



## Willa Faye Merrill

September 28, 1939 - December 29, 2025

Willa Faye Merrill, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and talented seamstress, passed away peacefully at her home in Delmar, DE, on Monday, December 29, 2025. Born on September 28, 1939, in Parsons, WV, Willa Faye lived a full and vibrant life, marked by hard work, creativity, and love for family. She was a daughter of the late William E. Goff and Lillian Knotts Goff.

In her early career, Willa Faye worked diligently as a nurse's aide at Peninsula General Hospital in Salisbury. She later discovered her passion for sewing, which led her to a fulfilling career as a seamstress at Canvas Experts in Ocean City, where she specialized in crafting canvas products for airplanes, boats, and awnings. Known for her incredible work ethic, Willa was dedicated to her craft, and her family will cherish the handmade clothing, wedding dresses, and special items she created for them, each piece filled with love and care.

Beyond her work, Willa Faye had a passion for raising chickens and enjoyed the simple pleasures of life. She was also an avid motorcyclist, sharing many joyful road trips on her Gold Wing with her late husband, Ralph, and participating in clubs, including the Delaware Chapter B Club. Willa Faye also was passionate about her church, St. Paul's Church in Laurel, and hardly missed a service over the past several years.

Willa is survived by her daughters, Carla Parker and husband Frank, and Donna Hurley and husband, Patrick; grandchildren, April Kerfoot and husband

Rick, Sherry Lewis, Zachary Merrill, Joel Hurley and wife Shauna, Ashley Hurley and Alexis Hurley; great grandchildren, Kerrigan Kerfoot, Aidan Kerfoot, Emma Lewis, Alexis Parker, Abbigale Parker, Alivia, Grayson , Taliah, DJ and Aliana; sister-in-law, Ginnie Goff; and a host of loving nieces and nephews, family and friends who will remember her warmth, creativity, and unyielding spirit.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by beloved husband of 65 years, Ralph David Merrill, Sr.; son, Ralph David Merrill, Jr.; a grandson, Frank Parker, III; and three brothers and a sister.

Funeral services for Willa Faye will be held on Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 12:00 noon at Short Funeral Home in Delmar, where a visitation for family and friends will be held from 11:00 to 12:00. Pastor Jack Jester will officiate.

Internment will follow at Line Community Cemetery in Delmar.

Memorial contributions may be made in her honor to the American Cancer Society by visiting [www.cancer.org/donate](http://www.cancer.org/donate).

Willa Faye Merrill's legacy will live on in the hearts of her family and friends, and she will be dearly missed.

# Cemetery Details

## Line Community Cemetery

33961 E. Line Road  
Delmar, DE 19940

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 6. 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

JAN 6. 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 Willa Faye Merrill*



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**Short Funeral Home** - January 06 at 03:49 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Willa Faye Merrill.*



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January 05 at 12:14 PM



“ *We're going to miss you so much over here on carr blvd.*



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**Tina gordy** - January 05 at 12:05 PM

KS

“ Kay Short-Habig lit a candle in memory of Willa Merrill



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**Kay Short-Habig** - January 04 at 05:11 PM

KS

“ So sorry to hear of Mrs. Merrill's passing. She was such a sweet lady. I went to school with her kids at Delmar. I always sat right near her at Church. Condolences to all Family and Friends. She was one sweet Christian lady! Hugs and prayers for all! ❤️

*Kay Short-Habig  
Delmar, De.*

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**Kay Short-Habig** - January 04 at 05:11 PM

VJ

“ Vivian Joseph lit a candle in memory of Willa Merrill



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**Vivian Joseph** - December 31, 2025 at 04:13 PM