



Nonny "Ruth" Elizabeth Nelson

October 16, 1930 - July 21, 2025

On Monday, July 21, at 94 years and 7 months, Nonny, who loved to be called Ruth, entered God's heavenly kingdom casting her crown at Jesus' holy feet in all the splendor of her new glorified body. Ruth was surrounded by family at her home and eventually at her daughter, Teresa's home, and her daughters held her hand and prayed as she departed this life.

Ruth was born to William Clayton Dennison and Ollie May Dennison on October 16, 1930 in Marion, Virginia. She was the oldest daughter of 13 children. Eight brothers have preceded her in death. Frank, John, Leroy, Norman Richard, Walter, Rush, Clifford, Marshall, and her sister Ann Marie. She is survived by her little brother, Ernie, and sisters Lorena and Frances. First married to Clarence Hughes who was the father of Clarence, "Tommy," and Ruth Elizabeth, all preceding her in death, Ruth met and for 62 years before his death was married to Jennes C. Nelson, Jr. of Ripley and expanded the family by four daughters, Teresa Ferreira, Mildred Nelson, Wanda Welch (John) and Carol Nelson Villari. She is also preceded in death by her granddaughter Holly, and sons-in-laws Mike Cortezzo and William Ferreira as well as great-grandson, Thomas Maddox, Jr.

Ruth's first love was her family. She was a homemaker who cooked hearty southern fried meals for us and any friends we brought home. Her kitchen was always open and sleepovers never turned down. All would wake up to the smell of delicious sausage gravy and biscuits with fried eggs. The aroma lingers in our minds today. Her 13 grandchildren were always treated to a

feast especially at holiday meals where the table overflowed with great dishes. Her second passion was her flower gardens. Ruth was well known for her green thumb. Any stem or root she'd stick in the yard would blossom and grow better than any nursery could offer. In the spring, her yard would come to life with vibrant colors of yellow daffodils, pink, white and purple azaleas and many other gorgeous plants.

And finally, one would not know that Ruth was also a Great-Great Grandmother to 15 children. She never left the house without applying her makeup to perfection and pulling together an ensemble of her favorite jewelry pieces with a matching outfit and handbag. Ruth always looked 20 years younger than her age, and loved it when her doctors would brag on her appearance.

Through the years Ruth loved to play cards with her family and enjoyed the slot machines of old. In her final years, telephone conversations with her friends and family as well as her favorite soap operas and television shows continued to be the highlights of her day.

Ruth's feisty spirit and sense of humor will surely be missed and making food runs for her egg foo young, pizza and fish filets until two days before her death will not be forgotten. Neither will we or our friends and cousins forget that shout from the back porch yelling for us to come home. An echo heard around the neighborhood!

Ruth's viewing will be held Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at Raymond Funeral Home, La Plata, MD. Friends and family will be received from 9am to 11am with memorial service beginning at 11am. Internment will follow the service at Trinity Memorial Gardens in Waldorf, MD.

Memorial donations can be made to the Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 7365 Indian Head Hwy, Bryans Road, MD 20616 in memory of Nonny "Ruth" Nelson. www.lcoos.org

Or a charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Trinity Memorial Gardens

3165 Mattawoman Beantown Rd.
Waldorf, MD 20601
<http://trinitymemorialgardens.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 29. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Raymond Funeral Chapel
5635 Washington Ave.
La Plata, MD
business.office@raymondfuneral.com
<http://www.raymondfuneralservice.com>

Funeral Service

JUL 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

Raymond Funeral Chapel
5635 Washington Ave.
La Plata, MD
business.office@raymondfuneral.com
<http://www.raymondfuneralservice.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Nonny "Ruth" Elizabeth Nelson.*



July 28, 2025 at 03:04 PM



“ *Tony Villari purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Nonny "Ruth" Elizabeth Nelson.*



Tony Villari - July 28, 2025 at 11:26 AM



“ *Nick, Sharon and Nicholas Norris purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Nonny "Ruth" Elizabeth Nelson.*



Nick, Sharon and Nicholas Norris - July 28, 2025 at 10:59 AM



“ *Ray, Matt, Vera & Carey (Jarboe Family) purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Nonny "Ruth" Elizabeth Nelson.*



Ray, Matt, Vera & Carey (Jarboe Family) - July 28, 2025 at 08:58 AM

RD

“ Rick, Alan, Susan and Troy Dennison purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Nonny "Ruth" Elizabeth Nelson.



Rick, Alan, Susan and Troy Dennison - July 25, 2025 at 10:29 PM

SK

“ Sharon K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nonny "Ruth" Elizabeth Nelson.

Sharon K. - July 23, 2025 at 04:42 PM

DD

“ Deb Moose & David purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Nonny "Ruth" Elizabeth Nelson.



Deb Moose & David - July 23, 2025 at 11:16 AM

MM

“ Mr & Mrs Joseph Moose lit a candle in memory of Nonny "Ruth" Elizabeth Nelson



Mr & Mrs Joseph Moose - July 22, 2025 at 11:54 PM

MM

Mrs Nelson wasn't a wonderful person caring and funny we grew up in Ripley with her kids and always enjoyed talking to her R.i.p 🙏

Mr & Mrs Joseph Moose - July 22, 2025 at 11:58 PM

CM

“ *There are too many times to count that you let me, Barbara and Kathy invade your house on a weekend so that we could hang out with Wanda. I don't have a lot of good memories as a teen growing up but these are some of the absolute best. Thank you, beautiful lady for your generosity.*
Cheryl

Cheryl Morgan - July 22, 2025 at 11:45 PM

DB

“ *Dave, Heather, Ridgely and Rylan Bastain planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nonny "Ruth" Elizabeth Nelson.*

Dave, Heather, Ridgely and Rylan Bastain - July 22, 2025 at 08:36 PM

DB

“ *Dave, Heather, Ridgely and Rylan Bastain purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Nonny "Ruth" Elizabeth Nelson.*



Dave, Heather, Ridgely and Rylan Bastain - July 22, 2025 at 08:36 PM

SD

“ *Ernie and I use to play cards almost every weekend with Ruth and JC at her sister Rena and Johnny’s house. Always cooking out or having crabs, we had a good time. She was a very nice sister-in-law that was fun to be around. She always looked so happy when I would see pictures of her with her Grand-baby’s. Farewell and we shall see you in Heaven one day!* ”

Sharon and Ernie Dennison - July 22, 2025 at 06:01 PM