



Viola Elizabeth Rafter

May 22, 2005

VIOLA E. RAFTER

CHESTER, MD; Viola E. Rafter of Chester, Md. died Sunday, May 22, 2005 at Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis, Md. She was 80.

Born on September 8, 1924 in Chambersburg, Pa., the daughter of the late Eber Charles and Emma Jane Miller Gipe. She was educated in Chambersburg and later the family moved to Hagerstown, Md. In 1943, she married Roy W. Rafter and they lived in Solomon's Island, Md. for eight years. They then moved to Annapolis, Md. in 1958. She graduated from the Annapolis Beauty Academy in 1968 with a diploma in all branches of beauty culture and worked in several Annapolis Beauty Salons with many prominent politicians among her clients. Due to a stroke, she retired in 1983 and later moved to Chester, Md. Her favorite past-time was listening to country music and in her youth, on more than one occasion, she sang with Patsy Cline. Her lifelong passions were her grandchildren and her love for the Lord. She was a member of the Shore Christian Fellowship in Queenstown, Md.

In addition to her husband Roy W. Rafter, she is survived by two sons, Roy L. Rafter, Sr. of Chester, Md. and Ronald E. Rafter, Sr. of Ridgely, Md.; one daughter, Trisha E. Benson of Goldsboro, Md.; fourteen grandchildren; fifteen great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. She was predeceased

by three brothers, Eber, George and Nelson Gipe and one sister, Virginia Mae Gipe Cook.

Family and friends may call on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 from 6-8pm at Fellows, Helfenbein and Newnam Funeral Home, P. A., Chester, Md. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, May 26, 2005 at 2pm at the funeral home. Interment will follow in Stevensville Cemetery, Stevensville, Md.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Heartland House, 113 Perry Corner Road, Grasonville, MD 21638.

Tribute Wall



“ *Greatest lady to ever walk this Earth* ”

Bettie - August 29, 2025 at 07:12 PM



“ *Viola Elizabeth Rafter* ”

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Viola Elizabeth Rafter* ”

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Viola Elizabeth Rafter* ”

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM