael and the loved Austin, Moore/Burke, Lane, Coleman, and St. Martin families.

Due to the unfortunate situation with the COVID-19 virus, there will be no public visitation, funeral or graveside service at this time. A small graveside service for immediate family will occur at Oak Hill Cemetery in Kingsport, TN, in a plot beside her mother and father. The family will hold a celebration of life for Sharron at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, Sharron requests contributions be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc., 2600 Network Blvd., Suite 300, Frisco, TX 75034.

The care of Sharron Austin and her family have been entrusted to the staff of Oak Hill Funeral and Cremation Services.

# Cemetery

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## Oak Hill Memorial Park

800 Truxton Dr.

Kingsport, TN, 37660

# Events

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## APR Graveside Service

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Oak Hill Memorial Park

800 Truxton Dr., Kingsport, TN, US, 37660

# Comments

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“ I was so sad to hear of Sharron's death, Roy and family. That photo is Sharron, always a smiling, upbeat, and fun-loving friend. She was so active all her life and touched so many lives. Our group in Kingsport which we called the Circle of Friends had so much fun together, gave many dance parties at the lake cabin. She was a gracious hostess and had many of us over for special occasions. I have numerous photos taken of her and Roy over the years and would like to share them with you but would have to scan them, as they are pre-computer, pre-smart phone.

**Helen Lemmons** - April 10, 2020 at 01:03 PM



“ Helen, I don't know if anyone responded to your post, but this is her son. Would certainly love to see pictures of my mother! If you want to email me, feel free to reach out at [wcoleman5016@gmail.com](mailto:wcoleman5016@gmail.com). Thank you, Walt Coleman

**walt Coleman** - May 08, 2020 at 04:22 PM

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“ Rob and Pam, I am simply in awe of what a talented, independent, and versatile person your precious sister was! What a joy she must have been to be around. I know how much she meant to you, and I know you will miss her. Her life was fantastic and she has moved to an even better one. She's with your family now and she has seen the face of Jesus! She is so happy and she's saving you a seat!

**Sue Rhea** - April 06, 2020 at 07:57 PM

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“ Tati's Roller lit a candle in memory of Sharron Hager Coleman Austin



**Tati's Roller** - April 02, 2020 at 06:19 AM



“ Thanks so much!

**Sarah Wilson** - April 02, 2020 at 11:13 PM

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“ RonAndJanet Davidson lit a candle in memory of Sharron Hager Coleman Austin



**RonAndJanet Davidson** - April 01, 2020 at 11:12 AM



“ Thanks so much.

**Sarah Wilson** - April 02, 2020 at 11:12 PM

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“ I am very sorry to hear about your lovely wife and wonderful mother. I remember Roy's stories of when he met Sharon and of the great journeys they went on together.

**Tim Cairney** - April 01, 2020 at 07:00 AM



“ Thanks so much. We appreciate it.

**Sarah Wilson** - April 02, 2020 at 11:13 PM

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“ Walt,  
We were so saddened about the loss of your mom.  
Our deepest sympathies to your family,  
She was wonderful woman who had time for everyone. Her generous spirit and warmth was clear to everyone who know her.  
She will be missed and never forgotten.  
Hoping you find the strength and love in friends and family to face this hard time.

**Fareed Essa** - April 01, 2020 at 12:10 AM

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“ Roy,  
Kath and I just finished reading your wonderful email tribute to Sharron and to your marriage. Sharron was a blessing to you, and you to her. We didn't know Sharron well but we did see her occasionally at the tennis courts, frequently when she was watching you in a match. Sharron was always smiling, friendly, and a pleasure to be around. We're sure you will miss Sharron but you have many good memories of the two of you together until you meet again. Our condolences to you and to all of your family. Neil and Kathy Shannon

**Neil and Kathy Shannon** - March 31, 2020 at 10:32 PM

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“ Bob and I and our family send deepest condolences to your family. Sharron was Bob's first cousin and by far his favorite. They kept in touch albeit occasionally and she never called him Bob, but Bobby, as she had all her life. She will be greatly and sadly missed.

**Bonnie Denkins** - March 31, 2020 at 09:53 PM

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“ Roy  
So sorry for your loss. Reading your life story with Sharron hit home. I lost my older brother to Multiple Myeloma and miss him terribly. My salvation is the joyful memories I had with him. The song “When you walk thru a storm, hold your head up high” that you lead us to victory in, seems appropriate. Old fraternity brother.  
Jim (Snuffy) Smith.

**Jim (Snuffy) Smith** - March 31, 2020 at 06:48 PM

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“ Roy,  
I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers during this time. Teresa Luber

**Teresa Luber** - March 31, 2020 at 04:08 PM

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“ Sharron and I were classmates in high school as well as good friends. We didn't see each other very often but remained friends, since our lives went in different directions. At our class of 1957 50th reunion, I met Roy and we sat together and had a ball! Sharron was always a crackerjack and I couldn't keep up with her. I was blessed to have her as a friend.

**Kay Modlin Barker** - March 31, 2020 at 01:55 PM

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“ Many, Many great times on thr tennis courts in the early days at the Bristol Indoor Tennis Center and following up at Ed's Pizza upstairs! Lewis Lay

**Lewis Lay** - March 31, 2020 at 01:12 PM

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“ So sorry to hear of Sharon's (Coach Coleman) passing. My deepest sympathies to her family.

Coach was an amazing example to her Girls Tennis Team at VI College, in the game and in life. She will be missed and remembered by many. I have so many fond memories of her and will always think of her as my Tennis Mom.

**Sabrina Woodard Hass** - March 31, 2020 at 12:31 PM

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“ I met Mrs. Coleman as a student at VIC. She was always smiling. I remember her being very kind to all of us. She would often stop by the Admissions Office just to check on all of the work study students. I will continue praying during this difficult time.

Heather Hurd



**Heather Hurd** - March 31, 2020 at 12:17 PM

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“ Sarah, I was so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. I had not seen her for many years but I have fond memories from years past. I just wanted you to know I was thinking of you and your family at this difficult time. Janice Keith

Janice Keith - March 31, 2020 at 10:40 AM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dennis Austin - March 31, 2020 at 12:19 AM

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“ Eddie Federwisch lit a candle in memory of Sharron Hager Coleman Austin



Eddie Federwisch - March 30, 2020 at 11:02 PM

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“ Lit a candle in memory of Sharron Hager Coleman Austin



Tim Vaughn - March 30, 2020 at 01:50 PM



“ Thanks so much for everything!

Sarah Wilson - April 02, 2020 at 11:14 PM



“ Lit a candle in memory of Sharron Hager Coleman Austin



**The Staff of Oak Hill Funeral Home** - March 30, 2020 at 01:50 PM



“ Sharron and I met when her family moved to Washington Avenue in Kingsport, TN - she was in the third grade and I in the fourth at Dickson Elementary School. We remained friends throughout our first 12 years of education, but lost touch after I got married. There were two other friends in our Washington Avenue "gang" - Judy Brock and Nancy Bohannon. The four of us were inseparable year round and had such great fun (snowball fights, excursions to the creek, walking to "Poston's Grocery or Joyner Grocery to buy Sugar Daddies, and then, the excitement of "dating") She and I kind of hung tight, as we were both Scorpios. I shall miss her presence on this earth, as it was a much better place with her in it. Fly high, my childhood friend.

Susan (Sue) Johnson MacClements  
Charlotte, North Carolina

**susan macclements** - April 10, 2020 at 06:53 PM