



Nellie Merchant Gray

December 22, 1938 - August 20, 2021

Nellie Merchant Gray, 82 of McCalla passed away peacefully on August 20th with her daughter and son-in-law by her side. Nellie was a devoted wife, mother, Nana, sister and friend. She was a pillar of strength to all that knew her and truly an angel on earth. She is preceded in death by her parents, James Leo and Annie Inez Merchant, loving husband James F. Gray, son John Michael Gray, daughter Jennifer Lauree Gray and sister Sarah M. Dedmon.

Nellie will live on in the hearts of her loved ones left behind, son James F. Gray Jr. (Keri), granddaughters Zoey (Sam) Cameron, Raven (Ivan) Herrera, Sylvia Gray, Asa Gray, daughter Julie Gray Jones (Derryn) granddaughter Lauree (Max) Erb, Landon G. Jones and Logan M. Jones. Two wonderful great grandchildren, Leslie Ann Cameron and Noven Herrera, sister Florence M. Richey and brother James L. Merchant.

Visitation will be at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church in McCalla on Wednesday August 25th from 12-1 with service beginning at 1:00. Graveside service at Valhalla Cemetery to follow.

Cemetery Details

Valhalla Cemetery

839 Wilkes Road
Birmingham, AL 35228

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 25. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church
4809 Bell Hill Road
Bessemer, AL 35022

Funeral Service

AUG 25. 1:00 PM (CT)

Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church
4809 Bell Hill Road
Bessemer, AL 35022

Tribute Wall



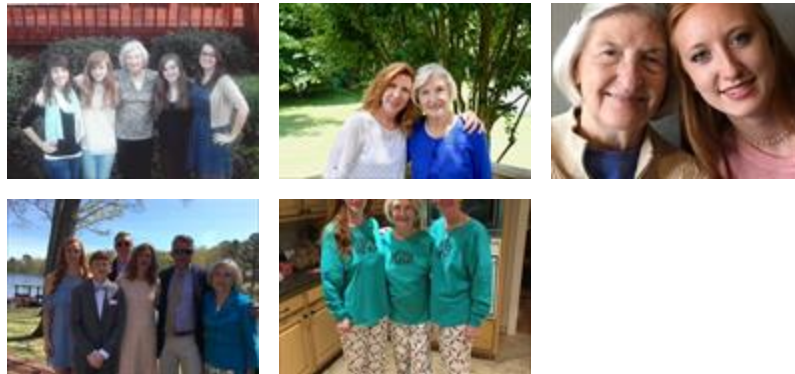
“ *McCalla Memorial Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Nellie Merchant Gray*



McCalla Memorial Funeral Home - Traditions - August 25, 2021 at 12:35 PM



“ *13 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Julie Jones - August 31, 2021 at 11:07 AM

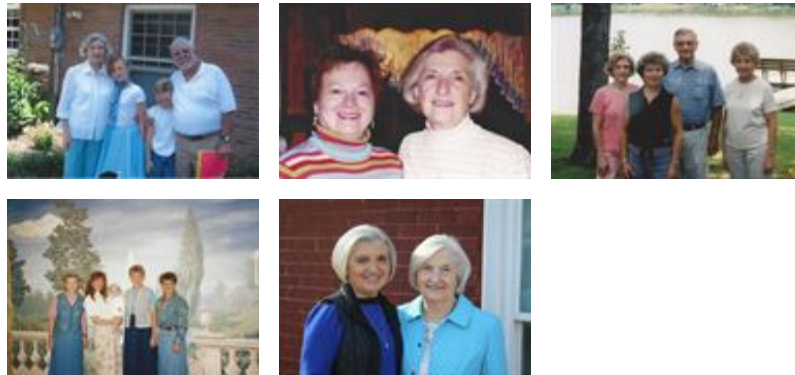
PE

“ I have known Nellie since her father and mother moved to McCalla. She was one of the sweetest people I knew, quiet and had a quiet smile for everyone. I remember her being the lead in a high school play. If I remember correctly she had to kiss a boy (Cecil Hollingsworth). We lived less than a half mile from each other, went to the same church. As people often do after they get married they go their separate ways, as did we, but we saw each other at least once a year at our high school reunions. Nellies family - especially the sisters - bring fond memories to me. She will not only be missed by her family but when high school reunion times come around again she will be especially missed. Early on when they moved to McCalla we shared an 8 party telephone line. Most of the families had 2 or more teens. Thank you for letting me share and remember Nellie.

Patsy Johnston Essman - August 26, 2021 at 11:02 AM



“ 11 files added to the album Life Tributes



McCalla Memorial Funeral Home - Traditions - August 25, 2021 at 09:31 AM

FM

“ I worked with Nell for 10 1/2 years. I admired and appreciated her. She was a beautiful person, a true lady, a caring friend and co-worker. Her love for and devotion to family, friends, workplace, and community were obvious. The last time I saw her was several years ago when a group of dear work friends gathered at Bright Star to share a meal, memories, catch up and enjoy each other’s company. I’m very thankful for our time together and cherish her memory.

Florence Mitchell - August 24, 2021 at 09:12 PM



“ Nell was the most gracious lady I’ve ever known. Whether admiring her professionalism in her work or just appreciating her love of beauty in nature, I always felt honored to know her. And what a sense of humor! She had so many heartbreaks and spent much of her life as a caregiver. I’m happy for her that she was able to spend her last years independently thanks to the support of family.

Lisa LeLievre Crumley

Lisa Crumley - August 24, 2021 at 05:37 PM

KH

“ Kenny, Valerie & Kenneth Helms purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Nellie Merchant Gray.



Kenny, Valerie & Kenneth Helms - August 24, 2021 at 02:35 PM

BG

“ *I remember all the wonderful times we had with Nellie and Jim and the children.*

Barbara Garrett - August 24, 2021 at 02:18 PM

SF

“ *Siyeicea Jackson & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Nellie Merchant Gray.*



Siyeicea Jackson & Family - August 24, 2021 at 12:11 PM