



Dorothy Lee Cross Gatling



Dorothy Lee Cross Gatling

Suffolk, VA

01.02.1924 - 07.03.2019

Birthplace: Carson, VA

Dorothy Lee Cross Gatling was born on January 2, 1924 in Carson, Virginia to Henry Parker Cross and Mary Louie Winfield, the third of their six children. She passed away on July 3, 2019 at the age of 95.

Her family moved to Petersburg, Virginia and later to Suffolk, Virginia. She graduated from Suffolk High School in 1941. Dorothy married Wilfred Commander Gatling, Jr., her high school sweetheart, on December 26, 1947 and they had two children. Wilfred was the love of her life, and they celebrated 53 years of marriage together.

She retired from the Virginia Employment Commission after over twenty years of service. She was active in many civic organizations. Dorothy was most involved in the work at First Baptist Church, Suffolk where she taught Sunday school and was a leader in the women's missionary work. In her later years of life she was committed to knitting pot holders for the women in Kenya. She made hundreds of these pot holders.

Dorothy is preceded in death by her mother and father; her husband, Wilfred; three sisters, Emily Dalton, Virginia Cross, and Ann Beaton; and her brother Henry Cross. She is survived by her daughter Patricia Gatling Middlebrooks and husband Charlie; her son Wilfred Commander Gatling, III and wife Cathy; four grandchildren, Charles Middlebrooks (wife Chloe), Benjamin Gatling (wife Mandy), Lauren Hamblet (husband Jeff), and Cameron Gatling; five great grandchildren, Grayson, Kale, Aram, Evan, and Jacob; her sister Mildred Beauter; four nieces and four nephews.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, July 6, 2019 at 1 PM with Dr. Thurman R. Hayes and Rev. Charles Thompson officiating at R.W. Baker & Co. Funeral Home and Crematory, 509 W. Washington St., Suffolk. Visitation will be held one-hour prior the funeral service. Interment is private. Condolences may be offered at RWBakerFH.com.

Visitation

Start Time: Saturday, July 6, 2019 - 12:00pm

End Time: Saturday, July 6, 2019 - 01:00pm

R.W. Baker & Company Funeral Home

509 W Washington St

Suffolk, VA 23434

United States

Cemetery

Start Time: Saturday, July 6, 2019 - 01:00pm

End Time: Saturday, July 6, 2019 - 02:00pm

R.W. Baker & Company Funeral Home

509 W Washington St

Suffolk, VA 23434

United States

Google Maps Link

[Directions to R.W. Baker & Company Funeral Home](#)

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Guestbook

Bruce Hagwood

Fri, 07/05/2019 -
11:55am

Wilfred,

So very sorry to hear of the passing of your mother. She was a solid figure and pillar at First Baptist. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Bruce Hagwood

Bruce Hagwood

Bobby and Faye Beale

Sat, 07/06/2019 -
10:37am

The Gatlings have been part of our lives for so many years. Our parents friends first and then as children we were welcomed into each other's lives and our spouses and children were welcomed as time passed. A constant friendship filled with love, encouragement and so many more blessings. I am reminded of this saying when I think of both Mr and Mrs Gatling - "Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for awhile and leave footprints on our heart and we are never ever the same". The Gatling footprints are some of the sweetest memories. I'm sure when we reunite, she'll have one of those delicious cakes for us and he will continue to tell about his love for Duke. We will continue to keep each of you in our thoughts and prayers.

Bobby and Faye Beale

**Candy and Joe
Nickert**

**Mon, 07/08/2019 -
04:11pm**

Wilfred and Family,

So sorry to hear of the loss of your dear mom. missed her in recent years in the pew in front of us at FBC (senior row - unfortunately only 1 senior left that sits there now - Ms. Lanning).

You're in our thoughts and prayers,

love, candy and joe nickert

Candy and Joe Nickert

Romel Perry

**Sat, 07/13/2019 -
12:31pm**

Wilfred & Cathy, we are so sorry to hear your Mother, she was a shining light at FBC, So beautiful & gracious, in everyway! I know she is happy to be in the presence of our Lord, & your Father. May your sweet memories bring you comfort.

Romel Perry

**Carolyn Gatling
Lassiter**

**Sun, 07/14/2019 -
02:24pm**

Patricia and Wilfred, I am so sorry to learn of your mother's passing! She was such a sweet lady and will be missed! I've always fondly remembered Sundays at First Baptist up in the balcony with your parents and you sitting up front and know your parents are united once again with God. You are in my thoughts and prayers!

Carolyn Gatling Lassiter



R.W. Baker & Company
Funeral Home and Crematory