



## Mrs. Vera Louise Miller

August 25, 1927 - September 29, 2024

MILLER, Mrs. Vera Louise - Age 97, passed away Sunday, September 29, 2024 at Majestic Care of Flushing Assisted Living. Family hour 1:00 PM Monday, October 7, 2024 at Fairhaven Seventh-Day Adventist Church, with funeral service commencing at 1:30 PM. Pastor Kee'Laun Crum, officiating, Pastor Steven Bramwell, Eulogist. Family and friends will assemble at the church 1:00 PM Monday. Mrs. Miller will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., and may be viewed from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Sunday. Vera Louise (Jones) Miller was born on August 25, 1927, in Flint, Michigan. It was fitting that this sixth of Eli and Helen Jones' nine children would, according to the National Weather Service, be born on a clear, 74° day. Her birth would symbolize a life clearly focused on faith, family, and service to others.

Her grounding in all three began in the early years of the Great Depression at the original "Flint Number 2" Church School, where she was the first kindergarten student and attended through eighth grade. Her mother and Mrs. Rosebud Miller prepared hot meals for the children to eat every day. Creative teachers, including Henry T. Saulter, used mesmerizing special effects to illustrate Bible stories, making powerful lifelong impressions on Vera and her classmates.

"We were family," Vera reminisced in an interview given earlier this year to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the school, which continues in operation to this day by the Fairhaven Seventh-Day Adventist (SDA) Church.

Vera went on to graduate from Mt. Morris High School in 1946, then attended Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in Berrien Springs, Michigan, before moving to Chicago, Illinois to work and join her older sisters, Gwendolyn and Pauline.

At the height of the Civil Rights Movement, Vera moved to Washington, D.C., joining her sister Ruby, where they attended the March on Washington in 1963. Eventually, she would work as a copy and photo editor for the Department of Defense, where she obtained a top security clearance during a critical moment in the Cold War. In addition, she began communicating regularly back to Flint with childhood friend, Carlyle Miller, widowed father of Maurice (“Butch”) and Carla. They married in suburban Washington D.C. on the night of January 27, 1973, and then returned together to Flint.

Back in Michigan, Vera found joy in raising a family, and active church and community involvement. Soon, Vera was serving as Sabbath School superintendent--a position into which she put great effort since she was convinced that Sabbath observation involved both worship and study. But her true passion was community service work. She and fellow church member, Matilda Winston, took their shared commitment to another level by forming “Love Unlimited,” through which they and other church volunteers distributed clothing and other essentials from the “Love Center,” a storefront on Saginaw Street. Vera later served as Fairhaven’s Community Services Director. In that capacity, she networked with other Adventist community service programs in mid-Michigan, eventually becoming the SDA Community Services Director for the Motor City Region. Vera was also one of Fairhaven’s first female local elders and was a proud member of the King’s Daughter; a religious, social and philanthropic organization.

Consistent with her life-long commitment to Christian education, Vera served as the office manager and administrator for Peterson Warren-Academy in Ecorse, Michigan, when Carlyle was named principal in the late 1970s. They later moved to Miami, Florida in 1980, where Carlyle served as principal of Miami Adventist Junior Academy. When they retired a few years later, Carlyle

and Vera returned north to cold weather, desiring to be with family again despite Miami's warmer climate.

Through her early years, Vera developed her special passion and talent for sewing. It was her unique gift, and emerged as an art form that family and friends would both admire and benefit from the rest of her life. She loved to clothe herself and her family, and even taught sewing classes at church school. She designed and created stunning quilts, unique African-themed dolls, and decorative aprons. As one of her many church ministries, she created decorative pouches, which were used to hold welcoming messages, religious books and pamphlets. She went on to sew into her nineties.

Vera also loved to travel both domestically and internationally, exploring the world with several of her sisters on trips to Hawaii, Spain, Greece, and Italy. And, along with her sister Lottie, enjoyed visiting Carla, while she was living in Zurich, Switzerland.

Finally, Vera emphasized to Butch and Carla—and anyone else who would listen—just how much faith, family, and service can sustain you throughout life. She knew this to her core and, through her faith and the grace of God, successfully overcame cancer— twice. She served as a mentor and role model to young women who were undergoing breast cancer treatment. She provided counsel (solicited or otherwise) to family and church members as needed. She became the matriarch of the Miller and Jones families.

Vera was preceded in death by husband, Carlyle; parents, Eli and Helen Jones; and siblings, Pauline Taylor, Alec Jones, Helen Friend, Gwendolyn Smith, Ruby Jones, and Sylvester Jones.

Vera Louise Miller leaves to celebrate her life: children, Maurice and Carla (Kenneth Johnson); and beloved grandsons, Bryant and Ezekiel Johnson; sisters, Lottie Harris and Esther Mattox; and a host of loving nieces and nephews, spanning several generations, in both the Jones and Miller families.

