



Elnora "Nory" Eunice Gilbert

March 30, 1917 - January 7, 2017

Elnora "Nory" Eunice Gilbert, 99, of Siloam Springs, Arkansas passed away on January 7, 2017. Born March 30, 1917, in rural Gravette, Arkansas, the daughter of Jewette Kincaid and Dora (Menke) Kincaid, she spent her childhood raised by hard working faithful parents, playing with and looking after her treasured younger brother, Ted. She loved singing in church. Her dog loved her so much he followed her one Sunday to 'sing along' with her from the church doorway. As a young girl she beat Scarlet Fever and proved herself to be the quiet determined soul so many were fortunate to know over the course of her life.

After graduating from Jay High School in Jay, Oklahoma she took the unique opportunity afforded to her to pursue higher education and make the most of the gifts God had given her. Nory attended and graduated from John Brown University with a Bachelors of Science in Business, making her one of the first graduates to realize the Brown family vision of creating a school for economically disadvantaged young people who are "rich in aspirations, ideals, personality and integrity."

While at JBU, Nory caught the eye of one Galen O. Gilbert and became the recipient of nightly coke floats delivered to her dorm from the downtown pharmacy. It's pretty difficult to resist sweet treats from a handsome young man and so naturally a romance began that has continued ever since. Nory

and Galen were married on August 24, 1940 in the home of Dr. Earl Smith and their marriage lasted 76 years. Their union was full of adventure, ambition and most importantly faith and reliance on the Lord. Together they felt and lived as if they were invincible, taking on every challenge and opportunity that came their way. These opportunities led them to start their careers as interim pastors of a little Methodist church in Iowa. During World War Two, they were brought to the RAF training facility in Terrell, Texas where Galen taught navigation to the British soldiers. After the war, they helped JBU expand their broadcasting efforts in California and eventually began buying radio stations of their own throughout Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas. It may have been the 1940s, but Nory was very involved in the business at hand and did the accounting for most of the radio stations throughout the decades. As they followed their dreams and built their life together they started a family.

Both of Nory's children were born in Siloam Springs; Galen Everett on November 15, 1942 and Jesse Ray on December 9, 1946. Nory's boys were the lights of her life and she poured every ounce of dedication and joy she had into their upbringing. The love she showed her children and her community is evidenced in the long standing admiration still professed by childhood friends of her sons.

No life is without pain and hardship and Nory's was no different. She was the primary caretaker for her father as his life came to a close. In 1966, She lost her firstborn son, Galen, at the age of 23 in a test flight for the Navy. His jet was never recovered. Despite great heartache and adversity she continued to sow love and confidence into all those around her.

Joy returned exponentially to Nory's life when her Nory's younger son Jesse and wife Susi had four children. Nory became a grandmother and this was her favorite role yet. Nory spoiled her grandchildren with abandon and half-heartedly would chastise herself for doing so. It wasn't the spoiling that

created the deep love between Nory and her grandchildren though, it was the consistent, patient, loving character of a Godly woman who portrayed the love of Christ to her family in even the most mundane of daily activities.

Nory's heart was a place of respite and a word of wisdom for a weary soul. Her cheerful disposition and positive outlook made anything seem possible and everything seem ok.

Nory lived to see three of her grandchildren marry and for the last two years she has savored every moment possible getting to know and lavish love onto her first born great grandchild, Lorraine. Another marriage and more great grandchildren who will benefit from her legacy are slated for 2017. Though naturally we wish Nory could be here in person to celebrate and experience these exciting times we know she has finished her race and is celebrating in Heaven, her true home with God the Father who no doubt said to her upon her arrival, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant.'

Nory was preceded in Death by her parents, brother Ted Kincaid and son, Galen Everett Gilbert. She is survived by her husband Galen of the home; son Jesse Gilbert and wife Susan of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; 4 grandchildren Holly Romero and husband Peter Romero of Richardson, Texas, Galen Howard Gilbert and wife Natisha Gilbert of Los Angeles, California, David Gilbert and wife, Cate Gilbert of Houston, Texas, Emily Gilbert of Santa Monica, California; 1 great grandchild Lorraine Romero; sister-in-law, Jo Kincaid of Siloam Springs, Arkansas and many devoted nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 11, 2017, at First United Methodist Church, Siloam Springs, Arkansas. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to John Brown Scholarship Fund, Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 11. 10:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
325 E Twin Springs St
Siloam Springs, AR 72761
(479) 524-6111

Tribute Wall

JM

“ My condolences to the family. Elnora and Galen, were responsible for my first real job at KTLQ when I was still in high school. Their work work ethic and high moral standards made a deep impression in my own efforts. Your support for our family will never be forgotten, we owe much to the Gilbert family, Rest in Peace Mrs. Gilbert. I was always amazed at your taking dictation on the typewriter.
Jim & Letitia Masters

Jim Masters - January 10, 2017 at 10:04 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Elnora "Nory" Eunice Gilbert.



January 10, 2017 at 09:51 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Elnora "Nory" Eunice Gilbert.



January 10, 2017 at 04:29 PM

SB

“ Thank you, Nory, for giving me my first "real" job and helping me realize my dream of becoming a broadcaster. May God give peace and comfort to Galen and the rest of the family.

Stephen Buus, KRWP

Stephen Buus - January 10, 2017 at 05:52 AM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Elnora "Nory" Eunice Gilbert.



January 09, 2017 at 10:31 AM

JM

“ Our hearts are sad but rejoicing that Heaven has gained an angel, 'Nory, who lived her life for God and her family. It only took one time to meet 'Nory and her beautiful smile and the twinkle in her eyes made you feel as, if you met a lifetime friend. Galen and 'Nory shared a marriage and love for one another which few ever know and one that God was the center of. We will miss 'Nory but so thankful to have the promise of God we will join her with our loved ones in Heaven one day to share eternity with. Love you 'Nory.
The family of Roy and Janice May

Janice May - January 09, 2017 at 12:30 AM

CB

Was sorry to hear of El Nora's passing , we know she is in a better place wish you all peace, galen and Jessie and family connie bentley

Connie bentley - January 10, 2017 at 01:08 PM

RJ

JESS; SO SORRY ABOUT YOUR MAMA, AND I'M PRAYIND FOR YOUR FAMILY . LOVE TO ALL. RICH JEFFERS

RICH JEFFERS - January 11, 2017 at 01:40 AM

DI

Sweet Mr and Mrs Gilbert. Your kindness and goodness to me while Jesse and I were together are some of the most wonderful memories from high school. Mrs. Gilbert patiently helped me help her with the radio station business. She made Zoomghetti and to this day it is my son's favorite dish and mine with a bit of a twist to make it a tad healthier. I always felt like I was part of the family. Jesse and Suzie have been an awesome support system to both his parents. My heart and prayers go out to the entire Gilbert family. She's got her wings and joins Helen and my parents, back to their Father's home. Peace be with you Jesse and your entire family. Debbie

Debbie Ingram - October 11, 2017 at 02:24 AM