



Mildred Lucille Riley

July 14, 1939 - October 23, 2025

Mildred Lucille Riley, 86 years old, beloved mother, grandmother, and community member, passed away peacefully on Thursday, October 23, 2025, in Delmar, Delaware. She was born on July 14, 1939, in Delmar, Delaware and was a proud lifelong resident of Delmar. She was a daughter of the late Paul Bunting Bennett and Nora Wright Bennett.

Mildred graduated from Delmar High School with the class of 1957 before pursuing her dream of becoming a registered nurse. She earned her degree from Wilmington General Hospital in 1960 and devoted her career to caring for others, notably working alongside Dr. Pierce Ellis in Laurel. For over 50 years, Mildred gave unwavering support and was a healthcare advocate for her family in times of illness and aging.

A strong-willed individual, Mildred was deeply dedicated to her community. She served for 49 years as an active member of the Delmar Lions Club, past president of the Delmar Lioness Club, past member of the New Century Club of Delmar and the Delmar Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary. Her commitment to public service was further exemplified by her role on the Delmar Town Council, where she worked tirelessly to enhance the community she loved.

Mildred is survived by her loving children, Andrew "Andy" Riley (Amy), Gary Riley, and Anna Era (Greg); grandchildren, Stephen Riley, Patrick Riley (Katie), Katie Dietsch, Kyle Era and Ryan Era, as well as her cherished great-grandchildren; Nora, Odin, Henri, Connor, and Maeve. She is also survived by a brother, Richard Bennett (Linda); and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Her family meant the world to her, and they will forever hold her memory close to their hearts.

In addition to her parents, Mildred was preceded in death by her beloved husband, who she has missed for 41 years, Charles Samuel Riley; and a sister-in-law, Katharine Bennett.

Funeral services will be held at Short Funeral Home in Delmar on Saturday, November 1, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. A visitation will take place from 11:00 to 12:00. Following the service, Mildred will be laid to rest in St. Stephen's Cemetery in Delmar.

Mildred Lucille Riley will be remembered for her compassion, dedication, and the lasting impact she made on her family and community. She will be greatly missed but will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

Memorial donations may be made in memory of Mildred to the Delmar Lions Club, c/o Gary Riley, 3643 May Twilley Road, Delmar, DE 19940 or to the Delmar Alumni Association, c/o Gary Riley, 3643 May Twilley Road, Delmar, DE 19940.

Arrangements are in the care of Short Funeral Home in Delmar. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.shortfh.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Stephen's Cemetery

State Street
Delmar, DE 19940

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 1. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Short Funeral Home
13 East Grove Street
Delmar, DE 19940
(302) 846-2525
info@shortfh.com

Funeral Service

NOV 1. 12:00 PM (ET)

Short Funeral Home
13 East Grove Street
Delmar, DE 19940
(302) 846-2525
info@shortfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Short Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mildred Lucille Riley*



Short Funeral Home - October 31, 2025 at 03:21 PM

BB

“ *B& B Brittingham lit a candle in memory of Mildred Riley*



B& B Brittingham - October 31, 2025 at 01:54 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mildred Lucille Riley.*



October 31, 2025 at 07:52 AM

PW

“ I will always have very fond memories of Miss Mildred. A lifelong commitment to family and community. A pillar.

My deepest condolences to her family. She will surely be missed by all for many years to come.

Pat Wood - October 30, 2025 at 05:22 PM

DM

“ Mildred was an amazing, strong, warm woman. We shared 2 grandsons. Her love of family was strong and loving. I was fortunate to call her friend.

Deanna Marshall

Deanna Marshall - October 28, 2025 at 11:02 AM

DL

“ DAVID LYNCH AND BEVERLY STURGIS LYNCH purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mildred Lucille Riley.



DAVID LYNCH AND BEVERLY STURGIS LYNCH - October 27, 2025 at 12:57 PM

DL

“ DAVID LYNCH AND BEVERLY STURGIS LYNCH planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mildred Lucille Riley.

DAVID LYNCH AND BEVERLY STURGIS LYNCH - October 27, 2025 at 12:57 PM

DF

“*Doug Denny and Derrick Fernandez purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mildred Lucille Riley.*



Doug Denny and Derrick Fernandez - October 25, 2025 at 06:00 PM

DF

“*Doug Denny and Derrick Fernandez planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mildred Lucille Riley.*

Doug Denny and Derrick Fernandez - October 25, 2025 at 06:00 PM