



## Mabel Virginia Fisher Ward

July 24, 1934 - August 1, 2024

Mabel Virginia Fisher Ward, age 90, a longtime resident of New Kent County, VA, died August 1, 2024. She was predeceased by her husband James Dennis Ward; her parents Hugh Pearson and Alice Virginia Fisher; and her siblings Ella Mae Johnson, Frances Martin, Hugh P. Fisher Jr, Harriet Minor Fisher and George Fisher.

Mabel is survived by her loving daughter Harriet Ward Gavin and two treasured grandsons, Ward Fisher Gavin (Lindsey) and Cary Suiter Gavin. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Mabel graduated from Mary Washington College in 1956 where she was named in "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities." She earned a bachelor's degree and teaching license and taught for 26 years at Chickahominy Academy and in Henrico County Public Schools.

Mabel married the love of her life June 22, 1957. She and Jimmy shared a passion for family, service and traveling. They enjoyed car trips across the country and visited all 50 states during their 65 years of marriage.

Mabel was active in her community. She was a member of Providence Forge Presbyterian Church for more than 50 years where she was active in the Women of the Church. She served on the Board of Directors for the

Presbyterian Children's Home in Lynchburg for two terms. She was the president of the Nelly Custis Woman's Club and volunteered with the Red Cross and Meals on Wheels. After moving to Covenant Woods in 2014, she served on the New Member Committee and enjoyed sponsoring many new residents.

Mabel was best known for optimism and service for her family and her community. She will be greatly missed by all who were blessed to know and love her.

A memorial service will be held Tuesday, August 13 at 1 PM at Vincent Funeral Home in Providence Forge. The family will receive friends at a reception following the service at Wallace Manor, 3821 North Courthouse Road, Providence Forge.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Providence Forge Presbyterian Church or The Shriners Hospital for Children.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG 13. 1:00 PM (ET)

Vincent Funeral Home, Providence Forge Chapel  
9923 Pocahontas Trail  
Providence Forge, VA 23140  
(804) 966-7075

# Tribute Wall

WJ

“ *To: Harriette and Family Mrs. Ward was one of my favorite teachers. I will never forget her. I attached a photo of Mrs. Ward that I took on the bus during our 7th grade field trip. It was May 1998. Please keep in contact with me. My email is wrobinson8471@email.vccs.edu. We are here for you and your family. Walter C. Robinson, Jr. Henrico, VA*

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**Walter C, Robinson, Jr.** - December 11, 2025 at 10:41 AM

MG

“ *In 1998 I was a first year teacher at FMS, and lucky enough to be on the 7th grade history team with Mabel. She was generous with her time and words of encouragement. She shared ideas and lessons, and advice on what was most important in the hundreds of decisions a teacher makes in a day. She loved to talk about her daughter and grandsons. She was over the moon when you surprised her at her retirement celebration. Mabel and Jimmy were gracious hosts and friends. My deepest condolences to her family.*

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**Margaret Foughner Griffon** - August 20, 2024 at 10:20 AM

SR

“ Mabel was a very special lady and a valued friend. We saw Mabel and Jimmy every week at church sitting in the same pew together. They were such a sweet couple. We so enjoyed getting to know them and spending time together. Mabel and I discovered that we both had been teachers for Henrico County. Mabel was proud that her daughter was also a Henrico Public School teacher! One Sunday Mabel invited us over for a tour of her home. She and Jimmy so loved their home and loved having guests visit with them. We had peach cobbler and had a wonderful afternoon together. After they moved to Covenant Woods we visited them several times. Mabel would invite us for lunch or dinner and introduce us to her many new friends. Mabel was a beautiful lady and will be missed by all who knew her.

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**Sandra Reinhardt** - August 12, 2024 at 07:24 PM

JW

“ Mrs Ward was my fifth grade teacher at Sandston Elementary School. She was the sweetest lady... and always had a beautiful smile. She and Mr Ward also became friends with my parents. I saw Mrs Ward at the grocery store a few years ago and she knew exactly who I was!! We were so happy to see each other. My prayers are with Harriet and the family.

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**Jane Faulkner Wynn** - August 11, 2024 at 08:14 PM

TW

“ Sorry For Your Loss



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**Thomas Widgeon** - August 07, 2024 at 06:44 AM

BC

“ I was so sorry to hear about the passing of Mrs. Ward. I was lucky enough to have her as a middle school teacher. She was one of those teachers who was truly motivating. She was always so prim and proper, and I can still hear her today talking about the different presidents over the years and over announcing their names.

