



Grace Clark Carey

MAY 21, 1916 - DEC 15, 2014



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Grace Clark Carey of Ft. Myers, FL passed away Monday, December 15, 2014 at her home of natural causes. She was 98 years old. Grace was born May 21, 1916 in Athens, TN, the daughter of Charles and Amy Carpenter, both of TN. She grew up among the farmlands of Niota, TN along with her 3 brothers, Jewel, Thurmon, and Dillard, and her favorite aunt, Emaline, until the age of 8 years, when the family moved to Tampa, FL. Grace completed the 10th grade at Hillsborough High School and accepted her first position as a nursing assistant at Tampa General Hospital until World War II. During the war, Grace demonstrated her stateside patriotism by joining the war effort making bombsights in Ft. Lauderdale, FL as well as working at the aircraft glider plant in Deland, FL. Here she met her beloved husband of nearly 50 years, Frances Earle Carey of Brandon, Manitoba, Canada. In September 1944, Grace and Frank stole away on their lunch break to get married at the courthouse only to return to work that afternoon, and were noted in the community for their devotion to their country. They enjoyed a long lasting love that spanned 4 decades and 2 children, united by their shared values of church, family, and community. They jointly owned and operated Forrest Hills Glass and Mirror Works in Tampa, FL before starting their family, remaining partners in parenthood by instilling their strong values in their children. Frank continued his work with Glass and Mirror Works before becoming a real estate broker while Grace remained at home as a devoted mother to their children. Grace is survived by her children, Terence Michael Carey, Sr. of New Smyrna Beach, FL, and Sheila Carey-Merkle of Cape Coral, FL, along with daughter-in-law Shirley Baldt of Cape Coral, FL. She is survived by 5 grandchildren: Terence Michael Carey, Jr. of Cape Coral, FL, Craig Mathew Carver, II of Atlanta, GA, Jason Scott Carey of Cape Coral, FL, Garret Evan Carver of Lehigh Acres, FL, and Lauren Kristen Carver of Cape Coral, FL, along with grandchildren in-law Melodie Carey, Crisalida Carver, and Erik Underwood. She is also survived by 4



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great-grandchildren: Austin Carey, Camryn Carey, Ariana Villela, and Hazen Carver, along with 1 great-grandchild in-law Rebecca Carey; and 1 great-great grandchild: Noah Carey. She will be deeply missed by all she touched with her incredible life and spark, including her dearest friend Mary Tanner of Ft. Myers, FL. Grace lived in Ft. Myers for 27 years and became a noted and beloved member of her community, known equally for her independence and her generosity. She prided herself first on her love for family and second on her strong work ethic, enjoying her work throughout her life, and working even on the day she died. She worked at Publix for 21 years and became a staple of the community through her predictable and caring presence there. Grace also enjoyed quilting, gardening, flower arranging, baking, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Family and friends are comforted to know Grace has met her Lord and Savior and rejoined her husband in heaven, while leaving a legacy of love and vitality that will undoubtedly carry on for generations. A Visitation will be held on Monday, December 22, 2014 from 3:00 – 5:00 PM in the Chapel at Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Funeral Home, 1589 Colonial Boulevard, Fort Myers, Florida 33901, (239) 936-0555. A Memorial Service will be celebrated thereafter, also in the Chapel, by Pastor Robert Troupe of the City of Palms Apostolic Church. Refreshments will be served in the Colonial Family Center located on the adjacent cemetery grounds during the visitation and immediately following the Memorial Service. Burial will take place at 1:00 PM the following day, Tuesday, December 23, 2014 at Garden of Memories Cemetery, 4207 East Lake Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33610, (813) 626-3161. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you instead consider a donation in Grace's memory to the Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida, 3760 Fowler Street, Fort Myers, Florida 33901, (239) 334-7007 or on the internet at: www.harrychapinfoodbank.org/donate Those who wish to leave a tribute for Grace or offer condolences to her family are urged to visit her memorial webpage at www.fortmyersmemorial.com and sign the guestbook.



Tribute Wall

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MH

Myrna R Hagin posted:

I am so very sorry that you lost a beautiful soul and happy that heaven got one. I knew your Grace by shopping at Publix. She made every trip there a pleasure and I Thank You for sharing her with me. I did not know she passed on or I would have made it to the service. Myrna R Hagin

December 29 at 4:12 AM

DM

Donald E Morr Jr posted:

Lit a candle in memory of Grace Clark Carey

December 25 at 4:56 AM

DM

Donald E Morr Jr posted:

she was always a nice person at the store when my wife and i go to the store to shop and we would talk to her everytime my wife name was anna serga morr and my wife passed in jan 11th of 2013

December 25 at 4:55 AM

GF

Goldie Fell posted:

I will miss seeing Grace's beautiful smile and enjoying her pleasant conversation every time I walk into Publix...you have earned your Angel wings.

December 23 at 5:16 AM

GF

Goldie Fell posted:

Sent a gift in memory of Grace Clark Carey

December 23 at 5:12 AM

KP

Katrina Peare posted:

My mother always enjoyed Grace when the Palms Retirement bus took them to Publix. I went in just after my mom passed away 2009, and Grace asked me how Rita was? She way and is a lovely lady.Katrina P

December 22 at 2:27 PM



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CH

Charlette Hatch posted:

I am among the very very many who will miss Grace. Her smiling face and cheerful spirit were truly special and will not be forgotten! It was hard for any of us to believe shewas really 98!Charlette Hatch

December 22 at 11:11 AM

KB

Kathryn Blair posted:

I really loved my Gracie. We had alot in common even though she was much older than me. I have bought my mom and children to meet her. She truly was a angel on earth and now in heaven. I will remember her forever and hope to grow old as gracefully as she did. Love Kathy B.

December 21 at 12:34 PM

NS

Nancy Starr posted:

Grace was one of the most inspirational women I know. She and my mother, Mary Ann, are only 4 months apart in age and instantly felt like kindred spirits. When my Mom would go to the grocery store she would always look for Grace and they would give each other a hug. About 4 years ago, my mom transitioned to a local retirement facility and did not go to the grocery store much. But when ever Grace saw me, she always asked me "How's Mom? Grace was the essence that her name describes...a graceful, strong woman, and warm hearted, kind, and very genuine in every way. She will really be missed.

December 21 at 6:14 AM

MM

Mamie Holst, Fort Myers posted:

My mother, who also died this year, always like to talk to Grace at Publix. My mother loved quilting and liked to talk to Grace about it. She will be greatly missed.

December 20 at 12:23 PM

LW

Lynda Weaver posted:

Grace was a very special lady that much joy to many people at publix just by seeing her smiling face. Such a sweet lady. I will miss her. Lynda

December 19 at 1:40 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Grace by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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