



Barbara Ann Epling Witten

June 15, 1945 - September 19, 2021

Barbara Ann Epling Witten, 76 of Christiansburg, passed away at her home on Sunday, September 19, 2021. Barbara was born in Norfolk, Virginia on June 15, 1945, to the late Arnold Eugene “Jack” Epling and Bessie Florence Blevins Lytle. She was raised by her late Aunt and Uncle, Beulah and Crockett Sarver in Newport, Virginia on their farm in Clover Hollow. Her love and admiration for them was immense. Barbara was preceded in death by her high school sweetheart and husband of 43 ½ years George Thomas Witten, her brother Eddie Egbert Eugene Epling, sister Ermadean Epling Caldwell, and her beloved kitties, Mia, Tommy, and Max.

While working full time and being a mother of two small children Barbara graduated from Radford University. After a long career as a kindergarten teacher at Riverlawn Elementary School, she retired in 2001 from Pulaski County School System. She loved her students and felt it was important for a child’s first experiences in the classroom to be kind, loving, and instill a passion for learning and school. Mrs. Witten was loved by all her students and recognized long after retirement as a special lady.

Mom was the strongest woman we have ever known. Cherished Life-long friends, Shannon Turner and Denise Bishop were an eternal presence in her life. Together they were teachers, raised their children, enjoyed their grandchildren, and spent countless hours after retirement together shopping,

and talking over lunch and dinners.

Barbara conquered many obstacles in life. Her strength and faith in God carried her and enabled her to survive multiple cancers including breast cancer. Her husband George was her rock, and her children and grandchildren were her reason for living.

She is survived by her son George Thomas "Tommy" Witten Jr. and his wife Pam Hixon Witten, a daughter, Sheri Annette Witten Light all of Fairlawn, Virginia. Barbara is also survived by four grandchildren whom she cherished beyond words, Justin Scott Witten, owner of Ambush Sport Fishing in Murrells Inlet, South Carolina; Justin Charles Light, a recent graduate of Iowa State University and employed by Deloitte in Charlotte, North Carolina; Nicholas Whitman Light a freshman at Auburn High School and his sister Mackenzie Grace Light who is in the 7th grade at Auburn Middle School in Riner, Virginia. They were what she cherished most and loved to spoil. Also surviving are sister-in-law Beulah Link Epling of Newport, Virginia, half-brother Harold N. Moore Jr. of El Centro, California, half-sister Michelle Diane Lytle Ruggles and husband Scott of Hunting West Virginia; cousin, Crockett Deanita Sarver Verbeck and husband retired Brigadier General Tom Verbeck of Burke, Virginia.

The family will receive friends from 12:00 to 2:00pm on Sunday, September 26, 2021, at the McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Drive, Blacksburg, Virginia. Memorial service will begin at 2:00pm. Interment will follow in the Newport Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Newport Cemetery

302 Winding Way Drive
Newport, VA 24128

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **26**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

McCoy Funeral Home
150 Country Club Dr. S.W.
Blacksburg, VA 24060
(540) 552-3211
mccoyfuneralhome@verizon.net
<https://mccoyfuneralhome.com>

Service

SEP **26**. 2:00 PM (ET)

McCoy Funeral Home Chapel
150 Country Club Dr S.W.
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara was such a warm and giving person - she will be greatly missed by all those whose lives she touched. it seems like I've known her forever - from our years together at Newport High School and then at Giles. Her family and mine shared common bonds and I have always counted her as a dear friend. I will miss her at Thanksgiving dinners and miss hearing her stories. Rest in peace, dear Barbara and know that yours was a life well lived.* ”

Jean Porterfield - September 25, 2021 at 10:05 PM



“ *Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Barbara Ann Epling Witten.* ”



September 25, 2021 at 02:30 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Barbara Ann Epling Witten.* ”



September 25, 2021 at 11:18 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barbara Ann Epling Witten.



September 25, 2021 at 05:39 AM



“ We are so sorry to hear of your family's loss. Sending prayers for strength and peace during this difficult time. Love Doug & Crystal



Crystal Olinger - September 24, 2021 at 10:42 PM



“ Mom took me and my children on Countless shopping trips to Roanoke. Every time we pass the new Krispy Kreme I would say they're hot and fresh do you want any donuts? After some time she finally ask me how do you know they're hot and fresh. I said mama the sun is on it says they're hot and fresh.

sheri witten light - September 23, 2021 at 11:25 PM



“ Jean Vincel and Kendall Pratt purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Barbara Ann Epling Witten.



Jean Vincel and Kendall Pratt - September 23, 2021 at 06:26 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Barbara Ann Epling Witten.



September 23, 2021 at 11:27 AM