



## Delores Carpenter Schmidt

November 5, 1941 - October 8, 2024

Beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother, Delores Carpenter Schmidt passed away on October 8, 2024 in Haymarket, Virginia. Delores was born at Fort Bragg, North Carolina to Maj. Raymond C. Carpenter (US Army) and Vertie Lambert Carpenter on November 5, 1941. She graduated from Fayetteville High School in Fayetteville, North Carolina in 1960 and overcame heart issues and open-heart surgery at the age of 19 at Walter Reed Army hospital. Perseverance, resilience and strength were very much her characteristics as she went on to have a successful career and a wonderful family life. She worked for the Internal Revenue Service for 30 years until her retirement in 1996.

Delores loved her family and the beach. Her happy place was Topsail Island, NC. which became the annual family vacation destination in the summer for over 30 years. Christmas in July became a family tradition as did daily "Happy Hour" where Pina Coladas (and accompanying Pina Colada song) and dancing were enjoyed by all overlooking the beach and the Atlantic Ocean.

Delores loved animals and especially dogs, which she had many of throughout her lifetime. Her eyes would light up every time she saw one. To honor her, donations to your local animal shelter would be greatly appreciated.

Delores was preceded in death by her parents and her twin sister, Rayceine Carpenter Reardon.

She is survived by her loving husband, Frank Desena; her sister, Dawn Carpenter; her son, Ray Schmidt (Debbie); her daughter, Kari Bennett (Mike); grandchildren, Sarah Schmidt Hamilton, Heather Waters, Melissa Schmidt Goodpaster, Jason Bennett, and Robby Bennett; along with great grandchildren, Noah, Kynlee and Colton. She will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

The formal celebration of Delores' life will take place at Topsail Island in July while celebrations in advance in her honor have already begun. Rest in peace, Grandma!