



Verlyn Ritch Thomas

June 5, 1937 - May 17, 2020

Verlyn Ritch Thomas, age 82, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 17, 2020 at her home in Newnan surrounded by her family. She was born on June 5, 1937 in Fitzgerald, GA to the late Daniel McKensey Vaughn and Mary Knight Vaughn.

Verlyn was a 1955 graduate of Hapeville High School and spent most of her life living in Atlanta before moving to Newnan. Verlyn was a long time member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Newnan. She was the epitome of a gracious southern lady, spunky but classy, sweet and kind. She always presented herself with impeccable elegance and style.

Along with her parents, Verlyn is preceded in death by her husband Charles M. Thomas, III. She is survived by her children, Pam Caraway and her husband Vince, Charles M. Thomas, IV, Molly Thomas Moore and her husband Joseph; grandchildren, Jamie Caraway Dickson (Jake), Ritch Caraway (Candy), Patti Moore Baldwin (Sheldon), Joseph T. Moore, Jr. (Amber) and Mary Allison Moore. She is also survived by 8 great grandchildren, with one due in June and her brother, Robert Ritch, Jr.

The service celebrating the life Verlyn lived is Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 11:00 AM in the chapel of McKoon Funeral Home, 38 Jackson Street, in Newnan with social distancing guidelines being followed, Rev. Eddie Blankenship will be officiating. A private family burial will follow the service at Westview Cemetery in Atlanta. The family will receive friends Wednesday evening from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM at McKoon Funeral Home with social distancing guidelines being followed.

Condolences may be expressed to family online at www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory 770-253-4580

Cemetery

Westview Cemetery

1680 Westview Drive SW
Atlanta, GA, 30310

Events

MAY **Visitation** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

20

McKoon Funeral Home

38 Jackson Street, Newnan, GA, US, 30263

MAY **Service** 11:00AM

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McKoon Funeral Home Chapel

38 Jackson Street, Newnan, GA, US, 30263

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - May 21, 2020 at 09:34 AM



“ I have many fond memories of Verlyn. I was among a group of friends who had known her since grammar school. Our group enjoyed having lunch together, shopping and taking girls trips. Verlyn was fun to be with and she loved her friends. We loved her and she will be missed.

My condolences to her wonderful family and may God give you strength to heal the pain of your loss.

Mary "Peggy" Wofford - May 24, 2020 at 04:51 PM



“ The service celebrating the life of Verlyn was beautiful, just as she wished for. Since we had become friends 70+ years ago, we had so many wonderful memories to share in our weekly telephone chat which I will sorely miss. Verlyn was blessed with a beautiful family and I extend my heartfelt sympathy to them now and in the days ahead.

Love, Sandra Gardner

Sandra Gardner - May 22, 2020 at 12:04 PM



“ Edward and Mary Day purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Verlyn Ritch Thomas.



Edward and Mary Day - May 20, 2020 at 03:38 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Verlyn Ritch Thomas.



May 20, 2020 at 01:48 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Verlyn Ritch Thomas.



May 20, 2020 at 01:13 PM



“ Verlyn and Charles came up to Atlanta to visit my sister Angela and me for three fun occasions toward the end of last year.

The first time we met up was one of Angela’s big decade birthdays (I won’t mention which one since we have all reached the age where we no longer divulge such highly confidential information.) It was Saturday, November 30th at 2 PM, just two days after Thanksgiving. We met at the Golden Corral at North DeKalb Mall, and we all tried to bring the best post-Thanksgiving appetites that we could manage. Joining us there were good friends Robert & Cookie Goodwin, Cookie’s mom Ruth Travis, Jerry Garrison & Al Whittington, and my friend Paula Heard from Emory.

Now, if you’re from the South, it has probably already occurred to you that this was the day for most of the college football rivalry games. Verlyn always stood by the Georgia Bulldogs no matter what, and that game against Georgia Tech had already started. I believe it was approaching halftime as we were all arriving. Georgia had pulled ahead with 17–0 in the 1st quarter, but then the Dawgs took a nap during the 2nd quarter and let the Yellow Jackets narrow the lead to 17–7. Verlyn really seemed to appreciate our smart phones since they allowed her to keep tabs on Georgia pulling way ahead in the 2nd half to win the game 52–7. And this while we were also having a good time, enjoying our celebration, eating good food, and passing out slices of caramel birthday cake from Rhodes Bakery on Cheshire Bridge!

The second time we met up was on Christmas Day for an afternoon dinner at Einstein’s in Midtown. Robert Goodwin joined us there for a party of five. Our Christmas tradition had been to meet up at Cowtippers near Piedmont & Monroe for quite a number of years, but alas, it had finally closed to make room for new development. At Einstein’s, we enjoyed a multi-course meal while reminiscing about Atlanta, what had changed and what hadn’t, and the many years that we had all known each other. I especially remember the dessert course which definitely filled everyone up.

The third time we met up was exactly one week later on New Years Day for an afternoon dinner at the Colonnade restaurant on Cheshire Bridge. This is probably the longest ongoing tradition we have, and I couldn’t begin to guess how many years we’ve been at it. The Colonnade was as festive and crowded as it ever was on New Years Day. Robert, Cookie, & Ruth joined us there. We waited in the bar while several of us enjoyed cocktails. And after quite a wait, we were seated at one of their large round tables. I’m sure there were enough of us eating pork, greens, and black-eyed peas for the cosmos to grant us all a decent year for 2020. But, my goodness, it may end up being one of the worst years of our lives!

We were at the Colonnade for a long time, and it was getting dark as we had all paused on the patio to say our goodbyes. I took so much for granted when I hugged Verlyn goodbye for the last time. After all, surely we were going to meet up again soon either in Atlanta or down in Newnan where we would see another play or another movie, and then dine out at another restaurant.

Right now, I cannot even begin to imagine how much I’m going to miss her.

Martin Brooks - May 18, 2020 at 09:44 PM



“ Martin, you were such a great friend to my mother. When Mother was so sick about ten years ago, you graciously stayed at my house for weeks because you knew I was completely overwhelmed and couldn't nurse my mother back to health alone. You have always been there for me in so many ways. Mother considered you family, and so do I.

Charles - May 19, 2020 at 07:02 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Verlyn Ritch Thomas.



May 18, 2020 at 09:06 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Verlyn Ritch Thomas.



May 18, 2020 at 08:14 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Verlyn Ritch Thomas.



May 18, 2020 at 06:45 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Verlyn Ritch Thomas.



May 18, 2020 at 03:44 PM



“ Gloria, Jerry, Patsy and Jim purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Verlyn Ritch Thomas.



Gloria, Jerry, Patsy and Jim - May 18, 2020 at 03:43 PM



“ Angela, Byron, Jo, Martin (Brooks) purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Verlyn Ritch Thomas.



Martin Brooks - May 18, 2020 at 03:31 PM



“ Rowena and Melvin purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Verlyn Ritch Thomas.



Rowena and Melvin - May 18, 2020 at 02:33 PM



“ Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of Verlyn Ritch Thomas.



May 18, 2020 at 02:22 PM