



Grace Emily Dowse Howell

July 17, 1926 - February 16, 2021

Grace Emily Dowse Howell, 94, of Hopewell, passed away on Tuesday, February 16, 2021. Born in Oxford, England, she was the daughter of the late Henry and Emily Franklin Dowse. She was also preceded in death by her beloved husband, SFC (RET) Roland White Howell; brother, Dennis Dowse and sister, Joan Harris.

She is survived by her children, Larry Howell, Graham Howell (Laurie), Billy Howell (Leanne), Lisa Sharpe (Derek), and Emily Braughton (Lance); grandchildren, Elizabeth Martin, Joshua Howell, Jordan Howell, Alison McCullum, Christin Ellis, Rocky Howell, Andrew Roland Howell, Brittany Hilton, Julia Grace Sharpe, Grace Braughton, and Emma Rose Braughton; 13 great-grandchildren; sister, Barbara Gilders (Fred) of Oxford, England; sister-in-law, Helen Cooper of Waterproof, Louisiana; and special caretaker, Stephanie Summers.

Grace and Roland were married on Valentine's Day 1948 in Oxford, England. In 1950, she, Roland and their newborn son Larry left Oxford en route to Chicago. That was the beginning of their adventures: travelling the world together and welcoming four more children into their family. Grace was a devoted army wife and saw her husband off to three wars. They built their house in Hopewell, Virginia in 1953, and after years of being abroad were finally able to call it home in 1964. In 1968 Roland retired from the army and settled into civilian life.

Grace and Roland were members of the greatest generation and taught their children the value of hard work. Roland died in 1984 and Grace immersed herself in her family. She was the quintessential grandmother to her grand- and great-grand children. At the age of 59, she studied for and passed her first ever driver's license exam so that she could travel when and wherever she wanted, and especially to see her grandchildren. She was a faithful member of West Hopewell Presbyterian Church. She loved Jesus and all of her dear friends there. She was also a founding member of the Trans-Atlantic Brides and Parents Association, an organization of war brides dedicated to chartering planes back to England and Europe for its members. At TBPA Grace made dear and life-long friends many of whom she outlived.

Grace especially enjoyed baking fresh bread while working in the cafeteria at Woodlawn Elementary School. She had a heart of gold and her kindness extended to every child that

went through her lunch line. This kindness truly defined who she was. Her favorite song was "There'll Be Bluebirds Over the White Cliffs of Dover" by Vera Lynn and she sang it with love and hope. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends.

A funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at West Hopewell Presbyterian Church. The family will receive friends one-hour prior from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be donated to West Hopewell Presbyterian Church Deacon's Fund, 2600 Wise St. Hopewell, VA 23860. Condolences may be registered at www.jtmorriss.com.

Cemetery

Bermuda Memorial Park

1901 Bermuda Hundred Road
Chester, VA, 23836

Events

FEB
23

Service

02:00PM

West Hopewell Presbyterian Church
2602 Wise Street, Hopewell, VA, US, 23860

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



J.T. Morriss & Son Funeral Home - February 19 at 05:27 PM



“ 29 files added to the album LifeTributes



J.T. Morriss & Son Funeral Home - February 22 at 07:02 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Grace Emily Dowse Howell.



February 22 at 12:38 PM



“ 36 files added to the album LifeTributes



J.T. Morriss & Son Funeral Home - February 21 at 06:17 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Grace Emily Dowse Howell.



February 21 at 11:43 AM



“ Larry - I am sorry to hear the news about your Mom. We all know you loved her so. The obituary makes one feel exactly as if she was an old friend. My condolences to you and your family. She served her faith, family & humanity well. God speed to a wonderful Lady.

Sheriff Greg Anderson - February 20 at 04:30 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of the family.

Virginia&Will Addison - February 20 at 01:59 AM



“ 8 files added to the album LifeTributes

J.T. Morriss & Son Funeral Home - February 19 at 05:27 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Grace Emily Dowse Howell.



February 19 at 03:43 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Grace Emily Dowse Howell.



February 19 at 03:23 PM



“ 2 files added to the album LifeTributes

J.T. Morriss & Son Funeral Home - February 19 at 02:41 PM



“ I am sorry for your loss, your Mom was one of a kind. She had a kind and sweet heart, she was loved by all. I only knew her for a few years through TOPS and we all loved her.
She will be missed.

Louise Turner - February 19 at 10:18 AM



“ Larry please except my condolences on the passing of your mother. It's been a long time but I'm sure I had met her several times. You sir are a longtime friend and I hope you are doing well. God bless you and your family

C.T. Mason - February 19 at 08:55 AM



“ May warm and precious memories carry your through this difficult time. Sending prayers to all of you \.

Kay Bickings - February 19 at 06:58 AM



“ My memories of my great auntie grace are when she came to Oxford way back when I was about 5 she was a lovey kind lady and I loved cuddling her x I wish I could have spent more time but being so far away it never happened x rest in peace and send my love to my nanny Joan xx god bless auntie grace love always x Gemma xxxx



gemma horne - February 18 at 08:13 PM



“ Dear Larry, Graham, Lisa, Billy, and Emily,
My heart breaks for you in the loss of your sweet mother. I cannot help but smile at the thought of her and her beautiful smile, and the wonderful memories of our childhood; our British mums as dearest friends, and all the times we spent together. Your mother had tea with mine on her last day before she left us, and I am sure they are hugging each other today. Find comfort in knowing she is smiling that beautiful smile in a world where there is no pain and suffering, only love-and we shall see them again. Sending you love and hugs...xoxoxo

Daniella Harless Kyriakides - February 18 at 07:35 PM



“ She was one of my greatest joys during my years at West Hopewell. Her love for Jesus was beautiful to see. What a wonderful reunion awaits is in glory.

Larry Roff - February 18 at 06:43 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Grace Emily Dowse Howell.



February 18 at 04:51 PM



“ The world was brighter for having Grace Howell in it! My heart goes out to all of her family at this time. She left an outstanding legacy through her children, grandchildren and even great greatchildren. She is at peace now, but will be sorely missed by all!

Jennifer Parrish - February 18 at 04:33 PM



“ 45 files added to the album LifeTributes



J.T. Morriss & Son Funeral Home - February 18 at 04:23 PM