



## Gloria Jean Klipa

October 17, 1935 - December 7, 2017

Gloria Jean Klipa passed away peacefully at her home in Bluefield, VA on December 7, 2017 surrounded by her loving family.

"MamaJean," as she was affectionately called by those close to her, was born October 17, 1935 in Oceana, WV, to Wirt and Geneva (Neece) Cook.

MamaJean attended Marshall University and continued her education at the West Virginia School of Banking. Known for her sharp wit, work ethic, and fondness for perfectly pressed white blouses, she quickly found success in the banking industry. She began her banking career at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond in Norfolk, VA. She served as auditor for The Bank of Man for thirteen years until she was promoted to the position of Vice President in 1985. She also served as the President of the Banking Administration Institute.

Always a strong community advocate, MamaJean donated her many talents to a number of local charities. The Food Pantry of Man was especially important to her, as was her involvement with the Tridelphia Woman's Club in her earlier years. She was also a member of the Bruce McDonald Memorial United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women of Man, WV.

MamaJean is survived by her daughters Debrah Ammar of Bluefield, VA and Terri (Todd) Hatfield of Gilbert, WV, son Billy Robertson of Oceana, WV, granddaughters Alexandra and Olivia Ammar of Savannah, GA, Teryn (Gabe) Manella of Westminster, MD, Megan (Dennis) Quinn of Charleston, SC, grandson Zachary Robertson of Oceana, WV, brother John Wirt Cook of

Cyclone, WV, sister Geneva Ann (Bill) Cook Parker of Beckley, WV, cousins Carolyn Jeffrey Martin of Martinsville, VA, Iris Hope (Gary) Jeffrey Birley, of Oceana, WV, Charles (Barbara) Paul Jeffrey of Cyclone, WV and very special extended family members - Rev. Clyde (Phyllis) Robertson of Man, WV, Elizabeth Ann White Songer of Huntington, WV, Debbie Laurent McKillop of Clearwater, FL, and Sandra Greene, her loving caregiver, of Bluefield, WV. MamaJean was extremely close to her granddaughters, Alexandra and Olivia Ammar, "The Girls," and considered them to be the two brightest lights in her life. She spent the last decade of her life under the care of her beloved daughter Debrah and "The Girls." They were devoted to the health and wellbeing of MamaJean and cherished every moment they spent with her. They were her greatest source of joy and her most precious accomplishments. Alexandra and Olivia have both inherited MamaJean's zest for life and gorgeous smile.

MamaJean was preceded in death by her husband George Klipa, her parents Wirt and Geneva Cook, a brother George Herman "Babe" Cook, son-in-law S.A. Ammar, Jr. and Aunt Money Zale (Cook) Jeffrey, with whom she shared a very special bond.

A memorial service will be held at Bruce McDonald Memorial United Methodist Church on Saturday January 20, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. with a celebration of life to follow at 214 W. McDonald Avenue in Man, WV.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to one of the following charities in her honor: The Man Food Pantry, Bruce McDonald Memorial United Methodist Church, 104 E. McDonald Ave., Man, WV 25635 or the Bluefield Preservation Society, P.O. Box 4044, Bluefield, WV, 24701.

Those wishing to share memories or condolence messages with the family may do so by visiting [www.MercerFuneralHome.com](http://www.MercerFuneralHome.com) Mercer Funeral Home & Crematory is serving the family of Mrs. Gloria J. Klipa.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gloria Jean Klipa*

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Klipa.*



January 19, 2018 at 09:44 AM



“ *Cylinder Remembrance Holder was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Klipa.*



January 13, 2018 at 09:04 PM



“ *Dear Debrah and girls. My condolences go out to you and your family. You are never too old to experience and feel the devastation of your world crumbling around you as your lovely mom made her transition home. You are all in my thoughts and healing prayers. I'm so glad that Thomas is there to help support you all. God bless you all and I love you* 🍷❤️

