



## Vera Mae Griffen

October 18, 1925 - September 20, 2001

### Vera Griffen

Vera Nystrup Griffen, 75, of Hickory Hill Road, New Britain, widow of Selden K. Griffen, Jr., died Thursday Sept. 20, 2001 in Southington. Born in Rocky Hill, she was a former Newington resident, moving to New Britain in 1954. A graduate of Wethersfield High School in 1943, she was a real estate agent for several local agencies, retiring in 1990. Vera was an active member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church; was a longtime volunteer at Connecticut Public Television; was a member and former secretary of the New Britain Symphony; served on the board at the New Britain Museum of American Art; and was a member of the Womens Club of New Britain and the Shuttle Meadow Country Club. She was an avid golfer, bowler, tap dancer and figure skater. She also made great Toll House cookies.

Surviving are 2 sons, S. Kenneth Griffen, III and his wife Donna of Kensington; and Thomas Griffen and his wife Sarah Smith-Griffen of Avon; a brother, Allen Nystrup of Wethersfield; a sister, Joanne Forster of Orlando, FL; 3 grandchildren, Virginia Griffen, Augustus Griffen and Selden Griffen, IV; several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services are Tuesday, 10 AM at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 147 West Main St., New Britain. Burial will be in Center Cemetery, Newington. Calling hours are Monday 5 to 8 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Sq., New Britain. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Vera Griffen Memorial Fund of the New Britain Symphony, P.O. Box 1253, New Britain

06050-1253. Online guestbook @ [www.carlsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

DW

“ *Wanted to drop a quick note concerning Aunt Vera. So sorry to hear of the loss, as I understand it was quite a battle.*

*My memories are of her un-ending smile and open-armed welcome into her world of warmth. When I injured my hand and no one was at my house, she was the one to go to. Jamie Sullivan and I would always visit "Aunt Vera" for after school treats, companionship and the chance to share.....*

*This companionship also included sitting on Griff's lap, stories of the war and the hope of going downstairs to see "The Collection".*

*All my memories are through the eyes of a child. She was wonderful, she made it seem so easy and real. I suppose that type of vision or remembrance stays in the heart of a child. As an adult I can realize that is where all special people should remain.*

*Deepest sympathies,*

*David Waskowitz*

---

**David Waskowitz** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Always enjoyed Vera's spirit and competitiveness, she will be greatly missed.*

---

**Jim and Sue Stevens** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Dear Ken and Tom;

*I send my sympathies and condolences to you and your family. I remember your Mom with such fondness. Whether it was allowing us to sit in the front seat of the Thunderbird or inviting us in for cookies, Vera was such a warm part of the Hickory Hill community. I do hope that you and your families are well and know how much we loved your Mom. I wish you all the best. Take care.*

*--Billy Waskowitz*

---

**Bill Waskowitz** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.  
Allen and Julie Mosley*

---

**Allen and Julie Mosley** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ *Dear Ken and Tom,  
Vera touched my life at a very early age and I've always had fond memories for the special times in my life.*

*My sincere condolences to you and your families and apologies that I'm not able to be there in person.*

*My thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless.*

*With Love, Sandra.*

---

**Sandra Skoglund Flynn** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

IB

“ Vera sent me a photograph of the two of us working at the Sesquicentennial at Walnut Hill Park. A beautiful picture of her and a fond remembrance of the committee work we have shared in the Garden Club and Woman's Club. We shall miss her enthusiasm, her smile and gracious ways.

---

**Irving and Lois Blomstrann** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Ken and Donna, Virginia and family:  
You all will be in our thoughts and prayers.

---

**Paul and Charlene Bugnacki** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ I will be forever grateful for Vera, my "second mom" and "Grammie Vera" to my sons. Vera enriched our lives beyond words. I will miss her deeply, and I will always remain so thankful to have been blessed with her love. Thank you for sharing Vera with all of us all these years!

---

**Janice Dowsett Potter** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ She was a great friend, good wife and superb mother

---

**Bob Rackliffe** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ To Ken, Donna, and the whole family,  
We will be out of state the next few days and unable to attend the services for Vera. She was a very special lady in many ways, and we shall miss her lovely smile and elegant way of doing things. Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers at this sad time.  
Pauline & Ken

---

**Pauline & Ken Kezer** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Don and Karen Sagarino and Kay Sagarino

---

**Don and Karen Sagarino** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM