



Ruth Lucas Grissom

November 8, 1941 - January 3, 2020

Ruth Gast Lucas Grissom (Russellville) – Ruth Grissom, 78, passed away peacefully at her home on January 3, 2020. She is preceded in death by her parents, Elizabeth Wood and William (Bill) Lucas, her husband, Jimmy Don Grissom, her brother, Bill Lucas, and her sister, Emma Lucas Kingston.

Born in Russellville on November 8, 1941, the second of Liz and Bill's three children, all born ten years apart, Ruth became the apple of her big sister Emma's eye and became like another mother to her baby brother, Bill, when he was born ten years later. The three Lucas siblings, while not close in age, were exceptionally close to each other and remained best friends all of their lives. A quintessential, yet non-traditional, childhood in the Lucas home made Ruth into the extraordinary woman she was.

Ruth left Russellville only for a short while to attend the University of Alabama after graduating as a member of the Russellville High School Class of 1959. As it turned out, an Auburn boy, Jimmy Don Grissom, was able to lure her back to their hometown. Ruth and Jimmy Don were married in December 1961 and Ruth began fulfilling her true calling, as mom, to Ginger, Jim, and Andrea.

Ruth may have given birth to three children, but she was considered to be a mom by so many. Her welcoming and loving demeanor drew her children's

friends to her as well as so many others throughout the years. No matter where home was for Ruth, her door was always open, the fridge was stocked full, and her heart was willing and ready to take on the cares, concerns, and burdens of everyone who entered her life.

After her children were in school, Ruth began a 22 year-long career in Human Resources with the VF Corporation/Lee Company. Her nurturing nature and ability to converse with anyone, made this role perfect for her. Long after she retired, Ruth was still considered a friend by so many former coworkers and their families. Everyone that met Ruth was drawn to her.

Ruth was a lifelong member of the Russellville First United Methodist Church. She was a supporter of the VF Corporation Corporate Olympics, the Susan G. Komen Foundation, the FAME Girl's Ranch, and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. Ruth also volunteered her time as an Election Inspector/Poll Worker and was an avid supporter of the Democratic Party and Democratic candidates.

Ruth leaves behind to continue her legacy: daughters Ginger (Kenny) Tyra of Cartersville, Georgia, and Andrea (Tim) Sornberger of Spruce Pine, Alabama, and son, Jim Grissom of Russellville. She is also survived by and will forever be adored by her grandchildren, Jay Grissom, Jenna Sornberger, Meg Sornberger, Olivia Tyra, Jeremy Tyra and Kendall Tyra Turbyfill. Ruth is also survived by three great-grandchildren, a host of cherished nieces and nephews, and more friends than could ever be counted.

Services will be held at her beloved Russellville First United Methodist Church on Tuesday with visitation from 12:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. and funeral services at 2:00 P.M. Officiating will be Rev. Bo Lloyd. Burial at her family's plot at Knights of Pythias Cemetery will follow.

Pallbearers will be Don Garrard, Jimmy Byars, Fred Pilgrim, Charles Forman, Ken Craddock, Joe Porter, Buzz McKinney, Zackie Bradford, Andy Wright, Howard Hendrix, Dan Miller, and Wade Hagedorn.

While flowers are appreciated, donations may be made in Ruth's memory to the FAME Girl's Ranch or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Pinkard Funeral Home, Russellville, is directing.

Cemetery Details

Knights of Pythias

Clay Avenue
Russellville, AL 35653

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 7. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church-Russellville
311 Jackson Avenue North
Russellville, AL

Funeral Service

JAN 7. 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church-Russellville
311 Jackson Avenue North
Russellville, AL

Tribute Wall



“ *Pinkard Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ruth Lucas Grissom*



Pinkard Funeral Home - January 06, 2020 at 01:15 PM

JP

A beautiful southern lady who will be missed.

Jennie Prince - January 09, 2020 at 12:34 AM

JG

My condolences and prayers to the family of Ruth Grissom.

