



The 2022 Influencer at The Glebe, Charlotte Louise Clark Yeatts (named after her dad's sisters) was born in January 1937 near Hungars Creek on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Her father was a waterman on the Chesapeake Bay, fishing there or in the ocean. He could fix anything, was a self-taught artist and Charlotte inherited her artistic talents from him. Her mother was the oldest of five, and Charlotte remembers her as loving, dependable, taking care of everyone and everything around. From her mom, she learned kindness, generosity, gratitude, and crocheting. Charlotte had one older sister and her life is and was influenced greatly by her family and growing up in the country on the Eastern Shore. She enjoys her art, sewing, square dancing, and swimming.

Service to others became a way of life for Charlotte. She always knew she wanted to be a nurse and upon high school graduation at 16 she attended the Riverside School of Nursing in Newport News, Va for three years to obtain her RN degree. At the time it took two ferries and two bus rides to get to her family's home from school. One weekend she and a classmate had extra time, so they traveled back to the Eastern Shore. Her friend's boyfriend met them at Kiptopeke Ferry to take them back to school and had a friend with him – Don, Charlotte's future husband! They struck up a conversation and learned he was getting his education at the apprentice school of Newport News Shipbuilding. They started dating in 1954 but because of the restrictions of both the nursing and ship building programs, they were not allowed to be married until 6 months before graduation so they were married April 8, 1956.

They raised a family, a daughter and son, and created a wonderful life together in the Denbigh area. Charlotte worked as a registered nurse in family practice for 38 years, while Don worked at the shipyard. Many of the babies that she took care of in her work as a nurse grew up and had babies of their own to come to the same family practice office. Charlotte took great pleasure in taking care of generations of families over the course of her nursing career.

Charlotte and Don were among the very first residents at The Glebe. They signed their contract even before the community was built, in 2001. When it was ready for residents in fall of 2005 the Yeatts moved in March of 2006. They chose The Glebe to be close to their daughter. Charlotte knew that eventually they would need to have help as they grew older, so it was important to be close to family. It gives her peace of mind to know that she is a part of a caring community to help them as they would eventually move through the levels of care. Don developed dementia and moved into Memory Care in 2019, and as of 2021 is now in Health Care.

Today Charlotte is influenced by her faith and her family. Her church friends at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church have been so supportive of her and Don during his journey. Her daughter, Donna, and husband live in Roanoke. Donna has influenced Charlotte by being a good mother and knowing her priorities. They have a son Donald Jr. and his wife in Newport News. And they have a grandson, his wife and a great-granddaughter that live in visiting distance!

Charlotte influences her community and The Glebe in numerous ways. At her church she's in the choir, participates in the card ministry, fills Samaritan Purse boxes and helps provide a meal for church families grieving a loss. Before she had to spend more time with Don's care she volunteered at the Botetourt Free Clinic for years and the Ronald McDonald House. She's in the Glebe Handicrafter Group, helping make items for the bazaar to raise money for the Benevolent Fund and makes hats, scarves, lap blankets, etc. for charities. She helps by taking some pictures for the community, and pictures of team members for the Christmas staff party. She does alterations for her neighbors and is always willing to give a helping hand to fellow Glebe friends – take food, get mail, water plants, send a note, visits, etc.

A special ministry close to Charlotte's heart is her alter ego "Lucy". Conscious of the isolation and loneliness that can happen to the residents of the higher levels of care, Charlotte dresses up as a happy clown and visits the residents of Memory Care to lead activities and in Health Care she goes room to room, bringing joy and love to everyone living in Health Care.

Charlotte is most proud of her family, her faith, and her arts. When asked what advice she would give others, her response was, "Remember, the little things you do for others is sometimes the best thing they appreciate: a smile, a hug and saying the words, "God loves you and I love you."

*Charlotte has a special place in my heart. She does so much for others, although she is very humble, she deserves to be recognized for it. Charlotte volunteers in multiple capacities in our community and the greater community, providing support for our activities department for years. She is one of The Glebe photographers, she clowns around as "Lucy", and she shares her square and line dancing skills, getting others up to dance. Charlotte encourages dancing like no one is watching, just like me! - Robin Ward, Resident Services Director*