



## Mrs Mary Christina Dillard

July 1, 1955 - March 2, 2019

Mary Christina "Tina" Dillard was born July 1, 1955 in Columbia, South Carolina to Allie Perkins Dillard and the late William Gardner "Bill" Dillard. Tina passed away March 2, 2019 after enduring a courageous battle with cancer for the past year and a half.

Tina was a graduate of Lower Richland High School, and the University of South Carolina with a Masters in Education Degree, specializing in rehabilitation counseling. Tina retired from the South Carolina Department of Vocational Rehabilitation in June 2010, and continued to serve the agency in a part time capacity for several years. During her career she also worked with the South Carolina Department of Mental Health for several years.

Tina is survived by her husband of 41 years, Larry Allen Mitchell of Columbia, her mother Allie P. Dillard of Columbia, brother, William G. "Tony" Dillard of Winnsboro, and sister-in-law Ruby Charlotte Kelley of Winnsboro. She was predeceased by her father, and also by her brother John Mark Dillard, and sister Jennifer Bellemere Dillard, all of Columbia.

The service for Tina will be held 1 o'clock, Friday, March 8th, at Forest Lake Presbyterian Church, 6500 N. Trenholm Road, Columbia, with the Rev. Dr. Ellen Fowler Skidmore officiating. A reception will immediately follow the service in the church parlor. Shives Funeral Home, Trenholm Road Chapel, is assisting the family.

The family would like to thank Dr. Phillip Baldwin, Dr. Jill Sullivan, and also nurse Wendy and nurse Michelle of South Carolina Oncology Associates for their excellent and loving care. They would especially like to thank Dr. Harris Hartwell Parker III for his support from the onset of Tina's diagnosis, and for his special care at the end of her journey. The family would also like to thank Palmetto Health / Prisma Hospice for the care they provided during this difficult time.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Forest Lake Presbyterian Church at 6500 N. Trenholm Rd., Columbia, SC 29206

# Events

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**MAR** **Memorial Service** 01:00PM

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Forrest Lake Presbyterian  
US

**MAR** **Reception** 02:00PM

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Forest Lake Presbyterian Church  
6500 North Trenholm Rd, Columbia, SC, US

# Comments

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“ Peace and love.

ginny bennett, rhett & bernie whiteside - March 09, 2019 at 11:05 AM

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“ I am heartbroken. I love Tina. I love her like a sister - LYLAS). I live in Delaware but met Tina when she worked at VR years ago and my nephew, Rhett Whiteside, was her client. We all took to Tina right away and he, my sister Bernice and I would have beers and burgers with Tina and Larry, play Scrabble tournaments, and vacation at Ocean Isle, Edisto, and Jamaica. This year Bernice and I went alone to Jamaica, but I collected stones from the ocean and sang "The Circle Game" along the sea promenade for Tina. (We used to sing that song after dinner and a few Tia Marias - of course we thought we sounded fabulous!) Tina was always positive and encouraging and always had that smile/grin/smirk and that twinkle in her eye. She was nice to everyone. She supported my nephew so much, literally and figuratively. I felt so good and basic when I was with Tina - what you saw was what you got. We have the same sense of humor and adored/abhorred puns. I am so very sorry, Larry, that you have lost your music partner and your life partner. I am sorry, Allie, that you have lost another daughter. God be with you. God Bless Tina. Bernice was at the service today for the entire Whiteside clan but I am not. I will sign off as I did in my encouraging cards and punny jokes to my beloved friend, Tina: LYLAS, Aunt Ginny

ginny bennett - March 09, 2019 at 11:00 AM

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“ Charles (The Boy) Harte purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Mrs Mary Christina Dillard.



Charles (The Boy) Harte - March 07, 2019 at 06:35 PM

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“ Tina was a one and only, a true original, a true friend, and a gift to all who knew her. I remember her with a smile and love...

**Joanie Hess** - March 07, 2019 at 10:28 AM

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“ Always a ray of sunshine...forever the voice of hope and courage.

**Cassandra Townsend** - March 07, 2019 at 09:45 AM

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“ She was always sunshine and I will miss her smile very much.

**rob** - March 07, 2019 at 09:04 AM

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“ Sympathy Fruits Abound was purchased for the family of Mrs Mary Christina Dillard.



