



## Vera Lena Gillespie

January 29, 1952 - September 9, 2020

PRINCETON - Vera Lena Gillespie, 68, of Princeton, WV, died Wednesday, September 9, 2020 comfortably in her home. Born on January 29, 1952 in Princeton, WV, she was the daughter of the late Buster and Bonnie Billings.

Vera graduated from Matoaka High School. Her professional career was largely spent at True Line Incorporated. During her younger years, she worked at M&R Grocery in Matoaka and often reminisced about the joys of the job. She was one classy lady.

She was a dedicated follower of the Lord, member of Matoaka Christian Church and had most recently taken leadership of the children's Sunday School. Vera treasured Christmas, as it was a celebration of Christ and a magical experience for the children. She was known to remind her family – "children make the world go 'round". Her grandchildren were the apple of her eye.

Vera was lovingly known as "Sissie" to many, enjoyed the beach, horse playing with her family and spoiling her precious grandkids, a lover of furry pets, and was always up for an adventure!

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Jackie Billings.

Vera's survivors include her sweetheart of 50 years, Dwight "Ike" Cecil Gillespie; one son, Benjamin Dwight Gillespie of Princeton, WV and one daughter, Holly Beth Martin of Washington, DC; three grandchildren, Savannah Hope Gillespie of Princeton, WV, Jackson Scott Martin and Isaac Cole Martin of Washington, DC; one niece, Michelle Marlene Miller and her husband Steve of Bluefield, WV, one great nephew, Steven James Miller Jr of Bluefield, WV, one great niece, Mary Beth Miller of Princeton, WV and her son Markus, great great nephew.

Funeral Services will be conducted privately for the family on Saturday, September 12, 2020.

Memorial contributions may be made to <https://give.ocrahope.org/fundraiser/2907733>.

Arrangements by Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton. Online condolences may be shared with the family at [www.bailey-kirk.com](http://www.bailey-kirk.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Vera Lena Gillespie*

December 27, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *We were neighbors, friends and family. Vera was a ray of sunshine her smiles would brighten anyone's day. Prayers for her family and friends. She will be missed! Until we meet again. Love you all!*

**Sherry & Weldon** - September 13, 2020 at 07:36 PM



“ *Vera was one special lady. Our hearts go out to the family.  
love and prayers*



**Sharon & Mike McMillion** - September 12, 2020 at 12:25 PM



“ *Written in the Stars was purchased for the family of Vera Lena Gillespie.*



September 12, 2020 at 09:55 AM



“ *Sorry for your loss. May God give you strength and peace during your mourning.*

**Diane Winn** - September 11, 2020 at 11:21 PM



“ *Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Vera Lena Gillespie.*



September 11, 2020 at 09:46 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Vera Lena Gillespie.*



September 11, 2020 at 07:35 PM



“ *I'm sorry for your loss! May God's peace be with you in the coming days!*

**Don wood** - September 11, 2020 at 12:57 PM



*Vera was very special to me..she was my favorite customer at the Mayflower Restaurant and also a dear friend to me.God bless the family...I'll be praying for you all...🙏*

**Deborah Brooks Hosbein** - September 12, 2020 at 04:39 PM



“ *So very sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers to all.  
RIP sweet lady..You will not be forgotten*



**Arlene/Buddy Midkiff** - September 11, 2020 at 12:25 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vera Lena Gillespie.



September 11, 2020 at 10:25 AM



“ Dwight and family... my thoughts and prayers are with each of you during this time. May our Lord comfort you and give you strength. I am so very sorry. Marie Blackwell



Marie Blackwell - September 11, 2020 at 09:54 AM



“ Brenda Hall sent a virtual gift in memory of Vera Lena Gillespie

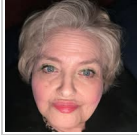


Brenda Hall - September 11, 2020 at 09:28 AM



“ It is so sad...certainly for her sweet family, but man, what it must be like to see Jesus. She was always very good to me, as was her daughter ❤️ She was a classy lady indeed, too. Always kind, always had an open door, couch, and kitchen. Gravy and tomatoes!

Stacey Varney - September 11, 2020 at 08:54 AM



“ Prayers for family and friends. RIP Vera



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**Bonnie Coleman** - September 11, 2020 at 08:10 AM

DS

“ So very sorry for the loss of Vera, such a precious lady. Always a smile for everyone such a sweet Godly lady. Prayers for Ike and the family, she will be missed.



