



Reba L. Gardner

December 27, 1905 - May 19, 2006

Reba L. Gardner, 100, passed away on Friday May 19, 2006. She was a life-long resident of Portsmouth, a Charter Member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, a member of the Friendship Bible Class and the United Methodist Women's Society. She had been an active member of Western Branch Senior Citizens and the Beasley Senior Center. She was a former employee of the Morris Co. and Chapman's Jewelers.

Mrs. Gardner was the widow of the late James T. Gardner. She is survived by a daughter, Roselyn G. Harrell and her husband, Binford; a son, J. Morris Gardner and his wife, Nancy; 5 grandchildren, Deborah Sawyer and her husband, Keith, Jimmy Gardner and his wife Diana, Christopher Gardner and his wife, Laurie, Marvin Harrell and his wife, Christina, Rebecca Blackwell and her husband, Mark; 12 great-grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Monday by Dr. Larry Adams and Rev. Robert Weeks in Aldersgate United Methodist Church with burial at Oak Grove Cemetery. Family will receive friends in Loving Funeral Home, Churchland Chapel Sunday from 5-6 p.m. and they suggest memorial contributions to the pipe organ fund of Aldersgate United Methodist Church.

Tribute Wall



“ *Grandma. My earliest memories of you have you bending over and greeting me at your home on Idlewood Ave. How you hated how I drank the squeezed out grapefruit juice from the bowl at breakfast. How when we stayed at your house I would see you kneeling in prayer by your bed. And I know that you are no longer seeing through a glass darkly but you now see Jesus face to face! My how I ache knowing I'll not see you again on earth. But because I'm sure your prayers have helped bring me to where I am today as a believer in Jesus I know I'll see you again. Give granddaddy a hug for me! LOVE always and thanks for pointing us to JESUS.##imported-begin##Marvin Harrell##imported-end##*

June 01, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *We were so lucky to have Grandma for so long... I know she is in heaven with all the other saints gone before her and although we will miss her terribly, she is very happy I am sure. We love you Grandma and thank you for everything you have done and shown us in this lifetime. Until we meet again!
Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord all the earth; come into his presence with singing and his courts with praise. Know the Lord is God. Give praise to him and Bless his name. For the Lord is GOOD. His love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through ALL generations. AMEN##imported-begin##Rebecca Blackwell##imported-end##*

May 25, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Morris, Nancy and family-
I send my deepest condolences to you at the loss of Ms. Reba. She was such a special woman and I loved her very much. She had a wonderful life - 100 years. I always remember that you could not get far from Ms Reba without giving her a hug before she would let you know you had not given her one. I loved that about her!! I also remember her love for the Lord and her gentle smile. She was a remarkable woman and I thank God that she was part of my life and my spiritual journey. Wish I could be there for you during this time. I am sure that Larry and Bob will have a beautiful service this afternoon. You will all be in my prayers. Love - Dawn-Marie###imported-begin##Dawn-Marie Singleton###imported-end##

May 22, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you. I work with Roselyn and she is one of the finest human being I have every met. Hold fast to your love and memories. Blessings and Prayers, Vikki Amburn###imported-begin##Vikki Amburn###imported-end##

May 22, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ I have known Reba all my life, and the wonderful memories I associate with her could fill a book. She was one of my first Sunday School teachers at Elm Avenue Methodist Church, and I can still see her and Roselyn teaching Vacation Bible School -- what fun it was! Reba taught me as a little child that God is a loving father who cares about me, and that lesson has remained with and sustained me my entire life. Reba not only TOLD others about the Lord, she LIVED the scriptures and provided an example for all to see of what a Christian life can be.

Through the years she continued to nurture and encourage others in the faith with her smiles, hugs, and phone calls. Even when she couldn't see or hear very well, she kept up with all the news of the church because she loved it so much.

I sang in the choir with Jack and Roselyn, and now Morris is our wonderful choir director whom we all love so much, along with Nancy. Whenever I commented on her talented family, Reba would smile and shake her head -- "and I can't sing a note", she'd say. She was SO proud of them.

Thanks, Reba, for being such a dear friend and soldier for the Lord. I know He must be gathering you into His arms and saying, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."###imported-begin##Sheryl Williams###imported-end##

May 22, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Reba Gardner. We lived across the street from her on Idlewood for years. She was a great neighbor and became a close friend. We will cherish all the good memories. S.E.,Evangeline & Stuart Wells###imported-begin##Stuart Wells###imported-end##

May 21, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Morris And Nancy Gardner,*

Our Condolences to You and all Your Family.

Vernon And Marie Hoffler.##imported-begin##Vernon&Marie Hoffler##imported-end##

May 21, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our deepest sympathy for the loss of Mrs. Gardner.##imported-begin##William G. Brothers, MD##imported-end##*

May 21, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Morris, Nancy and family,
It has been such a long time since I've seen you all. I lift you each up in prayer at this time. I read the obits online from my home in Leesburg, VA. I knew right away when I saw Reba's name that it was your Mama. My Mama, Elsie is 95, living here in Leesburg, but has not been very well lately. My husband, Jim passed away last June from lung/liver cancer. I had a benign brain tumor last July, Praise The Lord! Have been recovering from that and take one day at a time. GOD IS SO GOOD!!
I don't mean to use this guestbook to bring you up to date on me ~ rather to let you know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all. Such special memories go back to our parents, me being in the Aldersgate choir, you all, oh! it's so precious. God's Blessings to you!
Our Love,
Joan McCaskill Kemper and
Elsie McCaskill##imported-begin##Joan McCaskill
Kemper##imported-end##

May 20, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Morris and Roselyn,
I was so sorry to read about your Mother's passing in today's paper. I appreciated so much seeing you at mom's funeral in Jan and I will always remember Ms Reba and all the fond memories I have of Elm Ave Meth. Church. Please accept my deepest sympathy and my thoughts and prayers are with you and your families.
Peggy Vaughan McKinney##imported-begin##Peggy Vaughan
McKinney##imported-end##

May 20, 2006 at 12:00 AM