



Wymalene Johnson Gray

February 16, 1933 - August 5, 2021

Wymalene Gray of Newport, TN passed away at the age of 88 on Aug 5, 2021 from complications with Alzheimer's Disease. She was a dedicated member of First Christian Church of Newport and worked as a bookkeeper for most of her life, first at Wall Tube and Metal Products, and later at Newport Grammar School, until retiring in 2005. A passionate reader, Wymalene shared that love with her sisters, Pearl and Wanell; the trio regularly traded books, delighting in many wonderful stories together over the years. Wymalene, like her daughter, Melanie, was an avid sports fan, and especially loved her Lady Vols, traveling with friends and family to see them play over the years. Wymalene was married to her husband, Ruel Gray for 58 years prior to his passing in 2007, and lived next door to her mother and father for many of those years. The cherished matriarch of her family, Wymalene's treasured traditions and memories of celebrating them together live on in the homes of her daughter, her grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Wymalene is preceded in death by her husband Ruel Gray, her daughter, Ruelena Proffitt, mother and father Henderson and Bertha Johnson, brothers R.A and Clayton Johnson and sisters, Pearl Gentry and Wanell Gray Masters, and daughter in law Henrietta Proffitt.

She was cared for by her dear friend Diane Askew, Wellington Manor in Newport, TN, Morning Point in Knoxville, TN and UT Hospice.

She is survived by her daughter and son in law, Melanie and Dennis Overton of Knoxville, TN, son in law Carrol Proffitt of Newport, grandson Jonathan

Overton of Knoxville, TN and granddaughter Ashley Overton of Knoxville, TN, grandson Aaron Proffitt and wife Melissa of Newport, great grandchildren Kaylyn, Reece, and Payton Proffitt of Newport, TN.

Graveside service will be 11:00 am Monday, August 9, 2021 at Resthaven Memorial Gardens with Martin Stump officiating. Interment will follow.

Friends and relatives may sign at www.manesfuneralhome.com.

Manes Funeral Home in charge.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 9. 11:00 AM.

Resthaven Memorial Gardens

Tribute Wall



“ *Wymalene Johnson Gray*

November 17, 2022 at 06:00 PM



“ *Aaron, ...myself and JJ are very sorry for the loss of your grandmother..*

Prayers for you and your family during this time of grief

Tonie Lane

JJ Johnson

Tonie Lane - August 10, 2021 at 02:02 PM



“ *Wymalene and I spent happy times together at Newport Grammar School, at school meetings and at the home she so loved. We sat in the school lounge for hours working together on school budgets and trying to find the “missing dime.” She always refused the dime I offered and wouldn’t stop searching until her books balanced. During the five years that we worked together, we laughed, cried and shared stories about our families. (I, too, had twins.) She adored her family and talked about them constantly. Wymalene never stopped missing the beloved daughter she lost—also her sweet husband, sisters and brothers. I visited her at assisted living and took her candy, remembering her sweet tooth. She always met me with a smile and knew me. I cherish our friendship and send my heartfelt sympathy. I pray for comfort and peace. Wymalene was special, one of a kind.*

Janyce Westerman - August 09, 2021 at 11:30 AM

JB

“ So sorry for your loss! Prayers for your family in this great loss.



Jimmy and Charlotte Blazer - August 08, 2021 at 07:01 PM

MA

“ Marian Anderson lit a candle in memory of Wymalene Johnson Gray



marian anderson - August 08, 2021 at 04:23 PM

EA

“ Many prayers for your family during this time. So sorry for your loss.
- Emma & Shane Allen (Addison & Ellis)

Emma & Shane Allen - August 08, 2021 at 02:05 PM

 Shelia McGaha

“ Melanie, I remember your mom, Kevin and you. It has been a long time I was with my mom. Prayers will be sent up for you and your family. By the way I am Shelia Gregory Mcgaha my parents were George and Eula my brother is Barry Gregory. I sent him a text about your mom

Shelia McGaha - August 08, 2021 at 11:51 AM

JL

“ Melanie, I am so sorry to learn about Wymalene. For a while I went to Wellington once a week and played the piano for an hour. Wymalene and I spent some happy times remembering all those years we spent together. She was a fine lady and a good friend. I will miss her.
Joan Lambert

Joan Lambert - August 07, 2021 at 07:47 PM

LB

“ Mike and I wanted to send our thoughts and prayers. So many sweet and great times over the years with your entire family. Melanie, we are kindred spirits. Alzheimer's robs so much, but it can't erase all the memories of a beloved parent. I feel blessed we were able to share so much while we were growing up to ultimately becoming extended family as adults. Tony, it took over 35 years for me to finally get a sibling, but I can say it was worth the wait. Wish we were closer physically to come to the service, but know that we are there in spirit. Love, Linda



Linda Bacon - August 07, 2021 at 11:03 AM

LN

“ Have many fond memories, from waiting on her at the bank , & when she was at Grammar School . We always had a good time when we were at the beauty shop together, prayers for the family

Liz McNabb - August 07, 2021 at 10:40 AM

MA

“ So sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you and the family.. God Bless

Marilyn Austin - August 07, 2021 at 09:06 AM

GF

“ *A Beautiful, sweet lady!!! Thoughts, prayers, & hugs to you!
Ginni Walker Foust*

Ginni Walker Foust - August 07, 2021 at 08:48 AM

MC

“ *Me mom wanted to say we are sorry for your loss and her and mom were really buddies for so long and she was always so good to my mom! You all have our prayers!!*



mitch coakley - August 07, 2021 at 08:26 AM

BE

“ *I'm sorry for your loss Melanie and family. Your Mother was a sweet lady.*

Betsy - August 07, 2021 at 07:59 AM

DH

“ *I worked with Wymalene and Wanell at Wall Tube. We became very close and Ruelena and I had graduated high school together. I visited with her at Wellington and we reminisced about those days. She was a beautiful lady! My deepest condolences. 💕*

Diana Hayes - August 06, 2021 at 08:04 PM

ML

Wymalene had a life well lived. Her love for her family was everything. Prayers for your family.

Mary LeMense - August 07, 2021 at 09:17 AM



Praying for the family of this sweet lady! Wymalene was always a joy to be around and she had a heart of gold!

Bobby Maddron - August 16, 2021 at 01:45 PM