



## Eileen Ruth Gittins

March 31, 1933 - November 30, 2023

Eileen Ruth Gittins of Stevensville, MD passed away on November 30, 2023. She was 90 years old.

Born on March 31, 1933, in Maple Shade, NJ, she was the daughter of the late Michael J. Maher and Julia F. Maher.

Eileen graduated from Moorestown High School and worked as a secretary for the Campbell Soup Co. While on vacation in the Poconos, she met Donald J. Gittins. He was so enamored, he called her as soon as she returned home from vacation, and he made the trip to New Jersey to see her every weekend. On February 12, 1955, they were married forming a strong and loving partnership that lasted until Donald's death in 1993. The couple made their home on Long Island, and then in Cape St. Claire, where they raised their family for over 20 years before moving to Kent Island in 2003.

Eileen was a passionate advocate in the State Legislature for people who suffered from brain injuries. Her work contributed to the passing of the helmet laws in Maryland. In her free time, she enjoyed going to the movies, cooking, visiting various beaches and lighthouses, and volunteering at Anne Arundel Medical Center. She will be remembered as a kind person and a good friend.

Eileen is survived by her daughter, Susan Fowler Schatz and her husband,

Chuck; a son, James Gittins; a daughter in-law, Patty Gittins; grandchildren: Andrew Fowler, Jaime Fowler (Caleb), Matthew Gittins (April), and Kyle Gittins (Samantha); and great grandchildren, Holden Fowler and Adelyn Gittins. In addition to her parents, she is predeceased by her husband, Donald James Gittins; son, Donald William Gittins; sister, Dorothy Farren and her companion of 15 years, Bill Jones.

A visitation will be held at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home in Chester, MD on Wednesday, December 6, 2023 from 6pm – 8pm. A graveside service will be held at Crownsville Veterans Cemetery on Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 10:45am.

For online tributes, please visit [www.fhnfuneralhome.com](http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 6. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A.  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619

## Graveside Service

DEC 7. 10:45 AM (ET)

Crownsville Veterans Cemetery Chapel  
1122 Sunrise Beach Road  
Crownsville, MD

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Eileen Ruth Gittins*



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**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - December 05, 2023 at 01:06 PM

SA

*What a wonderful memorial video. Eileen would have loved it. Such wonderful memories Thank you ❤️*

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**Sandy Anastasi** - December 05, 2023 at 07:11 PM

AS

“ *For almost 30 years, Eileen and I had a friendship beyond compare. We loved spending time at the beach, having movie dates and getting dressed up to have luncheons at the Island restaurants catching up on the "latest" news. We enjoyed our "Jersey Girl" status and always managed to end our talks and visits with laughter. I have so many fond memories of Eileen and feel blessed to have had her as a friend. In the last years, our memorable phrase was, "Remind me to remind you..." and the we'd laugh!*

*I'll miss her caring way, and the joy she shared in being with family and friends. Please know that I'll be praying for you and your family.*

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**Anne Sieg** - December 06, 2023 at 03:55 PM

FS

“ From Anne Sieg purchased the *Beautiful Dreams* for the family of Eileen Ruth Gittins.



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From Anne Sieg - December 03, 2023 at 12:39 PM

FS

“ From Anne Sieg planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eileen Ruth Gittins.

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From Anne Sieg - December 03, 2023 at 12:39 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Eileen Ruth Gittins.



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December 03, 2023 at 08:51 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Eileen Ruth Gittins.



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December 02, 2023 at 02:30 PM

RA

“ Ron Tourville and Sandy Anastasi planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eileen Ruth Gittins.

Ron Tourville and Sandy Anastasi - December 02, 2023 at 02:30 PM

SA

“ I have so many memories of my Aunt Eileen. When I was still in elementary school my Dad would bring me over to visit his brother Don and his family every Saturday. Sometimes we went fishing; sometimes my cousin Donny and I would play while the adults all visited. Aunt Eileen always made us welcome. We saw each other less after she and her family moved to Maryland, but I was thrilled when I was asked to be in Susan's wedding party. I lost one of my opal earrings at the wedding hall. Months later, it was found and Aunt Eileen returned it to me. She remembered. She and I kept in touch through cards at the holidays and occasional letters - and during my Dad's last days in the VA she made a trip to Florida where I live, to see him. At 89 years old, she planned the whole trip and travelled by herself. What a very amazing woman she was. I know she will be with all her family going forward, reaching out from the other side with her love and support. I will miss her, until we meet again.

Sandy - December 02, 2023 at 02:25 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Eileen Ruth Gittins.



December 02, 2023 at 11:08 AM

SM

“ *Stacey Morris lit a candle in memory of Eileen Ruth Gittins*



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**Stacey Morris** - December 02, 2023 at 12:08 AM