Sue Presley - December 26, 2017 at 11:49 AM

D(

“ Debra, I am so sorry to hear about Mona Jean, she was such a sweet lady and I am truly Blessed to have known her and to be able to care for her I will always remember the good times I had with her at the havens. RIP my angle 🙏🙏

Doileda Thompson (punkin) - December 14, 2017 at 10:26 PM

TC

“ The most vivid memory that I have of Jean is her wonderful laugh. She could not keep from laughing when she told her own stories, and she told some funny stories. She was a beautiful woman and her wonderful smile made her even more beautiful in my eyes. Jean was a friend to my mother, Eve Cuni, and she was a friend to me and to everyone who wanted her friendship. What a wonderful person she was and what a wonderful life she made for herself and her family and her many friends. Tom Cuni

Tom Cuni - December 12, 2017 at 06:58 PM

JS

“ DEbbie we so sorry for the loss of your mother we will keep u&Girls in our prayers come see us love u all JASON&JOYCE



JASON SHORT SR - December 11, 2017 at 10:52 PM

SG

“ Debbie and family so sorry to hear about your mother and the girls passing. She will leave a legacy that will carry on forever and she raised a very beautiful daughter. You and yours will be in my prayers. Love you. Sharon Gemmell - Cuzs.

sharon gemmell - December 11, 2017 at 10:00 PM

SG

*I meant to say the girls grandmother's passing.*

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**sharon gemmell** - December 11, 2017 at 10:01 PM

KD

“ Dear Deb, Terri, and family,

*I extend my condolences to you for the loss of your mother, Jean. While we were growing up in South Man, Jean was a dear friend to my mother, Katie. My mother admired and respected Jean's strength, wisdom, endurance, and loving devotion to her children.*

*Jean graciously welcomed me and my sisters into her home, treating us like family (and since Jean was a Cook, I feel certain we were family). Jean shared her sweet daughters, Deb and Terri, with me and my sisters. Deb and Terri, who were like our little sisters, would stay at our house playing and laughing with me, my sisters, and my family. Jean sometimes had to chase them home. Jean had a big heart and lots of love that she demonstrated through her actions, good deeds, and generosity to my family and so many other friends and family.*

*Rest in peace, dear Jean. You left many sweet memories and a legacy for your family and us to treasure always.*

*My love, Kathryn Cook DeAngelo  
12/10/17*

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**Kathryn Cook DeAngelo** - December 10, 2017 at 02:17 PM

Alice  
Phillips

“ Dear dear Debra and family~Your Mama and Mama Jean was always my version of the classiest and most beautiful, inside and out. A royal soul.like Jacqueline Kennedy. She leaves a strong talented legacy. She is looking down with immense pride and love. Sending my love and big hugs. Alice (Cook) D'Antoni Phillips

Alice Phillips - December 10, 2017 at 11:26 AM

JC

“ Debbie, I am so sorry for your loss. Please know I am thinking of you and praying for you, the girls, and other family members 🙏

Joan Lockhart Compton - December 10, 2017 at 11:12 AM

EL

“ Debbie and girls,  
I am so sorry. I know you have beautiful memories to hold on to.  
Peace and love,  
Ellen Lazenby

ellen lazenby - December 10, 2017 at 10:45 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Klipa.



December 10, 2017 at 08:24 AM

RW

“ Debi & the girls & Terri & family so sorry for your loss. She was fun to be around and would light up the room. I really enjoyed talking to her and her sassy stories as a young ladd in Man.

Richard Walthall - December 10, 2017 at 07:13 AM



“ Oh so sorry for you ladies! Sending love & warmth your way. Love you all!!!



