



Willa Mae Foster

August 29, 1928 - December 9, 2020

Willa Mae Raby Foster - Age: 92
of Indian Head, MD

Place of Birth: Cowee, Macon County, NC

DOD: 12.9.2020 of Congestive Heart Failure

Parents: Arvin Glenn Raby & Lottie Mae Saunders Raby

Widow of Maurice Eugene Foster

Survived by:

Children: Maurice "Gene" E. Foster, II, St. Leonard, MD; Michael R. Foster (Sharon), Edgewater, MD; Kathryn "Kitty" Cummins, Abilene, TX; Gwendolyn "Gwen" Fitzgerald (Michael), Amherst, VA; Glenn P. Foster (Bobbie), Indian Head, MD

16 Grandchildren

27 Great grandchildren

8 Great-Great grandchildren

Brothers and sisters: Glenn Raby, Jr, (Junie) Safety Harbor, FL; John Raby, Waldorf, MD; Mildred Weston, Bryans Rd., MD; Joyce Ann Harold (Bob), Powhatan, VA; and Sister-in-law Millie Raby, Indian Head, MD

Predeceased by:

Beloved son Charles Gregory "Greg" Foster

Brothers and sister: Charles Raby, Tracy Raby, Billy Raby, Gene Raby, and Maureen Auer

Daughters in law: Julia Foster, Sue Bowles Foster

Sons in law: David Cullinan and Leo Cummins.

Willa Mae was born in the hills of NC, and moved with her family to Maryland shortly thereafter. She was a survivor of the Great Depression, and was a teen during WWII. In 1945 she was 17, and a few months after the war was over, eloped with her Gene – a marriage that lasted 64 years, until his death in 2010. Willa Mae continued with her High School education however, was a pitcher for the fast pitch softball team, and graduated from LaPlata in 1947.

Through the years they raised 6 children, lived and worked in Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia and North Carolina, she joined bowling teams, and they attended innumerable baseball games. In 1992, after many years of awarded professional work with various federal government agencies in VA and DC she retired and they moved “home” to her beloved hills of Franklin, NC.

Always a beautiful woman who loved to dress well, have her “face” on, and hair in place, Willa Mae fiercely loved family, politics and baseball. Her strong will and determination were amazing, as evidenced by her constant care for Gene for 10 years after his debilitating stroke. In these latter years debating politics was a favorite pastime (a diehard Democrat!), as well as watching ballgames and MSNBC on TV, so she could keep her mind sharp and “keep up with what was going on in the world”.

She passed into the next world peacefully with family holding her hand. We love her, her chair is empty, and she will be greatly missed.

Pall Bearers:

Gene Foster, III Gabriel Fitzgerald Michael Foster, II

Bobby Raby Wayne Wilkerson Bradley Revoir

Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, service and interment will be for family only at the graveside. The services will be conducted by Rev. Dr. Michael Fitzgerald, Son-in-law.

Memorial contributions in Willa's name may be made to The Purple Heart or a charity of your choice.

To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Willa Mae Foster please visit our Sympathy Store.

On-line condolences may be left at www.raymondfuneralservice.com.

Tribute Wall

SR

“ I am so sorry to just hear about Mrs. Foster's death here. I have always been thankful that Mr. and Mrs. Foster--through Kitty--took me in a long time ago when I had some trouble at home. If I recall correctly, all 5 children still were at home; so Mr. and Mrs. Foster's taking me in had to be a burden for them, but they never treated me as a burden. The whole family was accepting of me and loving while I was there. I have never forgotten. May the LORD be with the Foster family in blessings, protection, and love. Sincerely and with love, Susan Crane Reyes

Susan Reyes - January 08, 2025 at 04:36 PM



“ Willa Mae Foster

October 08, 2023 at 10:45 PM



“ Willa Mae Foster

October 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Willa Mae Foster.



December 16, 2020 at 12:22 PM

TD

“ *Technology Services Organization (TSO) Help Desk purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Willa Mae Foster.*



Technology Services Organization (TSO) Help Desk -
December 15, 2020 at 11:29 AM

DM

“ *Dear Gwen and family,
I am so sorry to hear about the passing of your mother. You don't know me and probably don't remember me, but we were working out at the gym in Lovington one day many, many years ago. It was after my mother had passed. You didn't know me but sensed there was something not right so you came over and spoke to me.... You asked me if there was something wrong that you could help with and I explained I had just lost my mother and previously my two brothers just weeks before, all unexpected. You asked if you could pray with and for me... I have never forgotten that kindness and have spoken of it very often and as your example have tried to "play it forward". You and your family will be in my prayers today and tonight and I will add you, your family and friends, to our prayer list at my church, Nelson UMC.
May God's spirit and your memories bring you comfort, peace, and joy in the days ahead.*

*Dian McNaught
Roseland*

Dian Meredith McNaught - December 14, 2020 at 03:43 PM

GF

Thank you for your kind words Dian. I remember you.

Gwen Fitzgerald - December 24, 2020 at 02:22 PM

NS

“ We will forever hold the memory of Aunt Willa Mae in our heart. She was always smiling and laughing with love in her eyes. Someone so special as Aunt Willa Mae will be missed by all.

*With love and condolences,
Jimmy, Carolin, Nancy and Sharon*

Nancy Spada - December 12, 2020 at 04:02 PM

SC

Ms. Willa mae will be missed. I enjoyed being her caregiver. She was very determined & feisty. My prayers go out to her family.

Sheila Campbell - December 16, 2020 at 08:17 AM

GF

Thank you, Sheila. We so appreciate your kind care for her.

Gwen Fitzgerald - December 24, 2020 at 02:21 PM

EM

“ She was a beautiful lady inside and out. I have so many wonderful memories of her visits to my parents home when I was growing up. I didn't get to see her often in the years after my parents passed. I will remember her as a favorite cousin. Love to all of you.

Elizabeth S. McCarron - December 12, 2020 at 08:08 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Willa Mae Foster.



December 11, 2020 at 10:42 PM

DW

“ *Debbie Taylor Webb purchased the Rays of Light Spray for the family of Willa Mae Foster.*



Debbie Taylor Webb - December 11, 2020 at 10:03 PM

JH

“ *I will cherish the memories growing up with my 3rd Cousins as if they were my 1st, since we were a very close family on both sides. Willa Mae always made me feel so warm and welcomed when I came over as a little one to play with Gwenie. She was like another Aunt and I loved her, as so. She had a heart of gold and will always adore the last time I was with her at her 90th Birthday Party. Love you and God Speed (Give Mom a hug for me). <3 you always, Janice Mae (Wheeler) Hedges*

Janice Hedges - December 11, 2020 at 09:28 PM