



Thelma (Sorah) Gilley

May 23, 1932 - August 7, 2022

Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Thelma (Sorah) Gilley, 90, passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 7, 2022, at Holston Valley Medical Center.

Thelma was a member of Oak Grove Baptist Church, & Loyal Ruth Sunday School Class. All these next organizations Thelma took joy in being a part of, and the family would like them recognized for the different missions and services they provide ;A.F.G.E. Local 3316, Hotshots Photography Club, CHALIC, MEOC's KinCare Program and RSVP, State AARP Volunteer for Lee, Scott, Wise, and the City of Norton. She was a dedicated volunteer providing service to anyone in need.

She was a dedicated volunteer and public servant, having retired from the Federal Government with almost 30 years of service with the Social Security Administration and Department of Labor; 4 years with Virginia State Government, and 10 years of service with private enterprises. Her work life, and volunteer service to our region will be remembered fondly.

Thelma was preceded in death by her parents, William Conley Sorah, and Grace Beatrice (Burton) Sorah, one daughter, Deborah Ann Gilley brothers, James Conley Sorah, Donald Wayne Sorah, Kenneth Sorah.

She is survived by her son, Dr. Michael Gilley (Amy Stephenson), Dexter

Ramey (James Potter), sisters, Shirley Wallborn, Georgia Durham, Nancy Gilliam, other nieces nephews, close relatives and friends.

The family of Thelma Sorah Gilley will receive friends on Saturday, August 27, 2022, from 4:00- 8:00 p.m. at Holding Funeral Home in Big Stone Gap, VA. for the Visitation- during the visitation, it is requested that people come prepared to share memories about the life of Thelma Gilley.

The family asks that memorials be made in honor of Thelma to any of the following:

Grace Burton Sorah Memorial Scholarship, University of Virginia College at Wise, VA or Gilley/Sorah Scholarship, Mountain Empire Community College, Big Stone Gap, VA. , The American Legion United Methodist Church, or M.E.O.C.

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

Holding Funeral Home is serving the Gilley family.

Cemetery Details

Riverview Cemetery

East Stone Gap Road
East Stone Gap, VA 24246

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall



“ *Thelma (Sorah) Gilley*

October 07, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“ *My deepest condolences to Thema's family and friends. She was a great neighbor growing up living beside her on East 6th Avenue. She was a close personal friend of my late Grandmother, Effie Falin.*

Kaye R. Jordan - August 28, 2022 at 01:40 PM



“ *I'm so sorry Michael. I understand your pain. My heart goes out to you.*

Rose Young - August 26, 2022 at 10:36 AM



“ *Rose Young lit a candle in memory of Thelma (Sorah) Gilley*



Rose Young - August 26, 2022 at 10:33 AM



“ *Although it's been over 27 years since we worked together for SSA, I remember Thelma as a caring, kind friendly person, easy to work with and easy to like. I will think of her with joy. Fred Himelwright, Kingsport, Tn.*

Fred Himelwright - August 18, 2022 at 09:31 PM

GT

“ I got to know Thelma and Ken through the East Stone Gap group when they had bi-monthly luncheons. Although I did not attend that school, I felt “adopted” by that amazing group when I drove my neighbor and a couple friends to Norton. Their energy, love and devotion to the area and funding of the school museum in Big Stone Gap greatly enhances the entire area. Thelma and I became email buddies and I will miss her greatly. Hugs and prayers to Terry.

Gail Tephabock - August 15, 2022 at 02:40 PM

LH

“ So sorry Terry I know she'll be greatly missed. Take care and prayers for peace and comfort. Leisa

Leisa Horne - August 14, 2022 at 06:45 PM

CU

“ Very sorry for this loss. She was a dedicated proponent of Black Lung Benefits for coal miners and handled her job well. Thank you for your service, Thelma.

Charles Upchurch - August 13, 2022 at 12:03 AM

CU

“ Charles Upchurch lit a candle in memory of Thelma (Sorah) Gilley



Charles Upchurch - August 13, 2022 at 12:00 AM



“ Love and prayers to you and your family.

Karen Moerlein - August 10, 2022 at 06:46 PM



“ *My deepest condolences, Michael, to you and your entire family.*

Marcia Quesenberry - August 10, 2022 at 04:11 PM

SF

“ *Shirley Fisher lit a candle in memory of
Thelma (Sorah) Gilley*



Shirley Fisher - August 09, 2022 at 02:21 AM

SM

“ *Shelia Mellon lit a candle in memory of
Thelma (Sorah) Gilley*



Shelia Mellon - August 08, 2022 at 08:07 PM

CS

“ *Crystal Stidham lit a candle in memory of
Thelma (Sorah) Gilley*



Crystal Stidham - August 08, 2022 at 02:28 PM

BW

You will be missed. You were a great inspiration to me

Barbara wood - August 10, 2022 at 05:15 PM

SR

“ *Sandra Rich lit a candle in memory of Thelma (Sorah) Gilley*



Sandra Rich - August 08, 2022 at 02:28 PM

SF

“ *Susie Fig lit a candle in memory of Thelma (Sorah) Gilley*



Susie Fig - August 07, 2022 at 02:35 PM