



Flora G. Sipes

September 4, 1930 - May 21, 2022

Flora Pearl Gauthier Sipes left this earth to rejoin her beloved Allen for eternity on Saturday, May 21st, 2022. She was 91 years old.

Flora was born on September 4th, 1930 in Pawtucket Rhode Island to Rosario Gauthier and Hilda Boday Gauthier. She loved to share memories of growing up in Pawtucket in a three-story walk-up on Sabine Street. She attended Our Lady of Consolation where she enjoyed singing in the school choir and had a major role in a school play that was performed entirely in French. She also attended Tabbutt-Hubbard Business School. She met her future husband Allen while attending a dance with her best friend Rolland, in nearby Newport RI where he was stationed with the US Navy. They were married on August 16, 1952, and were married a total of 60 years before Allen's passing in 2012. Flora and Allen moved their family in 1969 from New York to a rural area outside of Troutman, North Carolina to be closer to Allen's family and live a simpler life. They had a beautiful life here while they raised their four children. Flora was able to enjoy all of the aspects of country living she wasn't able to experience in her small childhood town of Pawtucket. While three of their children attended Western Carolina University Allen and Flora fell in love with the mountains so in 1996 they moved, for the last time, to Asheville North Carolina.

Family and faith were the most important things in Flora's life. She was devout in her Catholic faith teaching CCD every Sunday and working as the church secretary at St. Therese Catholic Church in Mooresville, NC while her children

were growing up. After moving to Asheville Flora and Allen were active members of St. Eugene's Catholic Church.

Flora is survived by her son, Robert Sipes and his wife Alison Sipes, and daughters, Mary Smith and husband Eddie Smith, of Asheville and Patricia Dixson and her husband Michael Dixson of Mooresville; grandchildren, Sara Smith, Melissa Collins, Zachary Sipes, Jake Smith, Katie Smith, Nicholas Smith, Ashley Mendoza, Patrick Dixson, Aubrey Dixson, and Logan Dixson. She is also survived by 6 great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents and husband Flora was predeceased by her daughter Dona Ann Bishop of Pfafftown, NC and brothers Clovis and Ronald Gauthier, and sisters Bella and Doris of Pawtucket, RI.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Land of Sky Post-Polo Resource Support Group, 97 Holly Hill Dr. Candler, NC 28715.

Previous Events

Interment of Cremated Remains

JUN 9. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

St. Eugene's Catholic Church Columbarium
72 Culvern Street
Asheville, NC 28804

Funeral Mass

JUN 9. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Eugene Catholic Church
72 Culvern Street
Asheville, NC 28801
<http://www.steugene.org>

Tribute Wall



“ *Flora G. Sipes*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *Flo and Al lived across the street from us in Hicksville , Long Island , N.Y. back in the 50's and 60's. What a joy to have known them. Sadie and Marty (my Parents) enjoyed their company so very much. They raised a beautiful family and they were in contact over the years. Flo and Al had a great sense of humor too. When needed , I was fortunate to look after "Danny" their dog, while they were still living in Hicksville A great dog!!! I tried to get in touch w/ Robert. Mary and Donna not long ago but not successful. I saved every letter that Flo sent to me.. We did see them right b/f they left for their new home yrs ago..... I sometimes tagged along w/ Flo for mass at St. Ignatious Loyola . Flora will be reunited w/ the love of her life, Allen God Bless, I am sure along w/ many of our neighbors who have already passed , Sadie and Marty will be glad to see you....Lovingly, Lorraine (Visco) Dombroski*

Lorraine Visco Dombroski - August 08, 2022 at 12:51 PM



“ *I was so sad to learn of Flora's passing. She had such a warm presence and great sparkle. Offering deepest sympathy to you and prayers for peace.*

-Jennifer Brodersen

Jennifer Brodersen - July 01, 2022 at 07:43 PM

CJ

“ It is saddening news of Flora's passing. A woman with a ready smile and a quick wit. We bonded over her daughter Mary who I knew from the school where she taught and was one of my daughter's teachers. Flora was a very sweet woman and the world is a little less bright without her. I have missed not seeing her at St. Eugene's the past few years. She and Al are now reunited and I know her family will greatly miss her, as will her friends and church family. We will take comfort in happy memories and remember that sweet lady with the bright, warm smile, a kind word and a generous heart who graced us by knowing her.

Carol Jordan

Carol S Jordan - June 06, 2022 at 04:31 PM

ES

“ An amazing woman who will definitely be missed. Flora was a spunky lady and I'm glad I had the opportunity to know her. Love to her family.



Edrianna Stilwell - June 02, 2022 at 12:01 PM

MS

“ 4 files added to the album *Memories of Flora*



Mary Smith - June 02, 2022 at 08:44 AM

LY

“ *I was so sorry to hear of Flora's passing. It's just like someone turned out the light on the world. I first met this wonderful woman and her sweet husband at a Polio Support Group meeting and I immediately fell in love with both of them. Flora loved our group and all of us loved her too. We will all miss her. I am praying for all of you and may God Bless you.*



Lynn Young - June 01, 2022 at 03:37 PM

GR

“ Dear Family of Flora Sipes,
On behalf of the St. Eugene Church
Bereavement Ministry, I would like to express
my condolences for the loss of your loved
one. Please know that our Ministry will be
praying for your family during this time of sadness. Please be in
touch with us if there is anything we can do to help your family.



Blessings,
Ginny Raviotta
St. Eugene Church Bereavement Ministry

Ginny Raviotta - May 31, 2022 at 06:08 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for
the family of Flora G. Sipes.



May 29, 2022 at 06:55 PM



“ *What a beautiful and vibrant person Flora was. She made friends with everyone she met. The first time I met her was at one of our church's picnics. We had survived one of the most dreaded diseases of all times, polio. We conversed and compared to each other about our struggles and difficulties going to school, church, etc. She and Allen would attend our Post Polio Support Group and we would catch up on all the news and meet new friends who were going through the same symptoms as we were. We would go to lunch together and always had a comforting and delightful conversation. She and Allen attended one of our family get togethers and we had a wonderful time singing, eating, and just getting to know one another. Lee (she named her boyfriend) and I loved Flora very much and will miss her beautiful smile and outgoing personality.
Rest in Peace my friend.*

Gail Burkhart - May 29, 2022 at 02:49 PM

LO

“ *Mary, to you and your family, please know how sad I am to hear your Mom has left you, but I'm sure she is now at peace with your wonderful Dad. I lost touch with her when I became caregiver for my husband, A very time consuming job.
Love to you all. Lorraine Peterson*

Lorraine - May 29, 2022 at 11:35 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Flora G. Sipes.*



May 29, 2022 at 08:41 AM