



TSGT Charles Wesley Starling, Jr., US Air Force (Ret.)

May 12, 1980 - May 18, 2022

Born on May 12, 1980 in Columbia, SC, T.Sgt. Charles Wesley Starling Jr. (42) was ushered into heaven's pearly gates on May 18, 2022.

He served in the United States Air Force as a weapons specialist for more than fifteen years and retired with an honorable discharge in 2014. He earned numerous medals and accolades with deployments to Korea, Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan.

"Wes" was married to "Beckki" on April 23, 2022 and they were relishing in their honeymoon of a lifetime. The night before their return home from an Alaskan cruise after being married merely three and a half weeks, God called Wes home to see his Savior face to face.

Wes is survived by his loving wife, Rebecca Marie Starling, his nine children (listed by age), Samuel De Los Santos, Jeremiah Starling, Amelia Price, Kaylee, Alyssa, Molly, Ella, Brentley, and Bradley Starling. He is also survived by his father and mother, Rev. Charles Wesley Starling and Beverly, his younger brother Shelton (Brenda), two nephews, Ryan and Jacob, and his precious mother-in-law, Janis Price.

Wes is also survived by his grandfather, Rev. Thomas Alton Caldwell. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Wesley Starling, and both of his grandmothers, Eloise Starling and Mary Lee Caldwell.

His countless aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and neighbors have all been a blessing during this tragic loss. When we lost Wes, we lost the "class clown," the superhero buff, and a wonderful man with a vigor for life. He was (and still is) Beckki's "Superman." Wes always enjoyed making others laugh. His jokes, constant pranking, and breaking out in song, will forever be remembered by all who know and love him.

Wes is now with loved ones who have gone on before him. With the recent passing of Grandma Caldwell, I'm sure he's rejoicing knowing he was the first to see her—of course,

making him the favorite! He's earned that special title (for now) by all his crazy cousins.

If you know Jesus as your personal Savior, we will all be reunited with Wes again one day. We all have an "appointment day" when we will all step out into eternity, we just never know when it will be. In this time of tragedy and sorrow, let's all remember to be mindful of what we do, what we say, and how we treat others. Mend broken relationships. Apologize. Forgive, but more importantly, forget. If you can't forget, then you've truly not forgiven. God does it for us everyday. Why can't we do it for others?

No one knows what a day may bring forth. Wes woke on the morning of May 18th not knowing in less than twenty-four hours, he would meet God. Let's honor him by loving others in the way he loved and adored Beckki and all of his precious children.

There's much comfort knowing Wes was incredibly happy here on earth just before he uttered his last three words, but more importantly, he had a personal relationship with God. This alone gives us peace knowing when he drew his last breath, he was gifted with an even better life on the other side.

I COULD ONLY IMAGINE...

The funeral service for Wes will be held at 11 o'clock, Tuesday, May 31st, at Shives Funeral Home, Trenholm Road Chapel, 7600 Trenholm Road Ext., Columbia, SC 29223. Burial with military honors will follow at Fort Jackson National Cemetery at 1 o'clock. The family will receive friends Monday evening at the funeral home from 6 until 8 o'clock.

Cemetery Details

Fort Jackson National Cemetery

4170 Percival Road
Columbia, SC 29229

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 30. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Shives Funeral Home, Trenholm Road Chapel
7600 Trenholm Road Extension
Columbia, SC 29223

Funeral Service

MAY 31. 11:00 AM (ET)

Shives Funeral Home, Trenholm Road Chapel
7600 Trenholm Road Extension
Columbia, SC 29223

Graveside Service

MAY 31. 1:00 PM (ET)

Fort Jackson National Cemetery
4170 Percival Road
Columbia, SC 29229

Tribute Wall



“ *Shives Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of TSGT Charles Wesley Starling, Jr., US Air Force (Ret.)*

Webcast presented exclusively by:



Shives Funeral Home - May 31 at 08:46 AM

RC

We are so sorry to have missed the funeral for Wes. He was also so pleasant to us and a good father. We will miss him. Our condolences the Starling family, his new wife and especially his children including his precious twin boys. Rest In Peace, Wes. Ruth & Chris Chapman & family