Janie Gholston - January 09, 2020 at 04:44 PM

RJ

“ *MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY IN THE PASSING OF YOUR MOTHER AND GRANDMOTHER. I ONLY MET HER A FEW TIMES BUT SHE WAS PRECIOUS AS YOU KNOW. SHE WAS A VERY GOOD FRIEND TO MY BROTHER MARK AT THE LEE PLANT AND I KNEW OF HER BY HEARING BILL IN SCHOOL TELL OF HIS SWEET SISTER. THEN I MET HER WHEN I HAD JAY IN KINDERGARTEN AT PHIL CAMPBELL. THEN I KNEW FOR MYSELF SHE WAS ONE OF THE BEST! MY HEART GOES OUT TO ALL OF YOU. REGINA SMITH JACKSON PC KINDERGARTEN AND RHS 1970.*

REGINA JACKSON - January 07, 2020 at 12:36 PM

GT

Thank you, Regina!

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:11 PM

TG

“ *Sorry for your loss. T. D. Green worked with Jimmy Don.*



Thomas Green - January 07, 2020 at 07:31 AM

GT

Thank you, Mr. Green.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:11 PM



“ *I'm so sad that the world has lost such a kind and loving soul. My prayers are with each of you during this difficult time. Much love to each of you!!*

Teresa Tullos Prinzo - January 06, 2020 at 01:35 PM

GT

Thank you, Teresa.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:12 PM

DU

“ *A Great Lady and Wonderful neighbor. The Upton family shares your grief and offers their most sincere condolences.*

David S. Upton - January 06, 2020 at 01:32 PM

GT

Thank you, David.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:13 PM



“ 45 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Pinkard Funeral Home - January 06, 2020 at 01:03 PM

JN

“ *Sharing in you Sorrow. With Deepest Sympathy.*
Joyce Dale Nelson



Joyce Dale Nelson - January 06, 2020 at 10:59 AM

GT

Thank you, Joyce.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:13 PM

WE

“ *Such a kind and sweet lady.
Prayers for the family* 🕯️



Wendy Ergle - January 06, 2020 at 09:53 AM

GT

Thank you, Wendy.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:14 PM

JU

“ *JudyTaylor lit a candle in memory of Ruth
Lucas Grissom*



JudyTaylor - January 06, 2020 at 08:43 AM

GT

Thank you, Judy.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:14 PM

LB

“ *Linda Blackburn lit a candle in memory of
Ruth Lucas Grissom*



Linda Blackburn - January 06, 2020 at 12:12 AM

GT

Thank you, Linda.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:14 PM

MT

“ *Mike And Kim Tyra lit a candle in memory of Ruth Lucas Grissom*



mike and kim tyra - January 05, 2020 at 09:50 PM

GT

Thank you, Mike & Kim.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:15 PM

DS

“ *Desiree South lit a candle in memory of Ruth Lucas Grissom*



Desiree South - January 05, 2020 at 08:34 PM

GT

Thank you, Desiree.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:15 PM

RP

“ Rhonda Price lit a candle in memory of Ruth Lucas Grissom



Rhonda price - January 05, 2020 at 07:58 PM

GT

Thank you, Rhonda.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:15 PM

LC

“ Sending prayers for the family during this difficult time. Ruth was a beautiful person inside and out and will be greatly missed! 🙏



Laura Campbell Cain - January 05, 2020 at 06:07 PM

GT

Thank you, Laura.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:16 PM

DW

“ Debra Britton Winsted lit a candle in memory of Ruth Lucas Grissom



Debra Britton Winsted - January 05, 2020 at 03:37 PM

GT

Thank you, Debra.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:16 PM



“ *Mary Flippen sent a virtual gift in memory of Ruth Lucas Grissom*



Mary Flippen - January 04, 2020 at 10:29 PM

GT

Thank you, Mary.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:16 PM



“ *Mary Flippen lit a candle in memory of Ruth Lucas Grissom*



Mary Flippen - January 04, 2020 at 10:27 PM

GT

Thank you, Mary.

Ginger Grissom Tyra - February 08, 2020 at 03:17 PM