



Mary Lou Lytle Townsend

May 8, 1926 - February 13, 2026

Mary Lou Lytle Townsend-Kingsport, Tennessee

Mary Lou Lytle Townsend, age 99, passed into eternal rest on Friday, February 13, 2026, at her home in Kingsport, Tennessee.

Mary Lou was born in Wise County, Virginia, the daughter of the late Kirby Lytle and Allena Flanary Lytle. She was one of three children. She graduated from East Stone Gap High School, Class of 1945, and later attended Tusculum University, where she studied Business Administration.

After completing her education, Mary Lou moved to Ohio, where she worked her entire career in the medical field. While in Ohio, she met and married Mr. Charles S. Townsend. Mary Lou was a faithful member of the Methodist Church, attending congregations in Ohio, Big Stone Gap, and Kingsport, Tennessee. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends, but her legacy of faith, dedication, and love will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Charles S. Townsend; her brothers, Leon Lytle and Roy Lytle; and two nephews, Kirby Lytle II and Shan Michael Lytle.

Those left to cherish her memory include her son, Jeffrey Johnson, Esq., of Johnson City; her special niece, Rosita Lytle Lawson and husband, Jimmy; nieces and nephews, Connie Lytle Dorton, Glenn Lytle, Bernadine Lytle Wathen, Roy Lytle, and Roger Lytle; her stepson, Raymond Townsend; and other close relatives and friends.

The family would like to express there gratitude to Wayne, Sue, & Dakota Mullins, who helped care for her for many years.

The family will receive friends on Sunday, February 15, 2026, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Holding Funeral Home, 17 East 3rd Street North, Big Stone Gap. The funeral service will follow in the funeral home's chapel with Reverand Melissa Malcom. Special music will be provided by Holding Funeral Home.

The committal service will be held on Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Powell Valley Cemetery Mausoleum. Those wishing to attend are asked to meet at the funeral home at 12:30 p.m. to travel in procession.

Family and friends will serve as pallbearers.

A memorial video will be updated by Holding Funeral Home

An online register is available for the family at www.holdingfuneralhome.com

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Holding Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **15**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Holding Funeral Home, Inc.

17 E. 3rd St., N.

P. O. Drawer H

Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

1-276-523-1470

holdingfuneralhome@comcast.net

<http://www.holdingfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Holding Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Lou Lytle Townsend*



Holding Funeral Home, Inc. - February 17 at 11:37 AM

EB

Dear Mary Lou & I were friends for many yrs. We knew each other from both of us working @ Grandview Hosp. I also knew her husband Charlie as he helped with the cameras in one of my depts. Thru the yrs we all three became friends outside of work. Mary Lou & I spent many hrs visiting on the phone even after she moved to Tenn. She was a very sweet person & a dear friend. I will miss her a lot.

Elaine Bingham - April 13 at 12:29 PM

PH

“ *My dear friend and wonderful lady. I just heard of your passing and regret not knowing sooner to attend your funeral service. I have precious memories of you caring for my parents and our visits and phone conversations. You were a special, loving and caring and giving precious lady with always a smile on your face. Now you are with your Lord. I will miss you.*

Phyllis Hamilton - March 25 at 12:01 PM

GT

“ *Mary Lou and I have been friends for about 25 years. Beautiful, intelligent, sweet lady. Due to some health issues, I haven't been in touch or seen her for awhile. I'm sorry for your loss. Treasure favorite memories.* ”

Gail Tephabock - February 25 at 05:12 PM

SF

“ *Shirley M. Fisher* ”



Shirley M. Fisher - February 15 at 03:48 PM