



Grace Eva Shamblin

July 18, 1926 - September 22, 2020

Grace Eva Hughes Shamblin, 94, of Alexandria, VA, passed away on Sept. 22, 2020. Grace is survived by her loving husband of 76 years, Harry Donald (“Don”) Shamblin; son, Ronald Keith (Andrea) Shamblin; daughter, Eva Jane (Kerry) Donley, all of Alexandria; daughter-in-law, Winifred Young Shamblin of Orange Park, FL and nine granddaughters: Dana (Joe) Andy of Arlington, VA; Leslie (Chris) Alford of Gray, GA; Kristin Donley of Alexandria; Lisa Mathew of Warsaw, OH; Kaitlin Donley (James Wilson) of Alexandria; Holly (Neil) Sliva of Penndel, PA; Colleen Donley of Alexandria; Cara Donley of Washington, DC; and Kelsey Donley of Arlington. She is also survived by 12 great-grandchildren. Grace is also mourned by numerous nieces, nephews, friends and neighbors. She is predeceased by her parents, William Allen Hughes and Lulu Smiley Hughes; stepmother, Mary Glassburn Hughes; son, Donald Allen Shamblin; daughter-in-law, Joyce Ann Shamblin; and sister, Alberta Belle Hellyer.

Grace was born on July 18, 1926 in Gallia County, OH in her grandmother’s farmhouse. She married Don on Aug. 20, 1944 in Cheshire, OH and they raised their family there until moving to Alexandria, VA in 1961. She lived in the Virginia Hills neighborhood of Fairfax County in Alexandria from 1961 to 2017, at which time she and Don moved to Sunrise Assisted Living in Alexandria. Grace was a dedicated member of Virginia Hills Baptist Church. Additionally, she was a 70+-year member of the Ohio Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

She worked in the bookkeeping department for First and Citizens Bank, which later became United Virginia Bank and then Crestar Bank, in Old Town, Alexandria, VA, from 1966 to 1985. Grace also enjoyed working as a part-time Avon sales representative for a number of years.

Grace will be remembered for her strong faith, welcoming nature and endless generosity; she graciously hosted many family gatherings and holiday celebrations in her cozy home and always made room for another guest (or two) at the table. Grace loved being outdoors and took pleasure in the simple joys in life: sweeping her porch each day; enjoying the sun and warm weather on the beach or her patio; pulling beans, tomatoes and cucumbers from her annual garden; and feeding the squirrels and birds in her backyard. She also loved decorating her home for every season and holiday, keeping a fully-stocked candy jar

for visitors, reading Danielle Steel books, making and gifting her famous peanut butter fudge, and cheering for the Washington Redskins, even during their losing seasons. “My land, maybe next week they will actually show up and play,” she would say, shaking her head, after a Redskins loss.

Countless memories of Grace’s infectious laugh, kind spirit and warm smile will be cherished by all those who knew and loved her. The immediate family will gather for a private remembrance service in October; plans for a memorial service at Virginia Hills Baptist Church will be announced at a later date. Internment at Gravel Hill Cemetery in Cheshire, Ohio will occur at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Grace’s name to Virginia Hills Baptist Church, 6507 Telegraph Rd., Alexandria, VA 22310.

Comments



“ Condolences to Eva and her family.

Sandy Murphy - October 22, 2020 at 03:29 PM



“ I will miss Grace's sweet, beautiful smile. She never missed an opportunity to tell those of us who knew her, how much she enjoyed our time together. Grace will always hold a special place in my heart. Kim Johnston

Kim A Johnston - October 06, 2020 at 03:15 PM



“ Grace was so faithful going to church. If she wasn't in church on Sunday, we knew something was wrong. She was an inspiration, I hope I can be as faithful. Her love for Don was very apparent. Even after 70+ years of marriage, they would sit together in the pew holding hands. Missed seeing them during this Covid-19 but will remember her strengthen, hugs and beautiful smile.
Awww, Grace you will be missed. Until we meet again.....

Charlene Glover - October 02, 2020 at 06:51 PM



“ I will remember Grace of her welcoming warm smile and kind greetings to me each time when I met her at the church! Grace and Don are such wonderful couple who live faithful lives!

Daphne Yang - September 30, 2020 at 02:22 PM



“ American Physical Therapy Association purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Grace Eva Shamblin.



American Physical Therapy Association - September 29, 2020 at 05:32 PM



“ Missing Grace especially during this time of Covid. Grace always had a great smile and warm greeting for me and my family. Grace faithfully sent cards while I was so sick in 2015. Her love for Don and the rest of the family was unmeasurable. Rest In Peace, good and faithful servant.

Jeannine Purdy - September 29, 2020 at 08:48 AM



“ Sorry to hear about Don Shamblin's mother. Don and I worked together for many years and were friends. Prayers to all the family. Ed Forman, Jacksonville, FL. formerly of the DC area.

Ed Forman - September 28, 2020 at 12:33 PM