March 06, 2019 at 07:32 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Becky Lowder** - March 06, 2019 at 01:38 PM

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“ i wanted to extend deepest sympathy to the family of this beautiful Lower Richland Lady. Garry Wooten, Hopkins, SC

Garry Wooten - March 06, 2019 at 09:38 AM

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“ Tina was a sweet, funny and thoughtful loving lady I had the pleasure of seeing when she and Larry would visit here in the Inlet. What an honor to have had this beautiful soul in my presence. Larry I will be praying for peace and strength for you on the upcoming days ahead of you. All my love....Lisa Wiggins

Lisa Wiggins - March 05, 2019 at 01:12 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ruby Charlotte Kelley - March 05, 2019 at 12:22 PM

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“ Tina was a funny, compassionate, goofy breath of fresh air! I had the privilege of working with her many years. She was one of the good ones!

Jo Carlisle - March 05, 2019 at 12:25 AM

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“ Tina Dillard, you have left a lot of broken hearts. Especially Larry. You left behind great remembrances to everyone who knew you. I will always remember a week ago when we sat in your living room and reminisced of our partner in crime days. We had some good laughs that day. What can I say , we were good co-workers...and friends. I will cherish our friendship it's one to look back on and enjoy. All my prayers and love to Larry and family. Betty Armstrong

Betty Armstrong - March 03, 2019 at 10:39 PM

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“ I have known Tina for 24 years and we have so many memories together at VR- from the Winnsboro Office, to the Camden office. She was always funny whenever describing a story. She would tell me not to eat clay dirt because it was bad for me. We laughed much about that. Then we went to a comedy show with a few office staff. We laughed the entire time. She always kept close when I moved to another office. I spoke with her in January and shared pics of my family. She will always have a special place in my heart. My prayers will be with Larry and her family. Will miss her saying what's up Tee. Love you Tina forever....Teresa Moses

**TERESA MOSES** - March 03, 2019 at 08:25 PM

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“ Tina and I shared so many memories together over the past 30 years. She was kind to everyone she met and truly cared for people. I have so many wonderful memories (some very humorous ones). We shared a of laughter and many tears and we shared our love for the Lord. Larry, you have been such a wonderful husband and caregiver for her. I will be forever grateful to you for that. I have prayed, since her diagnosis, from the time I wake up till I fall asleep at night. No need to ever say amen... I will continue to lift all of you up in prayer, and I will always be a phone call away. I loved her so very much and I was blessed to be loved by her. Blessings to you all...  
Rhonda



**Rhonda Warren** - March 03, 2019 at 06:45 PM

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“ I worked with Tina at SCVRD for years. Her lively spirit was infectious. She really thought of others first. You could not have a bad day if she was around. After having back surgery I had to use a wheelchair. On rainy mornings she would always be in the parking lot with two umbrellas. That was the way she lived her life- caring for others. She was a talented counselor and her clients loved her. I will really miss her.  
Steve Horton

**Steve and Dale Horton** - March 03, 2019 at 05:25 PM



“ Steve is so right. Tina was a breath of fresh air at SCVRD. She always had a smile. i did not know of her passing until the day of the funeral so I was unable to attend. I know there are many like me, who will always love the memories and miss her joy for life.

**Gene Wilson** - March 09, 2019 at 12:17 AM

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“ To know her was to love her.  
Charles & Polly LaRosa

**Charles LaRosa** - March 03, 2019 at 10:09 AM



“ Tina was a loving, caring and compassionate person.  
She will be missed by many

**Luanna Dygas** - March 03, 2019 at 07:03 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Tina's untimely death. We only knew her as a young teenager living across the street. Allie our sympathy to you and Tony.

Meg McLean

**Meg McLean** - March 04, 2019 at 11:09 AM



“ I have known this lovely lady for years working with her at Voc Rehab. She was indeed a jewel and will be missed by many. My sympathies to all.

Nancy Hightower

**Nancy Hightower** - March 06, 2019 at 03:01 PM

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“ I worked at CAMHC in the 80's with Tina. She was my Team Leader. She would never ask me to do anything she wouldn't do her herself. When she left Mental Health to return to V.R., I was devastated. Tina was one of the kindest people I ever knew.

Beryl Long

**Beryl Long** - March 03, 2019 at 09:09 AM