Katie Copley - December 09, 2017 at 11:04 PM

AM

“ Prayers for all of the family. I loved getting to spend time with Mama Jean and hear all of her stories. She will be greatly missed. Sending hugs your way. Love you all. Amy Vance Wiley

Amy - December 09, 2017 at 10:57 PM

LE

“ I'm so sorry for your loss, Debi and Terri. You probably don't remember me but I graduated with Terri. I know the pain of losing your Mother and it being close to Christmas time. I will be praying for you to have strength throughout this time. God bless you. Lisa McComas Ellis

Lisa G ELLIS - December 09, 2017 at 08:11 PM

MC

“ Debra & Terri my deepest sympathy to you both for the loss of your precious mom. Prayers that God will give you peace & the strength you will need during this most difficult time. In my thoughts & prayers. Mary Nester Collins

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**Mary Collins** - December 09, 2017 at 08:05 PM

CR

“ Peace and Love be with you and your family.  
Sincerely, Carol Riddle

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**Carol Riddle** - December 09, 2017 at 08:04 PM

MM

“ I can remember how fun Jean was spending the night at their house in elementary school. And I always thought she was so pretty and classy. Fond memories. 💕

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**Marie Craddock Mullin** - December 09, 2017 at 08:02 PM

SW

“ Jean was always a bright light at church. It was always wonderful to see her with her granddaughters in church and she was so proud of them! Love and prayers to the family! Sarah Burgess Wolfe

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**Sarah Burgess Wolfe** - December 09, 2017 at 06:42 PM

PT

“ Peter and I had the pleasure as well as the honor of knowing Momajeane. She watched our children grow up and always encouraged Ashby and Jena. Our love goes out to Debra, Alex, and Olivia. Your family has been dear to us for many years. We will cherish her sweet memory. With all our love, Peter and Patricia Taylor

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**Patricia Taylor** - December 09, 2017 at 06:24 PM

NM

*I met Jean at The Bank of Man..We became close friends through Beverly Carter...we had so many good times together....one that sticks out: one Friday night I fixed pork chops for dinner...the bank stayed open late ...she and Beverly came and ate dinner....she so enjoyed herself...Debbie and Terry u guys will be in my prayers❤️*

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**norma mller** - December 09, 2017 at 07:02 PM

MS

*Jean.....what to say.....she was my rock and confidant when I was in high school. I think I stayed at her and George's home more than I did my own home, and I sought her advice quite often. I loved the way she dressed and wanted to be like she was. I drove her car often and she totally trusted me with her girls. Even though loved ones are scattered as life happens, it doesn't dimenish the effect one may have had on another's life. When my daughter was born in 1977 I named her Jean....I always loved that name.*

*I know she was loved by Debbie with a passion...*

*Mary Ellen Cook Stinson*

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**mary ekken stinson** - December 09, 2017 at 07:37 PM

DA

*So sorry to learn the news of Jean death. Praying for you girls, God be with you❤️🙏*

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**Dani** - December 09, 2017 at 10:51 PM

RG

*Very sorry about Jean. She was like a mother to all us girls who hung out at her home with Terri & Debbie. She always made time to talk with us about whatever we needed or wanted to discuss. She & George were like parents to us all..*

*Robin D. Greene*

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**Robin Greene** - December 10, 2017 at 06:59 AM

PT

*Sad to hear about the loss of such a bright star. She was wonderful in so many ways. You were truly blessed if she took you under her wing. I have many memories of wonderful times. I know she was surrounded by love & had the best care. Thoughts and prayers to Debbie & girls, Teri and Billy.*

*Penny Toler*

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**Penny Toler** - December 10, 2017 at 12:17 PM

JP

*My sincerest condolences to Debbie, Terri, Billy and their families. Jean was a great influence on my life. Her kindness, generosity and guidance when I was a young man will never be forgotten. She was and will always be remembered for her grace and elegance. She truly was "Mama Jean" to all of us*

*.- Jim Piccirillo*

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**Jim Piccirillo** - December 10, 2017 at 08:54 PM

BB

*Sorry to learn of Jean death. I have so many good memories of our times. She was a one in million and more like a sister than a best friend. Debbie, Terri, Billy, Ann, Carolyn, Hope, Paul & all of the family of Jean you are in my thoughts and prayers. Our memories will always keep Jean with us.*

*Love all of you!*

*Betty Ann*

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**Betty Ann Brown Becker** - December 12, 2017 at 10:22 AM