



Clara McCoy Elliott

June 2, 1946 - January 24, 2024

Life's Legacy

Clara R. Elliott was born Clara McCoy Russell on June the 2nd, 1946 to the late Mr. Ralph McCoy Russell and Mrs. Lula Belle Russell in Mecklenburg County, Virginia as the eldest of their four children.

As a “military brat”, Clara spent time living in Virginia, North Carolina, Texas, and Hawaii before finally returning to Mecklenburg County to graduate from West End High School in 1964. After high school, she spent the next four years attending Virginia State College (later Virginia State University), graduating with a degree in history in 1968. Clara’s professional journey began as a teacher at Central Elementary School in Boydton, VA in the fall of 1968, where she taught for one school year.

Clara moved to Richmond after marrying Ernest F. Elliott in June of 1969, becoming Mrs. Clara R. Elliott. This was also the year that she joined Good Shepherd Baptist Church in Richmond where she would teach Sunday School for nearly 50 years. She also began her 40 year career in mortgage banking in Richmond in 1969.

Clara and Ernest grew their family by one as they welcomed their first child, Marlin Dean Elliott, on January 14th, 1974. The couple welcomed their second

child, Mia Dawn Elliott (later Mia Dawn Claiborne) on March 14th, 1975. The family purchased their first home in the summer of 1980. Clara spent the next 29 years dedicating herself to her family, her church, and her career in mortgage.

In 2009, Clara retired from Suntrust Mortgage and began the last phase of her life. It was during this time that she began to learn to speak Spanish at a community Spanish class, volunteered as a tutor at Woodville Elementary School, took a gourmet cooking class, and joined a community swim club where she learned to swim and met a whole host of friends that she would cherish for the rest of her life. Clara also was able to travel to New Orleans, Louisiana, Memphis, Tennessee, Cozumel, Mexico, Honduras, Belize, Aruba, and The Bahamas during this time. An avid reader, Clara was a woman of many interests and strong intellectual curiosity who loved her family and friends immensely.

Clara transitioned on January 24, 2024. She was 77 years old. She was survived by her husband, Ernest; her two children, Marlin and Mia (Marcus); her siblings, Lucille Watson (Alphonso Sr.), Ralph Russell Jr. (Yvonne), and Caroline Redd. She also had many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews that she loved dearly.

Cemetery Details

Riverview Cemetery

1401 S. Randolph Street
Richmond, VA 23220

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 2. 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Celebration of Life

FEB 3. 11:30 AM (ET)

Good Shepherd Baptist Church
1127 N. 28th Street
Richmond, VA 23223

Tribute Wall

DC

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Clara was my dear friend. We shared a lot of good times and made lots of special memories. She will always be in my heart and she will be missed greatly. I love you Elliott Family. Dale (Roots) Chambers

Dale Chambers - February 22, 2024 at 06:06 AM

BP

“ Clara helped me in kitchen at Good Shepherd and we became good friends. I will always cherish her memory. My prayers to Deacon Elliott and her family.

Brenda Pitts - February 03, 2024 at 01:03 PM

DW

“ Deborah Wiley lit a candle in memory of Clara McCoy Elliott



Deborah Wiley - February 03, 2024 at 12:47 PM

MN

“ My sympathy and condolences to Deacon Elliott, Marlin and Mia. Mrs. Elliott was such fine person, educator, and teacher. I always had great respect and admiration for her. I enjoyed talking, chatting about us raising our children together, laughing and joking with her. You all have so much to be grateful for and wonderful memories. May love and grace be with you in the days to come. Blessings, Mrs. Brenda Nichols, GSBC

Mrs. Brenda Nichols - February 02, 2024 at 03:36 PM

ME

“ Clara McCoy Elliott is my sister-in-law/sister-in-love. She was a generous and kind, beautiful Christian woman with a vibrant spirit. She loved her family dearly. When we got a chance to chat, she spoke affectionately about her family. She was proud of her Mia and Marlin. She was an amazing cook and an excellent wife. Each year, our family would come together for Thanksgiving. She would prepare the most delicious desserts. Clara was such a wonderful person I will never forget her. She will always hold a special place in my heart. You had to leave but your memory will live on forever. I'll see you in the resurrection, rest in peace Clara. Mary Elliott

Mary Elliott - February 01, 2024 at 10:28 PM

JH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Juanita Hanley - February 01, 2024 at 08:40 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Clara McCoy Elliott.



February 01, 2024 at 05:47 AM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

March Funeral Homes - January 30, 2024 at 10:02 AM