



Charlene F. Minder

September 9, 1964 - July 28, 2025

Charlene F. Minder departed this mortal life on July 28, 2025. She was born on September 9, 1964 in New Haven, Connecticut to Robert L. Minder, Sr. and Thomasina Minder.

The youngest of four siblings, Charlene entered the world with sass and a fighting spirit. She believed in speaking up for herself and for others. Known for her loving and forgiving nature, she had a way of telling it like it was—often followed by a laugh that could light up a room.

Charlene worked for the State of Connecticut until her early retirement due to a kidney failure diagnosis. She was deeply loved by her colleagues, many of whom went out of their way to help make her early retirement possible. Charlene thrived in her work at various group homes, where she cared for clients with compassion, providing them with a safe and supportive environment to grow. She often brought her daughters to “Bring Your Child to Work Day,” allowing them to see firsthand her dedication and hard work.

Throughout her life, Charlene faced many illnesses, moments that sometimes tested her faith. Yet, even in the face of each challenge, she overcame them with resilience and remained a steady source of comfort for her children, siblings, and extended family. Her ability to put others at ease will be deeply missed.

Charlene was super proud of her children. Known to them as “My Mommy”, since she was a separate mother to four very different people. My mommy took pride in our hopes, goals and DREAMS. They gave her so much joy. Her encouragement and her ability to get us together when we thought the world would end will be missed. No matter how dark her days were she powered through for her babies. Whether it was riding with her sister for freshmen move in day while taking breaks for dialysis, flying to freshman orientation and having dialysis boxes shipped to the hotel or showing up for commencement right after a hospital stay. She always went against the grain so it was no shock when she said, I’m going to kick leukemia's butt. Her resilience and strength should be studied.

Charlene loved cooking and playing Pokemo, which reminded her of her childhood spent upstairs from her beloved grandmother—sneaking food when her mother thought she was on a “diet.” That bond with her grandmother was one she treasured forever.

She had a special way of checking in just when you needed it most—must have been that “ESPN” she joked about having. Whether offering shelter to a friend of her children or lending a listening ear, Charlene gave her all to everyone, embodying unconditional, agape love. Her bold and vibrant sense of fashion reflected her heart—bright, unapologetic, and full of life.

Through it all, forgiveness and faith were the leading principles of her life. Charlene often reminded others to forgive so they could truly enjoy living. Her faith was unwavering, rooted in the belief that God provides, that He will reveal what you need to know, and that He will never leave you in the midst of your storm. Just as James 2:26 “As the body without the spirit is dead, so is faith without deeds is dead.” She believed deeply in the power of forgiveness—both giving it and receiving it—and often told her family that holding on to love was far more important than holding on to hurt. Even when life brought challenges, she chose to forgive and move forward, living out the words of Ephesians 4:32: “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each

other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” Reminding those around her forgiveness was as much a gift to the heart as it was to the soul.

Charlene is predeceased by her grandparents, Janie and Austin Jordan; parents, Robert L. Minder, Sr. and Thomasina Minder; her brothers, Robert L. Minder, Jr. and Sydney Freeman; her son, Kenneth M. Brown Jr.; her aunts, Jane ‘Tiny’ Jordan, Murrell ‘Bootsie’ Jordan and Elizabeth Bennett (Leroy); Her cousins, Judy Jordan, Austin ‘Pumpkin’ Jordan; her nieces, Markia R. Jones, Colleen R. Brown, and Kiana Brown;

She leaves to cherish her memory her daughters, Erin Brown-Summers, Erika Brown-Hickerson (Rashee), and Ebonee Brown (Brandon); her grandchildren, Christopher, Carsyn, Rashee Jr., Ryan, and Koen; her sisters, Rosilyn Minder, Karen and Sharon Brown; her brother, Thomas Minder (Kimberly); her best sister-friends, Angelina Outing and Beanchor Mills-Liggins (Greg); Bonus Daughters Adeva Minder, Brittany Odom and Amorrette Weeks; God Children, Harmony Jones and Natasha Outing; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends—too many to list, but all dear to her heart.

Cemetery Details

Hamden Plains Cemetery

Hamden, CT

Previous Events

Calling Hour

AUG 16. 8:00 AM (ET)

St. Matthews UFWB Church
400 Dixwell Ave.
New Haven, CT 06511

Homegoing Service

AUG 16. 9:00 AM (ET)

St. Matthews UFWB Church
400 Dixwell Ave.
New Haven, CT 06511

Tribute Wall

SH

“ *I had no idea! I was one of your Wexler babies. God bless your soul! What a great woman!!*

shaneece - September 18, 2025 at 08:40 PM

HJ

“ *My prayers and condolences to the family.
RIHP Charlene*



Hope Johnson - August 16, 2025 at 05:42 PM

BA

“ *Extending my heartfelt condolences to the Minder & Brown family during such difficult time Heaven has definitely gained a great reward Charlene. She fought a great fight always kept the faith now unto glory all the rest of her days sweet kind beautiful young lady Love you all Brenda Rose Avery & Family*

Brenda Rose Avery - August 16, 2025 at 07:49 AM

BR

“ *Brenda Rose lit a candle in memory of Charlene Minder*



Brenda Rose - August 16, 2025 at 07:43 AM



“ Grew up on the corner of Read and Newhall at 53 Read Street, and I'll always remember the Minder family just a house or two down. We shared so many neighborly moments over the years. I just spoke with you at the heart doctor, and you told me you were hanging in there. Not long ago, I also saw you with your sister at St. Matthew.

