



Norma Lee Gibbons

November 12, 1930 - February 4, 2019

On November 12, 1930, in the small town of Osage, Oklahoma, Norma Lee Goodman was born. She lived there with her family until the pivotal year of 1948 when she graduated as valedictorian from Osage High School. She left there and moved to Cleveland, Tennessee, where she went to work as a proofreader at the Church of God of Prophecy Bible Place (now International Offices). While Norma was there, she met and married the tall, dark and handsome man with the million-dollar smile - S. E. "Buddy" Gibbons.

Following his work assignments, they lived several years in Knoxville, Tennessee, but spent most of their lives in Cleveland. Norma was a dedicated wife, mother and homemaker. She was shy and unassuming, but was always faithfully working behind the scenes to fulfill her responsibilities. She was generous and compassionate, often visiting, sharing, and feeding those who seemed to be overlooked by others. For many years, there seemed to be an endless stream of her children and their friends around her dining room table which was always full of country cooking. She was an excellent seamstress and made (and patched!) many clothes, not just for her family but for friends as well. In her earlier years, Norma used her beautiful penmanship to write letters and notes of encouragement to others. While she didn't continue professionally as a proofreader, it wasn't uncommon for her family to pick up a newspaper or magazine and find diacritical spelling and grammar correction markings on them. And it certainly wasn't unusual for them to be the recipients of her instructions on correct grammar!

Norma accepted the Lord as her Savior when she was a child and faithfully served Him until her death on February 4, 2019. She supported her local church, missionaries, neighbors and friends. She exemplified the Biblical description of a deacon's wife, supporting her husband in that role. She cared for him during his lengthy recuperation from a serious injury and then later as his health failed. Many times, she nursed sick children back to health. Proverbs 31 provides a word portrait of this virtuous woman, who conscientiously "watche[d] over the ways of her household" (v. 27).

Norma is predeceased by her husband of 57 years, S. E. Gibbons, parents George A. Goodman and Gracie Faye Goodman Carter, sister Blanche Carter, and brother Earl Fletcher. She is survived by her children Sterlene (Dwayne) Murray of Hendersonville, TN;

Debbie (Larry) Burchett of Knoxville, TN; Steve (Val) Gibbons of Niota, TN; and Scott Gibbons of Georgetown, TN; by her granddaughter Sarah (Daniel) Hobbs and great granddaughter Grace Hobbs, of Hendersonville, TN; by her sister Georgia Dixon of Bartlesville, OK; and by her stepbrother, Dale (Connie) Carter of Cleveland, OK.

A Remembrance of Life Service will be held for Norma at 3:00 P. M. Saturday, February 9, 2019 at Peerless Rd. Church of God of Prophecy with Bishop Brian Sutton, Pastor Adam Jones and Pastor David Taylor officiating. The committal service will follow at Hilcrest Memorial Gardens with Gary Houston, Perry Horner, Thomas Pavlou, Henry Wyatt, Henry Wyatt II and David Calfee serving as casket bearers. The family will receive friends from 1 until 3pm Saturday at the church. Jim Rush Funeral and Cremation Services North Ocoee St. Chapel has charge of the arrangements. We encourage you to share your memories and or condolences with the Gibbons family by going to Norma's memorial page at www.jimrushfuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery

Events

Hilcrest Memorial Gardens

Cleveland, TN,

FEB

9

Remembrance of Life Service

03:00PM

Peerless Road Church of God of Prophecy

3301 Peerless Rd NW, Cleveland, TN, US, 37312

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Jim Rush Funeral Homes - February 08 at 01:00 PM



“ 79 files added to the album LifeTributes



Jim Rush Funeral Homes - February 08 at 11:29 AM



“ I pray that God will give you comfort in knowing that she is now resting in the arms of her savior the one she has been longing to see. She has been waiting to see the one she loved more than her family the one she lived for the one she longed for and now she is with him living in prefer harmony never to know pain again.
God bless you David Wilson

David Wilson - February 08 at 12:58 AM



“ She was my girl. We enjoyed the same kind of music and we loved singing and praying together. I loved her stories and her kindness to me and my daughter. I will never forget her. Never. Ever. I went to visit her at The Waters a couple of months ago. I knew she was uncomfortable so I didn't stay long, but I did play some songs on the piano so she could hear. That was our thing. I miss her presence already. My love to you all, Steve, Scott, Sterlene, and Debbie.

Glynis Varlack Allgood - February 07 at 02:18 PM



“ When I was a high school student in Cleveland, several days before the General Assembly, I was blessed with the hospitality of Mrs. Gibbons. I well remember her huge smile and welcoming heart. My condolences and prayers to Sterlene and Dwayne and all the family. Jack Stewart (Franklin, Kentucky)

Jack Stewart - February 07 at 01:44 PM