Later in life, my family and I would always run into Mrs. Ward at the Virginia Food Festival at the old fairgrounds. I instantly knew who she was when I ran into her, and I was in shock when she remembered me by name; a true testament to the great educator she was because she truly cared. It became an annual event where I would get to see her every year.

I have been an educator for over 20 years and can certainly say that Mrs. Ward was one of those teachers who inspired me to enter this field. I know that she touched the lives of hundreds of students who walked the halls of Fairfield Middle School.

As a bi-vocational Baptist pastor, I know that Mrs. Ward is reunited with her husband and that brings me great joy to know. Thoughts and prayers to her entire family and friends.

*B.J. Crowder*

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**B.J. Crowder** - August 06, 2024 at 09:29 PM



“ I was so sorry to hear about Mabel's (Aunt Jenny) passing! When I was a teenager, I used to spend nights over theirand

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**Mona Hockaday** - August 06, 2024 at 11:05 AM



*I used to spend nights over there with Mabel and Harriet Ann, while Unk would have to go to a meeting . I always enjoyed the visit and always enjoyed the breakfast in the morning! After I graduated and left home I always enjoyed the times we got to see each other! In time, the visits were further apart because of my work but I enjoyed each and every one!!*

*Mabel was fun to visit with and had quite the sense of humor! You never knew what you might be asked next! Lol*

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**Mona Hockaday** - August 06, 2024 at 11:21 AM



*Jim.*

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**Mona Hockaday** - August 06, 2024 at 11:21 AM



*I had the honor of working with Mabel at FMS, and we were on the same team. She was always so positive and really cared for our students. She hosted a baby shower at her lovely home for me, and Jimmy entertained the "guys" on the porch. Throughout the years, she attended Whitney's birthday parties and loved "spoiling" her when she would visit FMS. She was my colleague, confident, adviser, but most of all my friend. I know that she and Jimmy are together again.*

*Laura Beaton*

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**Laura Beaton** - August 06, 2024 at 06:29 PM

JV

“ Mabel was a perfect neighbor in all ways...loving, welcoming and kind. Mabel and Jimmy welcomed Bob and me and our young family of three boys ages 1, 4 and 7 in 1987. Mabel and Jimmy were like foster grandparents. With loving arms they opened their pool to the boys in the summer, spoiled the boys at Christmas with 3 tins of her famous cookie assortment and gave advice as needed. Our families shared moments of great joy and sorrow. We celebrated special birthdays, graduations, retirements and anniversaries. Mabel was a welcoming face when we joined the P.F.P.C. Church family in 1992. What a blessing it was to see Mabel in good health in April as we shared dinner with mutual friends at Covenant Woods and remembered happy times. Mabel was a role model of wife, mother, grandmother, teacher, neighbor, and Christian friend. What an honor to have known her. She will be greatly missed.

Jane VanDyke - August 06, 2024 at 09:08 AM

JR

“ John And Vickie Roane(kurdziel) lit a candle in memory of Mabel Virginia Fisher Ward



John and Vickie Roane(kurdziel) - August 06, 2024 at 08:45 AM

WM

“ I have fond childhood memories of Aunt Mabel and Unc. I will never forget the porcelain purse with the wooden handle that she would carry to church on Sundays. She will truly be missed

Wayne Malechek - August 06, 2024 at 07:56 AM

JW

“ *Jo White lit a candle in memory of Mabel Virginia Fisher Ward*



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**Jo White** - August 05, 2024 at 08:02 PM

JW

“ *Mabel was a true Southern Lady and always had a beautiful smile on her face. She will be greatly be missed.*

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**Jo White** - August 05, 2024 at 08:02 PM

VN

“ *I worked with Mabel at Fairfield Middle School and instantly loved her as soon as I met her. She was a breath of fresh air every day. I will always remember her telling me one day.....you know Vickie, I'd rather have one really nice outfit than several not so nice ones..... Then smiled and winked at me. Mabel was one classy lady and will be missed by many.*

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**Vickie Nance** - August 05, 2024 at 07:57 PM

CD

“ *Mabel was a good friend to all and a true Lady. We will miss her. She helped us plan our first trip to Alaska by sharing all her photos and things about their trip. She told us that the best thing about going on the trip with Princess Tours was they tell you what time to be on the bus. No thinking involved. Cathy & Vin Davis*

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**Cathy Davis** - August 05, 2024 at 04:32 PM