My Facebook friend, my friend from the Ville, you will truly be missed. Sending heartfelt condolences to the family.

Will McKay - August 16, 2025 at 07:14 AM

LG

“ Condolences to the Minder and Brown family. May God continue to give you the strength 🦵 to get thru this difficult time, Charlene's legacy will shine forever.

Levoris Garner - August 16, 2025 at 06:23 AM

ED

“ Evadale Daniels-Smith lit a candle in memory of Charlene Minder



Evadale Daniels-Smith - August 14, 2025 at 06:01 PM

SB

“ I grew up knowing the "Minder" family from the neighborhood, Charlene was definitely a great person, with a beautiful spirit. I send my deepest condolences to the family, and friends. 😔

Sybil Bell - August 14, 2025 at 09:03 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charlene F. Minder.*



August 13, 2025 at 06:57 PM



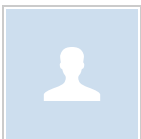
“ *I remember Charlene, she worked at Helene Grant School. Nothing but Love and Kindness from her always a Smile. God created a Beautiful woman. May you Rest In Heavenly Peace and to her Family. May God comfort you all and give you Strength.*

Dawn Barros - August 13, 2025 at 10:51 AM



“ *My deepest condolences to the family. I've known Charlene since we were four or five years old. We went to school together and got separated during High School. She would always have a smile and knew which twin I was. Back in the younger days, we were the chubby girls of the crew. That never stopped us from getting anything done, That was where we were at. Always a great person to be around. So glad I had Charlene as a friend. I am sure, there is another Angel watching over me. Forever your friend, Felisa Treadwell*

Felisa Treadwell - August 12, 2025 at 06:09 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Charlene F. Minder.*

August 12, 2025 at 12:02 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Charlene F. Minder.



August 12, 2025 at 12:02 PM



“ I will always remember Charlene when she picked up her grandson Chris from Middle School, it was a pleasure to see her fighting through all her battles. Charlene had an amazing smile and the conversation was inspiring. She loved her grandson dearly. Rip Charlene until we meet again. Keepin the family in prayers at this moment 🙏🙏



Love Kim Washington and Family

Kimberly Washington - August 11, 2025 at 10:37 PM



“ Charlene and I met our freshman year at Hillhouse. She was very friendly, bubbly and always full of smiles. As rap was taking over the east coast she became Chilly C to me. And I would say to her " Chilly C has more sex appeal than a spinning Wheel so she got to be the real Deal ". That was my rap to her about her every time I would see her. At the 1st class reunion that rap was my greetings to her and at the last class reunion I attended that was my greetings to her. And I always got my hug from her. Chilly C I love and loved you my FRIEND !

Dwight Harris - August 11, 2025 at 08:56 PM



“ So sorry for your loss!! I'm praying 🙏 ☐ for you all! She will always be in our hearts!!

💕💕 God bless you all always !! 😍😘🙏☐🙏☐💕



Laura Thompson Williams - August 11, 2025 at 08:24 PM



“ Kathy Ferreebee lit a candle in memory of Charlene Minder



Kathy Ferreebee - August 11, 2025 at 08:22 PM



“ Charlene graduated the same year I did. She was humble and will be missed especially singing in the choir rest in Peace.



Colette Beamon - August 11, 2025 at 07:09 PM



“ I haven't been able to find the words auntie, so for now, I'll just say Thank you and Job well done!

Char Brown - August 11, 2025 at 06:38 PM

KB

“ *Sister, you are now at rest in the arms of the Lord. Well done Shy!!*

Karen Brown - August 11, 2025 at 05:35 PM



“ *I so enjoyed sitting with you and the Family in the fellowship hall of St. Matthew's for the Church Anniversary. I thank God for the Quality time. Only God knew. Condolences 🌸 to your Family. Rest Well Sis.*

Marilyn Thomas - August 11, 2025 at 05:33 PM

MD

My dearest Usher Friend you will be truly missed my condolences to your family 🌸

minnie Dolberry - August 12, 2025 at 08:59 PM

TY

My deepest condolences to the entire family, we go way back from our Newhall Street days. Charlene was a beautiful soul with a warm spirit. May you rest in heaven as I know you have been welcomed with open arms.

Toni Younger - August 14, 2025 at 02:20 PM