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**Debbie Pierce Stables** - September 11, 2020 at 07:20 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Vera Lena Gillespie.



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September 11, 2020 at 05:40 AM

AG

“ Vera was my mother-in-law for 23 years. What a blessing she was to me. She was a true woman of God and knew the scripture word from word. Vera treated me like a daughter. She was the best grandma a child could ever have. She was not only my mother-in-law, but my best friend. I could talk to her about anything and she would always listen and give me the advice I needed. She was a light in my life. We shared good times and bad times. Never once would she say a bad word toward others. We laughed together and cried together many times. I'm blessed that Ben shared her with me. She taught me many things. The one thing I'm blessed with is that she shared the word of God with me in everything we done. I'm blessed beyond measure to have shared part of my life with her. I pray for peace and comfort for the family ❤️

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**Angela Gillespie** - September 10, 2020 at 11:17 PM

AC

“ My heart breaks to see this. But I know where Vera is, just like she knew exactly where she would go when she left here. She was always beautiful and classy and as strong as a woman could be. She was fearless during her fight and I admired her strength and grace. I'm praying for her family who has suffered a great loss. My heart breaks for you all.

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**Amanda Cecil** - September 10, 2020 at 10:06 PM

MA

“ Marsha lit a candle in memory of Vera Lena Gillespie



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**marsha** - September 10, 2020 at 08:48 PM



“ Vera always saw the best in people and inspired me as a child at Matoaka Christian Church to always do that which is right and to forgive others ...I am a better person because she helped me learn about God's word and was an example that children looked up to...she loved her family, friends and church She is one of the most positive people I have had in my life and will be deeply missed

Diana Upton - September 10, 2020 at 07:39 PM

BB

“ So sorry to hear about sweet vera 😭  
No more suffering.. What a glorious reunion it was when she left this world💕💕 prayers for our family and all her friends.. Rip vera



Belinda McKenzie Brewster - September 10, 2020 at 07:25 PM

SP

“ Sue Poff lit a candle in memory of Vera Lena Gillespie



Sue Poff - September 10, 2020 at 06:32 PM

ML

“ Mrs Lawrence. sent a virtual gift in memory of Vera Lena Gillespie



Mrs Lawrence. - September 10, 2020 at 06:31 PM

PM

“ Vera was just like a sister to me she always picked on me my mom which she said was her mom too since Miss Bonnie passed away no matter how she felt she would come to c mom and bring her Rose's she said she wanted to get better so her and mom could sit on the porch in moms rocking chairs but she went on to Heaven so my sweet sis as I called her wait for mom and ya'll can sit in Heaven in rocking chairs up there and hold hands like you use to and just sing away.



GO REST HIGH ON THAT MOUNTAIN VERA YOU HAVE  
EARNED YOUR WINGS  
LOVE YOU SIS..PEGGY

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**Peggy Matthews** - September 10, 2020 at 06:30 PM

AF

“ Very, very sorry to hear this, my prayers go out to Dwight and all the family.

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**Arnold Fortner** - September 10, 2020 at 06:04 PM

ST

“ I am truly truly sorry to hear this. Even though I knew she had been sick for a long time it still, was a shock, to me. Vera,, (Sissie) , Was always there, when her brother Jackie and me used to hang out, she was always sissy back then, and she was like my little sister. Dwight to you and the kids and grandkids and all involved I asked God, to bless you in the days to come.  
Steve

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**Steve** - September 10, 2020 at 05:46 PM

ZE

“ So so sorry. Vera has always been a very special lady and friend. Heaven has really gained a special angel. Bet Jackie has already been reprimanded for picking at her so soon. May God wrap his arms around all of you during this heartbreaking loss. Savannah, our love, hugs and Prayers are with you all. With love, Freda and Zeke



Zeke - September 10, 2020 at 05:39 PM

ST

So sorry.. My mom and dad were close to her mom, Bonnie.. I also went to school with her.. God bless her survivors

sandi k tolliver - September 10, 2020 at 06:18 PM

HR

“ So sorry. Thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. ❤️



Heather Greer Robinson - September 10, 2020 at 04:38 PM

MN

Vera was a precious angel here on earth heaven has definitely been blessed with a treasure. Sweetest most loving and caring person you could ever know. RIP beautiful lady💔💔💔My deepest sympathy for Ike and the family❤️

Marlene Neely - September 10, 2020 at 06:19 PM