



## Virginia L. (Terry) Gray

October 17, 1924 - September 18, 2024

Virginia Lerea (Terry) Gray, age 99 years, a resident of rural Simpson, Illinois, passed away Wednesday evening, September 18, 2024, at 10:20 P.M. at her home.

Virginia was born October 17, 1924 at the family home in the Eddyville community in Pope County Illinois. She was the daughter of Hal and Annie (Palmer) Terry.

On March 14, 1947, Virginia was united in marriage to Thomas Glenn Gray at the Gilead Cumberland Presbyterian Church near Simpson. He preceded her in death on May 30, 2006. Together, Tom and Virginia leave a family legacy of almost 180 descendants.

Virginia is survived by: her children – Terry (Lida) Gray of Simpson, Illinois, Margaret (John) Tanner of Simpson, Illinois, Nancy (Gary) Graham of Benton, Kentucky, Cara (Steve) Crabb of Herod, Illinois, and Dena (Steve) Newcomb of Simpson, Illinois; 22 grandchildren – Penny McCormick, Katrina Snell, Tonia Logeman, Tyler Gray, Terra Lipe, Tom Gray, Tamra Khron, Wendy Ford, Jay White, Johni Stoneburner, John David Tanner, Andrea Saltzman Milner, Jessica Smith, John Byron Cox, Betsy Prater, Jeremy Wallace, Jaylynn Fromm, Laura Winkleman, Stephen Crabb, Stephanie Harner, Ryan Newcomb, and Kaylee Adams; 80 great grandchildren; and 33 great-great

grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, Virginia was preceded in death by her siblings – Janet Jackson, Vera Lou Hazel, Bill Palmer, and Lillian Gable.

Virginia was the former owner of the Empress Beauty Salon in Vienna. She loved to travel and did so extensively both in the United States and in a number of foreign countries. For over twenty years, she coordinated bus tours throughout the United States and operated Virginia Gray Tours. She also sold Tupperware for many years.

Virginia was a skilled quilter and had handcrafted over 50 quilts. She was a competitive word game player. She excelled at crossword puzzles, was an expert Scrabble player, and on numerous occasions she was Champion of “Words With Friends.” Her family lovingly recalled that Virginia wore out 3 I-pads playing word games and made friends around the globe through “Words With Friends.” Virginia also enjoyed researching family history and studying genealogy.

Virginia had attended the Gilead Cumberland Presbyterian Church near Simpson, as well as the New Liberty Church near Eddyville.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday morning, September 21, 2024, at 10 A.M. at New Liberty Church, 20 Old Tannery Road, Golconda, Illinois. Pastor Tom Gray, Virginia’s grandson, will officiate. A eulogy will be delivered by Virginia’s son, Terry Gray.

Burial will be in the Gilead Cemetery near Simpson.

Visitation will be held Friday, September 20, 2024, from 5 P.M. until 8 P.M. at New Liberty Church.

Memorials may be made to New Liberty Church, c/o Linda Aly, 242 Hazel Road, Simpson, Illinois 62985.

# Cemetery Details

## Gilead Cemetery

4385 Gilead Church Road  
Simpson, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 20. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

New Liberty Church  
20 Old Tannery Road  
Golconda, IL 62938

## Service

SEP 21. 10:00 AM (CT)

New Liberty Church  
20 Old Tannery Road  
Golconda, IL 62938

# Tribute Wall



“ *Bailey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray*



**Bailey Funeral Home** - September 24, 2024 at 01:32 PM

BS

“ *Our condolences to the family. We knew Virginia when she lived in and visited Denton, Tx. It was a treasure to experience her hospitality when our quartet and extras were in Simpson many years ago. In love, Jerry & Brenda Savage*

**Brenda Savage** - September 21, 2024 at 04:30 PM

SA

“ *May the LORD hold you in his loving arms and confront you in your time of sadness. She has gone home now, no more pain no more sorrow. Don't be sad you will see her again in Heaven. GOD bless all the family. LOVE Terry and Sue Alsip.*



**Sue Alsip** - September 21, 2024 at 10:16 AM

EK

“ Elizabeth Kerley lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray



Elizabeth Kerley - September 21, 2024 at 12:26 AM

JA

“ Jeff Aly sent a virtual gift in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray



Jeff Aly - September 20, 2024 at 11:59 PM

SE

“ We took a trip to Europe with Virginia, Margaret and Care in 1987 and she teased me that all I did was sleep the whole time & couldn't have seen much!