John 14:1-3 "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in

me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

Funeral services may be viewed at: [fairhavensda.org/live-stream.html](http://fairhavensda.org/live-stream.html).

# Previous Events

## Viewing

OCT 6. 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-MOON (6666)  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
<http://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

## Family hour

OCT 7. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Fairhaven Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
G-1379 W. Louis Ave.  
Flint, MI 48505  
<http://fairhavensda.org/index.htm>

## Funeral Service

OCT 7. 1:30 PM (ET)

Fairhaven Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
G-1379 W. Louis Ave.  
Flint, MI 48505  
<http://fairhavensda.org/index.htm>

# Tribute Wall

DC

“ Dorothy Caldwell-Richardson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller



Dorothy Caldwell-Richardson - October 21, 2024 at 08:57 AM

LT

“ Lavita From Tennessee lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller



Lavita From Tennessee - October 12, 2024 at 02:00 PM

VS

“ Vera Styles lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller



Vera Styles - October 06, 2024 at 02:16 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.



October 06, 2024 at 10:25 AM

TX

“ Tracee, Tim and Xavier planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.

Tracee, Tim and Xavier - October 06, 2024 at 10:25 AM

LS

“ Larisa, Alex, AJ and Andrew Sion planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.

Larisa, Alex, AJ and Andrew Sion - October 05, 2024 at 09:38 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.



October 05, 2024 at 09:38 AM

JR

“ She was a very sweet person loved taking care of her the lil time I did. She even adopted my daughter Egypt. U are missed love Egypt and Janell

Janell S Robinson - October 05, 2024 at 09:38 AM

TC

“ *The Ezekiel Cousins purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.*



---

**The Ezekiel Cousins** - October 04, 2024 at 06:40 PM

TF

“ *The Ezekiel Sisters & Families purchased the Vivid Recollections for the family of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.*



---

**The Ezekiel Sisters & Families** - October 04, 2024 at 05:26 PM

UF

“ *UMG Business & Legal Family purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.*



---

**UMG Business & Legal Family** - October 04, 2024 at 11:40 AM

UF

“ *UMG Business and Legal Affairs Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.*

---

**UMG Business and Legal Affairs Family** - October 04, 2024 at 11:37 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.*



---

October 04, 2024 at 11:37 AM



“ *A wonderful person she had many walks and conversations I will cherish my a]Ron she made me forever condolences to the family*



---

**Virginia Bullockgray** - October 04, 2024 at 11:11 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.*



---

October 04, 2024 at 10:17 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.*



---

October 04, 2024 at 08:35 AM

CP

“ COREY PIERCE lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller



COREY PIERCE - October 04, 2024 at 01:20 AM

AJ

“ I always enjoyed talking with Aunt Vera. She was one of the kindest, sweetest person. I last visited her in July 2022. She had won a Kit Kat in a game at the home. She gave me her prize. I kept it for quite a while just to hold on to the sweet memory of her stories and laughs we shared that day. She often would send messages through my mother to say hello to me and my family. I will miss her beautiful soul.



Angie Jones - October 03, 2024 at 10:03 AM

MF

“ Michael and Angie Jones and Family purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.



Michael and Angie Jones and Family - October 03, 2024 at 09:50 AM

GJ

“ *Gwinda Jefferson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller*



**Gwinda Jefferson** - October 02, 2024 at 09:49 PM

LB

“ *Sorry to hear about the passing of Mrs. Vera Miller. Knew her from Dr Gist office, very sweet lady. Praying for the family in this time of sorrow.*



**Lisa Blakley** - October 02, 2024 at 06:17 PM

LS

“ *I LOVE YOU AUNT VERA YOU WE'RE A AWESOME AUNTIE YOU WE'RE ALWAYS LOVING AND KIND RIH AUNTIE*

**Lorna Scott** - October 01, 2024 at 10:25 PM

CJ

“ *Cynthia Y. Jones lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller*



**Cynthia Y. Jones** - October 01, 2024 at 06:02 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.



October 01, 2024 at 05:05 PM



“ Carolyn Brezzell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller



Carolyn Brezzell - October 01, 2024 at 12:23 PM



“ Your friends and co-workers at Merck planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.

Your friends and co-workers at Merck - October 01, 2024 at 12:06 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller.



October 01, 2024 at 12:06 PM

CD

“ This is a sad day for me. I LOVED talking to Sis. Vera. The "Jones Girl's" have been a part of my life, all of my life. Sis. Vera gave me an apron 4-5 years ago and every time I reach for it, I smile. Praying God's mercy and grace on Carla, Maurice and the entire Jones, Miller and Maddox families. I love you guys!

---

**Cynthia (Anderson) Davis** - October 01, 2024 at 09:18 AM

LM

“ LORI MCBRAYER lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vera Louise Miller



---

**LORI MCBRAYER** - September 30, 2024 at 03:22 PM