



## Virginia Candler Whaley Babbitt

April 23, 2025

Virginia Candler Whaley Babbitt passed away on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, in Midlothian, Virginia, at the age of 99. Her family was able to gather together and share her last days with her. Virginia was well loved and loved well. She was always engaging and curious. She made anyone she spent time with feel like they were the most special person to her.

Virginia was born and raised in Portsmouth, Virginia. She had a happy childhood in Port Norfolk and spent her high school years at Woodrow Wilson, where she was active in the Dramatic Club, Chorus, and as a cheerleader. During World War II she volunteered at the USO where she met her future husband, Fred Babbitt, who hailed from New Orleans, Louisiana. Virginia was always proud of her Virginia heritage. She and Fred raised six children in their fun-filled home in Churchland. In later years, she moved to Centreville, Maryland, to be near her daughters. There she lived in a lovely house on the Corsica River where she could view nesting eagles and other waterfowl. Her final residence in Midlothian was overlooking the beautiful Swift Creek Reservoir.

Virginia loved to read, work board puzzles, and solve crossword puzzles. To the surprise of many, she also liked to write poetry. She loved the beach, the sand, seashells, and the sound of the waves at night. She felt that salt water heals all that ails you. She had great fun with her friends in the Bridge Club

over many years in Churchland. She loved to garden and even mowed her grass into her 80s. Her love of birds was a constant throughout her life. While she spent much time and energy raising her large family, she also worked outside the home for many years. Early years working at Suburban Pharmacy and American National Bank were followed later by work in the Portsmouth School System at both Wilson and Churchland High Schools.

Virginia was preceded in death by her husband of 47 years, Fred Babbitt. She is survived by her sister, Barbara Anne Goldman. She also leaves behind her loving children and their spouses: Bonnie Babbitt Nelson, Fred Babbitt (Janis), Robbie Babbitt (Maggie), Rich Babbitt (Kathy), Ginna Babbitt Vedder (Mark), and Julia Babbitt Williams (Greg). She was also blessed with 15 grandchildren: Amy, Nathan, Elise, Daniel, Graham, Patrick, Alex, Matt, Todd, Kristin, Chris, Russell, Natalie, Meg, and Cullen. They, in turn, provided her with 20 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her nephews, David and Jim Goldman, and her niece, Anne Hinds.

On May 28, a private graveside burial will take place. Afterwards, friends and family will join for a Celebration of Life service at Centenary Methodist Church at 1:00 pm.

She had requested that memorial contributions be made to Centenary Methodist Church or the Hoffer Creek Wildlife Foundation.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAY 28. 1:00 PM (ET)

Centenary United Methodist Church  
3312 Cedar Lane  
Portsmouth, VA 23703

# Tribute Wall

PS

“ As a young Girl playing with her boys mostly because I was a tomboy playing baseball and football I was in awe with Mrs Babbit how calm she always was even when she was being a forum Mother with her directions. It is from Mrs Babbit I learned how to be calm and strong leader without attitude or anger just proper pronunciation of my words with precise definition of the meaning behind the statement and then wait a moment for potential question only! That reduced the word play game and yet left room for valid questions, usually not many lol! She loved each of her children so special to each I think it just appeared that way because she identified with each of them. I was Blessed to have her as a neighborhood Mom like Mrs Biggalow and Mrs Hudson and Mrs Coleman and Mrs Bears, Mrs Ivie, Mrs Stalings all were her Garden Club Sisters Bonnie, Freddie,Robbie,Richie,Gina, and Family My Prayers are with you! 1 last funny Mike went to heaven couple weeks ago so Your Momma will have a conversation with him I am sure there are some questions for him lol! God Bless each of you! You know and I know she is catching up with her Mother in Glory? My love is with each of you

Pat Smith - May 27, 2025 at 12:12 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Virginia Candler Whaley Babbitt.



May 27, 2025 at 12:31 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Virginia Candler Whaley Babbitt.

May 27, 2025 at 12:31 AM



“ My condolences to Fred and all of the family on the loss of your mother. As I read this obituary on May 26 I remember my mother Betty Hollowell who would have been 100 today. We are so fortunate to have had good mothers. GOD richly bless you all with wisdom, comfort and peace from our Prince of Peace the Lord Jesus Christ.

Denny Hollowell - May 26, 2025 at 06:32 PM



“ Cd nelson purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Virginia Candler Whaley Babbitt.



Cd nelson - May 23, 2025 at 12:17 PM



“ Cd nelson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Virginia Candler Whaley Babbitt.

Cd nelson - May 23, 2025 at 12:17 PM



“ Such a wonderful kind soul ❤️. Prayers to all of her family 🙏.

Roe Russo - May 04, 2025 at 12:20 PM

BM

“ *A lovely lady....condolences from our family. Dennis and Betty Jean McMurrin*

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**Betty Jean McMurrin** - May 03, 2025 at 12:13 PM

MH

“ *Wonderful memories of Mrs. Babbitt from CHS days. Blessings to all but especially Rich and Robbie.*

*Merle Henkel*

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**Merle Henkel** - May 01, 2025 at 11:59 AM

WP

*Worked with her many years ago at Wilson, a wonderful lady.*

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**Wayne Prince** - May 01, 2025 at 04:38 PM

DJ

*Sending prayers for family.*

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**Debbie Jones** - May 06, 2025 at 10:43 PM