



Millie Lancaster

November 10, 2019

Mildred Lancaster, 100, passed away on November 10, 2019. She was a native of Portsmouth and a devoted member of Monumental United Methodist Church. She was a member of many clubs and organizations too numerous to name. Millie was predeceased by her husband, Arthur James “Junie” Lancaster Jr; her parents Mildred and Leisle Snyder; brothers, Wade, Elton, Leonard and Billy Snyder; sisters, Genevieve Saunders, Leota Lassiter, Rosa Snyder, Mae Baker, Trudy Roberts and one of her 6 “adopted sons” Wayne Sawyer. She is survived by the other “adopted sons” Charlie Parkerson, John Lancaster, Dale Saunders, Mike Twiford, Arthur Parkerson and nephews, nieces and their families.

Millie started her working career as an operator with the C&P Telephone Company in Portsmouth. Then she and her late husband Junie Lancaster developed Coleman’s Nursery and the historic Winter Wonderland in Churchland. They later established Lancaster Farms and Bennett’s Creek Wholesale Nursery in Suffolk.

Millie and Junie Lancaster have made countless contributions to their communities. The Lancaster’s donated their toy and train collection to the Children’s Museum of Virginia in Portsmouth for many generations of children to enjoy. Their gifts to the Bon Secours Nursing Care Center in Suffolk made possible the Lancaster Spiritual and Educational Center and the Millie Lancaster Women’s Imaging Center in the Bon Secours Health Center at Harbour View in Suffolk, Virginia. For their decades of civic leadership and philanthropic gifts, Millie and Junie Lancaster were honored by the Virginia General Assembly.

Millie was truly an Angel on Earth and she now has gone to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in Heaven.

Memorial Contributions may be made to her church, Monumental United Methodist Church, 450 Dinwiddie St., Portsmouth, VA 23704.

A celebration of her life will be held at 2 pm Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at Centenary

United Methodist Church, 3312 Cedar Lane, Portsmouth, VA 23703. The visitation will be one hour prior to the service.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 13. 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM (ET)

Centenary United Methodist Church
3312 Cedar Lane
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Celebration of Life

NOV 13. 2:00 PM (ET)

Centenary United Methodist Church
3312 Cedar Lane
Portsmouth, VA

Tribute Wall

GS

“ Growing up in Virginia with our large family dinners at Coleman's nursery are some of my most fond memories. I didn't realize how much I took them for granted until everyone started moving away and unfortunately passing on. I moved my family to Indiana in 1987 and would come back for the holidays to enjoy time with my family and for my daughter's to get to know their grandparents. One Christmas we stopped by my parents on the way back to Indiana to say goodbye. Aunt Millie came by to visit my parents as we were leaving, so we stuck around for a "short visit" not to be rude. We all sat in the living room with Aunt Millie telling stories about the family. About 2 hours later I decided we had to get on the road as I am sure my kids were probably bored with all of the grownup talk. When we got in the car, my daughters informed me that I have the most interesting family and they wish they could spend more time with them to get to know them better. That is when I truly realized how fortunate we were to have those precious moments at Coleman's thanks to Aunt Millie and Uncle Junie. All my love to the Lancaster and Snyder family.

Gary Snyder - December 10, 2019 at 01:52 PM

WB

“ I am sad to hear that Millie had passed. But I am also joyous in knowing she is now with Junie in heaven. All the angels are celebrating her arrival and enjoying her being there with Jesus. Millie was very special lady and she will be missed. I will be attending the visitation and service.

Bill and Glenda Brown
Newport News, Va

william Brown - November 13, 2019 at 06:43 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Millie Lancaster.



November 12, 2019 at 04:01 PM

KS

“ It is with great sadness to hear about the passing of aunt Millie. She was a great aunt to me and my family. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the visitation or celebration of life ceremonies. Again, my condolences to all.

Ken and Emma Snyder

Kenneth Snyder - November 12, 2019 at 12:40 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Millie Lancaster.



November 12, 2019 at 11:28 AM

BR

“ I've never met you, but as a grandmother I have many fond memories of taking my children and later my grandchildren to your winter Winter Wonderland. When we reminisce about the past, Coleman's Nursery always comes up. You left a wonderful legacy.

Barbara Riggins - November 12, 2019 at 07:52 AM