



Virginia "Ginny" Curtis

April 11, 1926 - January 29, 2016

Virginia "Ginny" Curtis (nee Ross), 89, of Hobart, Indiana, passed away on Friday, January 29th, 2016. Born on April 11, 1926 to Ham and Ethel (Nicely) Ross of Muncie, Indiana, she was preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, Bill Curtis, who passed away in 2007. She was also preceded in death by siblings Carl Ross, Richard Ross, Dora Ross, Betty Downs, Barbara Livingston and Doris Young. She is survived by daughters Teresa Torres of Merrillville and Judy (David) Kavanagh of Alachua, Florida; grandchildren Rachel (David) Bell, Mark Torres, John Kampo and Sarah (Michael) Warren; great-grandchildren Nicolette Torres, Madeline Bell and Fiona Bell; brothers James Ross and Jerry (Jackie) Ross; sisters Phyllis Harry and Mary (Leonard) Wesley; numerous nieces and nephews and her beloved "Kitty." Through her various endeavors, Virginia had a significant impact on many. Her journalist career included serving as editor for the Hobart Herald and the Hobart Gazette, and later as news correspondent for the Post-Tribune and the Times. Lauded for her professional integrity and journalistic skills, her articles and photographs captured not only the news and history, but the heart and soul of the community she loved. Her photograph of Hobart's Dough Boy monument is the Smithsonian Institution.

Over the years, Virginia received numerous honors, awards, and the respect of many for her dedication to the city and people of Hobart. From early projects like the Ridgeview PTA and West Hobart Civic Club she was determined to make things better. Throughout her years of involvement with

the Hobart Chamber of Commerce, she was bestowed numerous honors and awards, including several lifetime achievement and outstanding citizen awards.

She was the driving force behind the City Improvement Committee, which built the Revelli Band Shell and led campaigns to expand Festival Park. For 20 years, Virginia's CIC sponsored summer concerts as diverse as the Rusty Pipes, the Hobart HS Band, Big Bands of the 40s and Meet the Beatles. She was always out there with a smile.

Virginia was dedicated to making Hobart's 4th of July extra special with events like the Mark Twain fence painting contest, doll and pet parades, and once served as Parade Marshall.

She was a board member of the Hobart Historical Society and a founder of Save Our Station. She was honored for suggesting and furnishing an apartment for the middle school's Family and Consumer Science class.

Because of her many contributions, she was presented the Key to the City by two different Hobart mayors and twice declared citizen of the year.

A few years ago, she spurred a campaign among veterans organizations to restore 1,400 servicemen's gravesites in Beech Grove Cemetery, located in her home town of Muncie.

Virginia enjoyed painting ceramics, decorating for the holidays and visiting Las Vegas "for the desert air." She loved Christmas, initiating the Breakfast with Santa event and taking great pride in decorating her home with unique items, including a huge Christmas village.

Friends and relatives may pay their respects at Burns Funeral Home, 701 East 7th Street, Hobart between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Tuesday, February 2nd. Graveside services will be conducted Thursday, February 4th at 1:00 p.m. by the Unitarian Church at Beech Grove Cemetery, Muncie, IN. www.burnsfuneral.com

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 2. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home - Hobart
701 E. 7th Street
Hobart, IN 46342
(219) 942-1117
info@burnsfuneral.com
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

Service

FEB 4. 1:00 PM (ET)

Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie
4800 W Bradford Dr
Muncie, IN 47304-5303
(765) 288-9561

Tribute Wall

BW

“ To the family, Virginia was like a fairy Godmother for the Family and Consumer Science students at Hobart Middle School. I met Virginia when she she had the creative goal of having a living center in the FACS room. She took on the project with insight and financial backing. I totally enjoyed her visits to the room...her enthusiasm and joy for the apartment was so stimulating in teaching the students manners and cleaning. She kept donating each year with whatever supplies and flowers we needed. Our students at Hobart Middle School will be touched by Virginia for many decades in the future. I have been greatly touched to know her.
Betty Whiting, Family and Consumer Science teacher at Hobart Middle School, now retired

Betty Whiting - February 01, 2016 at 07:53 PM

JK

Thank you. This was a favorite project for mom and so we included it in our memories video. It is so wonderful to hear your appreciation.

Judy Kavanagh - February 06, 2016 at 10:06 PM

SM

“ *Sonny and Kay Spencer and Maria purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Virginia "Ginny" Curtis.*



Sonny and Kay Spencer and Maria - January 30, 2016 at 03:42 PM