



## Grace Seward Wills

October 9, 1935 - May 21, 2024

Grace "Gracie" Seward Wills, age 88, of West Point, Virginia, passed away peacefully on May 16, 2024. Gloria Grace Seward was born at her home October 9, 1935 on her family's farm in King and Queen Courthouse, Virginia.

Grace, who was known for her zest for life and bubbly personality, was adored by her entire family whom she loved immeasurably. She so loved her friends as well, but always enjoyed meeting new people and indeed epitomized the familiar saying "she never met a stranger." She loved to dance and often times was the first on the dance floor with her favorite partner, her husband Billy. She is warmly remembered to "always have a smile on her face" and to have a contagious laugh. She welcomed a good joke or a funny story. Grace was also known for making her delicious homemade meals for family, friends and those in need. Many people enjoyed her homemade bread, country ham biscuits, pecan pie & legendary "Nana's Chocolate Chip Cookies." One of her nicknames was "the Bread Lady" given to her by friends and another one was "the Chocolate Chip Cookie Lady" which was given to her by her grandchildren.

She is survived by her loving spouse and high school "sweetheart," Mr. William E. "Billy" Wills, Sr., her children; Mr. William "W.E." Wills, Jr. (Mrs. Rachel D. Wills), Mrs. Robin Wills Williams (Dr. Jon Williams, Jr.) and Dr. Douglas Wills (Dr. Suzänne Zeta); ten beloved grandchildren; Ben Wills

(Meghan), Jordan Wills Sligh (Wesley), Winston Williams (Alisha), Garrett Williams, Kathleen Grace Williams Speidel (Chapin), Alex Wills, Justin Benkovsky (Meshva), Camden Benkovsky, Griffin Benkovsky, Bronson Benkovsky and five great-grandchildren; William Sligh, Virginia Grace Sligh, Lillian Sligh, Kate Wills and Jane Wills; and many nieces and nephews. Grace was preceded in death by her parents, Wilton W. and Polly C. Seward, and nine siblings, often calling herself "the baby of ten children." Her siblings were Seden Seward, Welford Seward, Charlie Seward, Gladys S. Krevonick, Louise S. Williams, Bernard Seward, Thelma S. Gatewood, Roland Seward and Joseph Seward.

Grace worked as a C&P telephone switchboard operator in the 1950's (a job she greatly enjoyed) and later sold Avon products for many years. She was a longtime member of the King William County Jr. Woman's Club and in later years the Sr. Woman's Club. She also was selected to be a "Hostess Contestant" in the 1968 Tobacco Festival Grand Ball in Richmond, Virginia. Grace worked for over thirty years in her husband's insurance agency, where she became a licensed agent. However, her most cherished role was that of a devoted wife, loving mother (as well as grandmother) and admirable homemaker.

In her younger years, she attended Mattaponi Baptist Church , where she and her husband were married almost seventy years ago on October 23, 1954. She later became a dedicated member of First Baptist Church, West Point, graciously serving God in many ways and singing in the church choir for over 50 years.

Grace's hobbies included playing the piano by ear, singing, and acting. She was a member of the musical group, the Enthusiastics, as well as the West Point Theatrical Group, participating in numerous musicals and plays over the years. She also enjoyed traveling and was able to visit many places around

the world. Her spouse (her favorite traveling partner and lifelong soulmate) fondly said when they went on a cruise, she would "know everybody on the ship by the time the cruise ended." Her faithful love for God, her heartfelt love for all people and the sincere kindness that she showed others will be her lasting legacy.

Rest in Peace Amazing Grace!

A visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, May 31, 2024 at Vincent's Funeral Home, West Point, Virginia. A memorial service to celebrate Grace's life will be held at First Baptist Church in West Point, Virginia, on June 1, 2024, at 10 a.m. with a reception to follow in the church fellowship hall.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Alzheimer's Association in memory of Grace Seward Wills.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 31. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Vincent Funeral Home, West Point Chapel  
417 11th St  
West Point, VA 23181  
(804) 843-2550

## Celebration of Life

JUN 1. 10:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church  
414 Main Street  
West Point, VA 23181

# Tribute Wall

KQ

“ May God be with you and your family during this difficult time. Your mother has touched so many hearts throughout the years, and her love and kindness will be remembered forever. Sending lots of love and prayers to you! Kathleen & Billy Quarles

Kathleen & Billy Quarles - May 31, 2024 at 05:23 PM

AH

“ We are sorry Grace has passed but grateful that we were able to meet her at Ben and Meghan's wedding and learn how much she and "Poppy" enjoyed dancing. Wishing you happy memories. Anita and Rick Heisterman

Anita Heisterman - May 31, 2024 at 01:20 PM

EO

“ Dudley and I loved seeing Grace at Arts Alive performances. She was so much fun and had such a big heart. We will miss her.

Elis Olsson - May 29, 2024 at 03:28 PM

TG

“ Grace was a kind and funny woman who I enjoyed talking with. Prayers for all of her friends and family as they share good memories and hug one another.

Tina Gulley - May 29, 2024 at 08:44 AM

CC

“ *Carol Conti lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**Carol Conti** - May 28, 2024 at 01:55 PM

BE

“ *Beverly Darlington Edwards lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**Beverly Darlington Edwards** - May 28, 2024 at 12:37 PM

GR

“ *W.E. and Family,*

*Sorry to hear of the lost of your mother. Mother's are very special people. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time.*

*George Rogerson  
Your Duck Hunting Buddy*

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**George Rogerson** - May 27, 2024 at 08:03 AM

MS

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with Family and Friends at this very difficult time*  
*New Council of Dominion Telephone Pioneers*



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**MARY SIMONS** - May 26, 2024 at 02:47 PM

PT

*Grace was a delightful person - so full of laughter and fun with everyone. She really did love singing in the church choir. I was fortunate to sing a couple of duets with her. She could harmonize with any song. She will be missed but how wonderful she was able to touch so many lives.*  
*Love, Priscilla Torrence*

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**Priscilla Torrence** - May 29, 2024 at 08:34 AM

DF

“ *Hugs and prayers of peace*



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**Donna Fudala** - May 25, 2024 at 08:29 PM

JV

“ *Dear Billy and family, Grace was the sweetest caring lady I knew. Grace was a dear friend to my parents Joe and Helen. Many people will miss seeing you Mother and her beautiful smile around town*  
*Joann Wroblick Via*

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**Joann Wroblick Via** - May 25, 2024 at 07:32 PM

WP

“ Gracie always made us smile, and the smiles almost always led to laughter. What a gift she was from God! We look forward to seeing her in heaven!

*Bill and Carolyn Palmer*

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**William Palmer** - May 24, 2024 at 04:06 PM

JG

“ Mrs. Will used to come over the house with Billy and while Billy and Charlie would go out in the garden and go talk her out sit around she would tell me about her good old days and the things they used to do and she was the youngest she used to start dating and once she started, she never stopped. And in the group enthusiast, my mom and dad were in the same group Dolly Parton and she was a pure hoot. She was so funny and so much fun to be around. She was always laughing and something funny I am going to miss her Visits God bless you as well and thank you for all The laughs.



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**joanie Brizendine Gordon** - May 24, 2024 at 01:41 PM

GW

*She will be missed by everyone who was fortunate enough to have known her. I'll always remember our talks on her Avon visits. She was always her same bubbly self wherever you came in contact with her. Our heartfelt condolences go out to her entire family. May God give you strength and comfort during this most difficult time in your lives. Gloria and Al Wajciechowski*

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**Gloria and Al wajciechowski** - May 30, 2024 at 11:21 AM

DH

“ *David Hilton lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**David Hilton** - May 24, 2024 at 01:12 PM

PW

“ *Pamela Ann Wiles lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**Pamela Ann Wiles** - May 24, 2024 at 12:12 PM

VB

“ *Vicki Blake lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**Vicki Blake** - May 24, 2024 at 10:48 AM

PS

“ *PEGGY WILLS SANFORD lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**PEGGY WILLS SANFORD** - May 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM

PS

“ I will always remember Aunt Grace for her smile and how she liked to laugh and make everyone feel welcome when around her. She had that southern accent and kindness that made you love her. She made the BEST Corn Pudding. It was so sweet, and I always looked forward to that at our family gatherings. Those were the good old days, that I will truly miss. My heart goes out to Uncle Billy and all the family. She will be truly missed.