Sharon Emery - September 20, 2024 at 08:10 PM



“ Teresa Heffernan lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray



Teresa Heffernan - September 20, 2024 at 12:34 PM

JF

“ Virginia was truly an amazing lady and dear lifelong friend to our family. There are countless numbers of people whose lives she touched in such a positive way. What a blessing. We are going to miss her. We celebrate her life with joy and are so glad we will see her again in Heaven someday. What a glad reunion that will be. We love the Gray family and are lifting each of you up in prayer. 🙏❤️💕  
“When my spirit clothed immortal wings its flight to realms of day, this my song through endless ages, ‘Jesus led me all the way’.” 🕊️



Love and prayers —  
Jim and Ruth Flanagan

---

**Jim and Ruth Flanagan** - September 20, 2024 at 12:08 PM

EC

“ Ernest C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray.

---

**Ernest C.** - September 20, 2024 at 12:03 PM

SL

“ When I worked for Virginia she was such a great boss and person. Always could make me laugh. Really like this Lady!



---

**Steve&Kathy(Whiteside) Lay** - September 20, 2024 at 11:32 AM

DB

“ Dorothy Bacon lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray



Dorothy Bacon - September 20, 2024 at 09:25 AM

TR

“ Teresa Richerson lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray



Teresa Richerson - September 20, 2024 at 09:17 AM

MH

“ Martha Henshaw-Crane lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray



Martha Henshaw-Crane - September 20, 2024 at 09:11 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray.



September 20, 2024 at 09:09 AM

TG

“ *The Grand and great grandchildren planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray.*

**The Grand and great grandchildren** - September 20, 2024 at 09:05 AM

TG

“ *The Grand and great grandchildren purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray.*



**The Grand and great grandchildren** - September 20, 2024 at 09:05 AM

SG

“ *Sue Goddard lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray*



**Sue Goddard** - September 20, 2024 at 09:02 AM

BR

“ *Bobby Rentfro lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray*



**Bobby Rentfro** - September 20, 2024 at 03:17 AM

JS

“ John Slack sent a virtual gift in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray



John Slack - September 19, 2024 at 11:06 PM

CW

“ Clearon & Jane Wright sent a virtual gift in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray



Clearon & Jane Wright - September 19, 2024 at 08:07 PM

CW

Sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. May God comfort you all at this time.

Clearon and Jane Ross Wright

Clearon & Jane Wright - September 19, 2024 at 08:09 PM

DW

“ Don, Rose , and Loretta Wilson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray.

Don, Rose , and Loretta Wilson - September 19, 2024 at 07:43 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray.*



---

September 19, 2024 at 07:43 PM



“ *David And Ellen Hill lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray*



---

David and Ellen Hill - September 19, 2024 at 07:13 PM



“ *What a great life she had! She will live on in the lives of her many family members. I know several of you and extend my sincerest condolences to all of you. I know you are proud of the good woman she was.*

---

DEBBIE HORN - September 19, 2024 at 06:45 PM



“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Will be praying for your family.*



---

Jan and Ben Weston - September 19, 2024 at 04:44 PM

LM

“ Larry And Carolyn McGill lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray



Larry and Carolyn McGill - September 19, 2024 at 04:19 PM

EH

“ Ernie & Tricia Henshaw lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray



Ernie & Tricia Henshaw - September 19, 2024 at 02:43 PM

BT

“ Becky Turley lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray



Becky Turley - September 19, 2024 at 01:41 PM

SR

“ Sorry family and many precious memories. She was a friend an caring lady Great boss. You will be missed by many . RIP



Sandy & Bob Richardson - September 19, 2024 at 01:39 PM

NB

“ *Nancy Breeden lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray*



---

**Nancy Breeden** - September 19, 2024 at 01:25 PM

BJ

“ *Barbara Jeffress lit a candle in memory of Virginia L. (Terry) Gray*



---

**Barbara jeffress** - September 19, 2024 at 01:08 PM