

# 'Prayers for Peace': Missing Fiancée Passes in Wake of Helene's Destruction

Prayers continue to be needed for those who felt the devastating aftermath of Hurricane Helene's rage.

John Norwood, 32, is one of those who continues to ask for prayer after the horrific floodwaters in Marion, North Carolina swept both him and his fiancée away.

Speaking to The News and Observer, Norwood says that "It happened so fast," and "All I remember is a bunch of crashing noises, and then I was underwater, and that was it."

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According to People, Norwood and Le Roux were at a neighbor's house seeking refuge from the storm, when they each stepped to different sides of the home. This separated the pair when the water and debris rushed in. Norwood's legs were crushed, and he was unable to make it to Le Roux.

"I crawled around screaming, looking for her, and I just couldn't find her," he told The News and Observer.

Le Roux was one the hundreds of people who went missing since Helene made her monstrous debut. While Norwood was rescued via a pulley system, Le Roux's passing was announced on a GoFundMe page on Oct. 4. Previously, Norwood said he was, "praying for a miracle" to find her.

"It is with a heavy heart that we share the passing of John's fiancé, Julie. Unfortunately she did not survive the storm. We take comfort in knowing she is at peace and no longer suffering. Julie was such a kind-hearted soul, absolutely a

match made in heaven for John. Now we must learn to navigate life without her,” the post read.

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“Asking for prayers for peace and acceptance. See you in the wind, baby girl.”

Right now, the GoFundMe page for Norwood has raised over \$79,000 to help cover the costs of medical bills, temporary housing, and the equipment for his shop which was lost in the storm.

“I am raising funds for John Norwood III, better known as Trey, my nephew, whose house and shop in Marion, North Carolina, were washed away in the floods from Hurricane Helene,” the page reads. “Trey was the sole proprietor of Ole Hickory Forge and appeared on Forge in Fire several years ago. The shop was also washed away, so he will have no income until he can rebuild his shop elsewhere.”

This is a moment to pray for Norwood and Le Roux’s family as they deal with tremendous grief and loss in this sensitive season.

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