Ruth Chapman - June 04 at 04:12 PM



“ *Shives Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of TSGT Charles Wesley Starling, Jr., US Air Force (Ret.)*

Webcast presented exclusively by:



Shives Funeral Home - May 31 at 08:46 AM

BB

“ *I'm at a loss for words. But all you need to know is I considered Wesley a bonus nephew. He is my Brother in law's nephew. But he was mine too through my sister. It was so much fun watching Wesley & Shelton grow up with my nephews & niece and all of the bonus nieces & nephews. Over the next few days, weeks and months remember & share with each other the good times you had with Wesley. I know Thanksgiving will never be the same! Some will get it some won't... Those that do share it! "Gobble, gobble, gobble gobble"*

Love y'all, Aunt Becky

Becky Sutton AKA: AUNT BECKY - May 26 at 03:43 PM

HM

“ We would always laugh and cut up with each other... calling to see where the other was if it was a family event. I love you so much! There was never a dull moment with us around each other. No one will ever replace you. Love you baby, I'll see you again one day soon!❤️ Thanks for the crazy memories.🥹

Heather Morris - May 25 at 07:40 PM

LS

“ I remember year's ago when my family was at the Starlings church for support to go to the mission field, we stayed at their house and I read Winnie the Pooh and Wesley couldn't stop laughing at him being stuck in the honey tree! His little laugh was so contagious. He was a wonderful guy



Lori Samples - May 25 at 04:33 PM

KB

“ After being with you for over 20 years of our lives there so many stories and times we had together. Some great and some not so great. We have been in rain completely soaked to where we just took our rain gear off and let it rain. We have been in the hottest heat wishing it was just a bit cooler. Life is so fragile and no one knows what will happen tomorrow or even the next few minutes. You will be missed, knowing I can't call you when I have an issue that I could easily solve with my HVAC but want to talk so it gave me a reason to ask for help, which you always did. One day we will meet back up but for now watch over all of your loved ones from up there and they should all know there's one more Guardian angel watching over them!

kenneth Boyles - May 25 at 01:30 PM

RS

“ No matter what happened in life we ALWAYS were there if the other needed to talk. He got me, as a cousin and a person. There are some people that come in your life and then leave making you a better person, this is one. I sleep well knowing we did not ever have things that were unsaid and he knows how much I love him.



Richard Starling - May 25 at 12:00 PM

BM

“ Wes,
Rest in peace. I have some fond memories of working with you. I can't imagine why you were taken so early in life. Anyway, you are in a better place now. God speed my friend!

Bill Martin - May 24 at 09:12 PM

RS

“ *Dearest Charles and Beverly,*

Our hearts were broken to hear about Wesley leaving you so soon. The sweet memories of our and your children playing together will always be in our hearts and minds. Please know that we have been praying for you and are trusting the sweet Lord for the comfort and grace you will need for the next days, weeks and months to come.

It won't be much longer before you'll get to join him. This thing is winding down!!!!

*We love you both.
Ronnie and Karen Shiflett*

Ronnie and Karen Shiflett - May 23 at 07:03 AM

JC

“ *Charles and Beverly, so sorry to here about Wesley, I know it is hard to loose a loved one, is harder since mrs Caldwell just passed, has been a hard year, yall are in our prayers, may God bless you all. Jack Cook*

Jack Cook - May 22 at 02:11 PM

HD

“ *Mr and Mrs Starling Sr,*

We are sending prayers and our condolences.

Hamilton and Desiree Ross McLaughlin

Hemo and Aunt Des - May 21 at 08:15 PM

JE

Dearest Beverly and Charles, There are no words to describe how sorry we are in the passing of your precious son! I wish we were closer so we could attend. For several years we shared just about everything as our families were so close. You are and will be in our thoughts and prayers. I know it's been a very tough year for you and all the Caldwell family! We love you all so much and are praying for you all. May God give you grace and comfort as you continue on as your son would want you to do. Blessings to you all!!!

Jessie and Larry Easler - May 26 at 03:23 PM