



Laura Joan Byrd Gilley

November 22, 2011

Gilley, Laura Joan (Byrd), of Big Stone Gap, VA, passed away Tuesday Nov. 22, 2011 at her home surrounded by family and friends.

Joan was born in Middlesboro, Kentucky on February 17, 1953 to Homer and Jean Crumley Byrd. She was an active member of East Stone Gap United Methodist Church and served on the Board of Trustees as well as several other areas of service. Joan formerly was employed by Westmoreland Coal Company, Lonesome Pine Realty Company and Gap Development Corporation.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Jean Crumley Byrd and her mother-in-law, Irene King Gilley.

She is survived by her husband, James Kent "Kenny" Gilley; son, Justin Trevor Gilley; daughter, Brittany Abriel Gilley; stepson, James Kent Gilley, Jr. and wife Susan Carty Gilley; her father, Homer Byrd and brother, Larry Byrd, both of Middlesboro, KY; sisters, Barbara Presley and husband, Buddy of North Augusta, SC, and Linda Daniels and husband, Ed of Rose Hill, VA; father-in-law, James Gilley; brother-in-law, Ralph Gilley and wife Leslie; sister-in-law, Mercedes Gilley Wells and fiancé, Jerry Couch. She had 21 nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life service will be held at East Stone Gap United Methodist Church on Sunday, November 27, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. for family and friends. Joan requested those attending wear something pink in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Joan's honor, for cancer related charities to be directed by the family, may be made to East Stone Gap United Methodist Church, PO Box 186, East Stone Gap, Virginia 24246.

To view obituary and online registry, please visit www.holdingfuneralhome.com.

Holding Funeral Home is honored to serve the Gilley family.

Tribute Wall



“ *Laura Joan Byrd Gilley*

October 07, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“ *My husband, Ed, loved his Ky cousins, loved visiting the Byrd family, loved listening to Barbara, Joan and Linda sing. He and Joan are now enjoying heaven!*

Bev Williams, - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM



“ *Our memories are of Joan and you Kenny giving of yourselves, helping others and standing in faith. I can just hear Joan singing "Give Thanks to the Holy One". Her spirit and her smile are eternal. She lives on in you, Brittany and Justin, and in all our hearts. We "give thanks" for Laura Joan. We love you all and we are lifing you in prayer. Kathy & Ronnie*

Kathy and Ronnie Davidson - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM



“ *Kenny & family,
Whenever I hear the song "The Anchor Holds" I always think of Joan. She would always say how that song had inspired her. Joan was a great witness. Heaven now has another angel. May Jesus give you strength to get through this difficult time. God Bless each of you.....*

Dora Lynn Garrison - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

CV

“ Although I have been in the mission field for the past eighteen years; I remember Joan as a truly fine Christian, whose life blessed all who knew her.

"WELL DONE, THOU GOOD & FAITHFUL SERVANT"

*Charlie Johnson,
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam*

Charlie Johnson, Missionary Vietnam - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM



“ Your have fought the fight,you have keep the Faith. Now rest in the arms of the one that carried you through.
May your family find Jesus hand with them. He will carry them through also. She was a wonderful lady.

December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

SE

“ So sorry to read of Joan's death. She was such a positive and inspirational person. Will miss seeing her bright smile at Subway in Middlesboro with Homer and Linda.

Stephen Earle - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

JW

“ Was so sorry to hear of the passing of Joan. We were childhood friends on Exeter Ave. Barbara, Joan and I have known each other since 1st grade and we went to Junction School together. I can remember those innocent summer days three little girls playing house and games until dark would come. Sweet memories and Barbara and Joan were apart of them.
My heart goes out to Joan's family and friends ; she was always a very sweet person. I am sure she is enjoying Heaven today !

Janis Ferguson Walters - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

NM

“ Words are inadequate to convey how we will miss our dear friend and sister in the faith. Joan's and your friendship and support have meant so much to us over the years. Joan's love for Jesus was evident in her life of service to her family and others. May God be with you and give you peace in the days to come.

Ninkey and Jack McCarty - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

HC

“ Sorry to hear about your loss.

Sincerely,

Harold Cooke

Harold Cooke - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

WH

“ Kenny,
You, your children and family are in my prayers. During this time, trust that the Holy Spirit has you gently and lovingly wrapped in its arms. Peace be with you.

Wanda Faye Holmes - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM