



Carolyn Virginia Tee

May 15, 1986 - January 18, 2026

Carolyn Virginia Tee, 39, Waynesville, MO

Versatile artist, businesswoman, homeschool mom

Carolyn Virginia Tee passed unexpectedly into the presence of the Lord Jesus, apparently due to complications following childbirth, on Sunday, January 18, 2026, in Waynesville, Missouri.

Carolyn, known in childhood as Carrie Steere, was born on May 15, 1986, to Tom and Susan Steere of Hornell, NY. Always bold and strong-willed, she became the first pupil in the Steere Family School. She attended Sunday School, AWANA Club and Word of Life at local churches and studied ballet and piano. She attended high school at Alfred-Almond Central School, graduating in 2004. There and at Alfred University she enjoyed serving as stage manager for theater productions and competing on the swim team. Her senior art show in 2008 featured steel-plate etchings of scenes from her childhood accompanied by blown and cast glass and bronze objects, a series of cast glass eggs with life-like bronze bird feet portraying herself and her five younger brothers, silk-screened t-shirts depicting the eggs, and a glass table setting with a sushi design, along with large trays of homemade sushi.

From age seven on, she spent many happy weeks at Camp Iroquoia, a

Christian camp in Hallstead, PA, as camper, counselor, and staff member.

A family trip to the Netherlands, Germany, and Austria for Dad's work when she was six instilled in her a love of travel. She completed training with The Airline Academy, and although she never worked in the airline industry, it served her well in other ways. Following graduation from Alfred University, she spent 2 months in Burundi helping at the Rainbow Center for abandoned babies and displaced teen girls, then served for a year as an au pair near Cologne, Germany.

Upon her return from Europe, she moved to Maryland and found a job at the Marriott Hotel in Aberdeen, where she eventually met her husband, Edward Lewis Tee, originally from Welch, West Virginia. They were married in a small private ceremony May 5, 2015 at Ft. Leonard Wood in Missouri, with a larger wedding celebration April 8, 2016 in Fayetteville, NC.

As the Army moved Edward to various posts, Carolyn worked in several retail positions, including with Verizon Wireless, and finally became Territory Manager for Heartland Payroll Solutions. In New York, she was active in the Greater Watertown North Country Chamber of Commerce. She was assisted by nannies who cared for her children, most notably Adriana Gaitan Seville.

She recently "retired" to fulfill her life-long dream of being a full-time homeschooling mom to children Ethan, Gemma, and Edward, and to better support Edward's teenage daughters, Graciella at home in Waynesville and Genesis of Kenova, WV.

She enjoyed doing artwork with her children and taking them places, raising chickens, gardening, making friends and preparing meals with recipes from around the world, and researching healthy living, educational concerns, and current events.

She will be sorely missed by her husband and children, as well as by her parents, brothers and their families: Dan & Carissa Steere of Youngsville, NC, Artemas & Mollie Steere of Fulton, NY, John & Dallas Steere of Morrisville, PA, James & Madilyn Steere of Jamesville, NY, and David & Emily Steere of Hornell, NY, along with seven nieces and nephews.

Public visitation will be Friday, January 30 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Westside Baptist Church in Waynesville, followed by a Celebration of Life at 12 noon.

Funeral arrangements are with Memorial Chapels and Crematory in Waynesville, MO.

To share your memories of Carolyn, please visit:
memorialchapelsandcrematory.com

A GoFundMe campaign has been set up for Carolyn's family as they navigate these devastating times. If you wish to help financially, go to GoFundMe.com and search for "Honoring Carolyn's Beautiful Life and Legacy" by Madilyn Steere or go directly to <https://gofund.me/c9b796f40>

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 30. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Westside Baptist Church
801 Historic 66 West
Waynesville, MO

Celebration of Life Service

JAN 30. 12:00 PM (CT)

Westside Baptist Church
801 Historic 66 West
Waynesville, MO

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Carolyn Virginia Tee*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - February 09 at 10:54 AM



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Carolyn Virginia Tee*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - February 09 at 10:41 AM

BB

“ *I know Carrie from Camp Iroquoia. It is probably 15 to 20 years since I last saw her, and I see that her smile did not change. The thing I remember most about her was her loud, uninhibited laugh, and I think it is likely that her laugh did not change either. I'm so sorry to hear of her passing, and I am praying for all of you.*

Benjamin Baehr - February 01 at 04:38 PM

SS

*Thank you, Benj!
Camp was her happy place for many years, and you played a big part
in her experiences there.*

Susan Steere - February 04 at 11:18 AM

JB

“ If you knew Carolyn, you know how lucky you were.

I don't think anyone who ever met Carolyn could say a bad word about her. She was a bright light and truly one of the best people I was lucky enough to call a friend. I loved and cherished every minute I got to spend with her.

For years, we joked with our customers that we were “a package deal” because we spent so much time together pulling doors. Carolyn always said we were “pulling each other up by our bootstraps,” because when one of us felt unmotivated, the other stepped in with encouragement. She also loved to remind me that I sometimes came across a little too strong. Thinking about that now still makes me smile.

I was there with Carolyn through one of her pregnancies, and she was there with me through one of mine. She loved her family and friends fiercely, and her greatest joy was being a mom. She loved her babies more than anything.

Even after she moved to another state, we stayed in touch. I was absolutely ecstatic to learn in December that she was expecting again. I cried happy tears for her and her husband.

I could go on and on about the memories I have of Carolyn, because there are so many. She left a mark on everyone she met, and the world feels a little dimmer without her in it. I am forever grateful for our friendship and for all the moments we shared.

Carolyn will always be loved, deeply missed, and never forgotten.



Jill Bilodeau - January 30 at 12:24 PM

SS

*Thank you, Jill!
She loved working with you!*

Susan Steere - February 04 at 11:16 AM



“ 479 files added to the album LifeTributes



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - January 29 at 04:31 PM

AI

“ Prayers and condolences are sent to Edward and his entire family regarding the passing of Carolyn. The post is being sent from Aunt Guerivace and Uncle Adolphus.
Carolyn left time and went into eternity, where there is no more. No more sickness, heartache nor pain as she rest in the arms of Jesus. Imagine Carolyn walking down streets paved with gold as she lives in eternal paradise. She will be missed by everyone. 🙏🙏🙏

Adolphus Shelton III - January 28 at 04:14 PM