PEGGY WILLS SANFORD - May 23, 2024 at 10:29 AM

BL

“ Brenda D. Lee lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills



Brenda D. Lee - May 23, 2024 at 09:44 AM

CC

“ One of the nicest, sweetest people I've ever known. I'm sure she will be greatly missed by her family and many friends.

Carrie Conklin - May 23, 2024 at 07:31 AM

RC

“ RT Croswell And Donna Croswell lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills



RT Croswell and Donna Croswell - May 23, 2024 at 06:16 AM

DA

“ Grace was ALWAYS so sweet and so dear. My daughter Katie and Kathleen (one of her beautiful grandchildren) were great friends since they were little so we had the honor of seeing Robin’s sweet Mom and Dad at all the school and sport events. A proud Grandma she was!!! My thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family. Grace is definitely in Heaven!!!! Xoxo  
Live always, Denise Austin

denise austin - May 22, 2024 at 10:05 PM

ES

“ Such a kind southern lady!

I remember Grace well, condolences to all of the family! ✨🙏✨

Eddie R Sears - May 22, 2024 at 09:35 PM

BB

“ Lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills.



Brian Boswell - May 22, 2024 at 05:57 PM

WW

“ William And Susan Willis lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills



William and Susan Willis - May 22, 2024 at 04:51 PM

GC

“ Dear Billy, W.E., Robin, Douglas, family and friends,  
Grace was such a special lady. I belonged to The Enthusiastix with Grace and I witnessed first hand the talent she had...like her imitating Dolly Parton. We also sang in the First Baptist Church Choir. We had two ladies named Grace so she became Amazing Grace and Grace Brizendine we called 'd'his-Grace. We always had a great/fun time! We were even neighbors. I will cherish all of our great memories. May God hold each of you in his loving arms and give you comfort. With heartfelt sympathy,  
Gloria Couch (formerly Foster)



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**Gloria Couch** - May 22, 2024 at 12:56 PM

GB

“ Prayers for Her and Her Family...

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**Gerald Blanchard** - May 22, 2024 at 12:36 PM

JW

“ Grace was a special lady and will be missed by many. She was always a ray of sunshine even on dark days

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**Janie wampler** - May 22, 2024 at 12:02 PM

AP

“ Billy and family, We are so sorry for your loss. Grace was a special lady in our lives and we were blessed to have her as a lifetime friend to our mom and our family.

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**Anita Alley Poteat** - May 22, 2024 at 10:53 AM

JR

“ *John And Vickie Roane lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**john and vickie roane** - May 22, 2024 at 10:45 AM

VB

“ *Vic And Sharon Britton lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**Vic and Sharon Britton** - May 22, 2024 at 10:27 AM

MB

“ *Mary Ann Beamer lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**Mary Ann Beamer** - May 22, 2024 at 08:04 AM

AW

“ *Avril & Gerald Williams lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**Avril & Gerald Williams** - May 21, 2024 at 09:00 PM

B&

“ Our deepest condolences to the family of such an amazing woman. God bless you all at this very solemn time, and keep hold of the precious memories. Beverly and Jim Ross



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**beverly &jim** - May 21, 2024 at 08:38 PM

FS

“ FAITH GUTHRIE SILVA lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills



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**FAITH GUTHRIE SILVA** - May 21, 2024 at 06:50 PM

BA

“ Brenda Anerton lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills



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**Brenda Anerton** - May 21, 2024 at 05:17 PM

DG

“ Diane Gaber lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills



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**Diane Gaber** - May 21, 2024 at 02:44 PM

NB

“ *Nancy H. Bland lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**Nancy H. Bland** - May 21, 2024 at 02:33 PM



“ *Margaret Ogg lit a candle in memory of Grace Seward Wills*



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**Margaret Ogg** - May 21, 2024 at 12:54 PM