

In Remembrance

Jean Evonne Batten
(June 1, 1957-November 25, 2023)

Thomas “Tommy” David Kerns
(February 23, 1940-March 11, 2024)

Arnold Dietz Cauble
(December 3, 1928-May 9, 2024)

Glenn Floyd Eagle
(June 10, 1938-May 18, 2024)

Jerry Wade Leazer
(May 13, 1945-June 8, 2024)

Frances Lou Meacham Norris
(June 24, 1931-June 10, 2024)

Effie Kluttz Vellines
(November 13, 1926-July 13, 2024)



Jean “Evonne” Batten was born June 1, 1957 in Charlottesville, VA. She was the third of 4 children. Her parents were James Henry Batten Jr. and Charlotte Jean Davis Batten. She grew up on a farm in Scottsville, VA.

Evonne was a stay-at-home mom for many years to her six children Lisa, Mary, Sarah, Clabern, Hannah and Phillip. She was a talented seamstress and made clothing, blankets and toys for her children. After helping care for her mom who passed away in 1995 Evonne decided to go to nursing school and became a wonderful, caring, compassionate home health nurse.

Evonne had 2 grandchildren, Felisaty and Dusty.

She very much enjoyed gardening, looking at wildlife and going to the mountains. If you knew Evonne you know she loved hummingbirds, thistles and German Shepherds. There was even a family joke that she tried to replace her grown children with German Shepherds because at one time she had six.

Evonne definitely loved her Lord Jesus Christ and did daily devotions and Bible reading which gave her great comfort.

She is very missed by her family.



Thomas David “Tommy” Kerns was one of the kindest, loving and caring people you’d ever know. He was a graduate of Boyden High School and the University of Maryland Automotive School. He was a veteran of the US Army National Guard, a member of the Harold B Jarrett Legion Post, and a former chief of Union Volunteer Fire Dept. He was a member of Union Lutheran Church, where he served as a past Church Council President, a member of the Drew Wise Sunday school class, the Good Timers Group. He retired from Novant Rowan Medica Center as a CT operator with public safety.

He met Joan while working as a bagger at the Kroger grocery store. They were married at Union Luthera Church by Rev. Vernon Frick on Feb. 17, 1963, which just happened to be Dawn Merrell’s 16th birthday.

Tommy enjoyed watching sports, especially NASCAR in his man cave (the garage) on Sunday afternoons.

During his many years of declining health, he never complained! He put his trust in God to carry him through each day. He loved his family, his church and left behind his loving wife, two sons and three grandchildren.

He will never be forgotten.

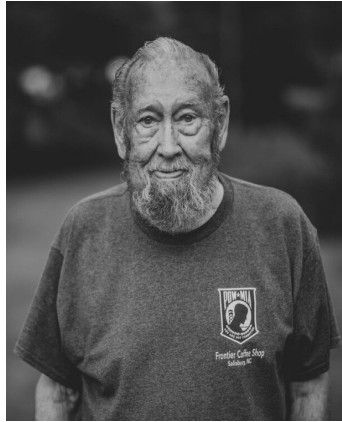


Our dad (Arnold Cauble) was one of thirteen kids. Over the years, I'm sure they shared a lot of good and bad times. They didn't go to school for a few months due to harvest time on the family farm.

Dad had played music all his life but never owned his own guitar. Someone always provided one for him to play. Playing music with him was rewarding but challenging. He could play for hours and never play the same song twice.

Dad must have done something right....my brothers and I seem to have turned out ok!



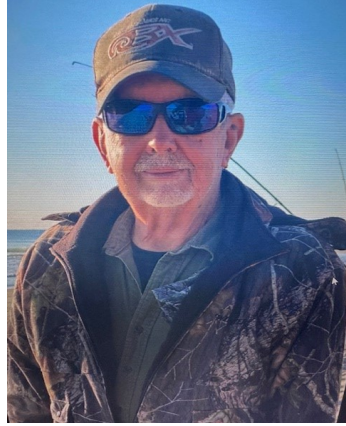


My Uncle Glenn never met a stranger. He could carry on a conversation for only 5 minutes and know all kinds of information about the person and they would in turn know all about him and his family. Then the pictures of his family would come out....He was so proud of his sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and loved to share their pictures. He and my Aunt Sue loved to camp in the mountains and would ride around the campground in their golfcart and catch up with old friends.

Glenn also loved to smoke and cook BBQ! Around the holidays, he and his sons would prepare numerous kinds of meat to smoke and stay up all night, tending the fire. He would then give the meat to friends and neighbors to enjoy!

My Uncle Glenn was a proud veteran. He served in the Navy and stayed in touch with a lot of the men he served with. His love for his country was something that he talked about even as he grew older, and his body grew weaker.

He always treated me like the daughter he never had, and I am proud to call him my uncle.



Jerry Wade Leazer, 79, of Salisbury passed away on June 8, 2024, at home surrounded by his loving family.

Wade loved country music especially the older country music artists and their songs. He loved his cattle, getting hay up, and farming and doing things outside of the home. He loved going fishing especially to the Outer Banks always hoping to catch the biggest fish of the group. He always told mom that he was going to catch the bigger fish than hers and that wish

came true on October 26, 2018, surrounded by all our family to see it and video it. Dad caught the biggest fish of his life, a red drum, weighing 46 pounds, 49 inches long off Ramp 34. He always loved to talk about that day for it brought one of the biggest smiles on his face next to his girls, grandboy and great grandboys being born. Daddy never did have a son but when Larry married into the family; Larry was considered his son not just a son-in-law. Daddy could always count on Larry for being there for him and taking care of his family.

Dad loved his family very much, especially his wife, Ruby, and his three girls (Sharon, Karen, and Sonya). He was a great softball coach to us girls and we loved having him as the coach. He was always there to support us no matter what. He also loved being around his grandson, Derrick, and great grandsons Adam, Dalton, and Wyatt. He used to love to pick on the boys always trying to use their ears as fish bait especially Wyatt's ears. Dad also had a love from older classic cars especially 55, 56 and 57 Chevrolet cars. Always loved to hear him talk about his stories of when he was younger with his favorite cars that he had and things that happened to him with those cars. Especially when dad was cruising downtown and that is where he picked mama up and then their love story went from there.

Dad was truly a great dad to us girls and a great pawpaw to the boys and is truly missed by us all.

Dad's fishing for the big one in heaven – we love you dad/pawpaw!



Frances Lou Meacham Norris passed away June 10, 2024, at the age of 92.

Frances was born in Rowan County on June 24, 1931, to the late William Lawrence Meacham and Gertha Albertine Gobble.

A lifelong Lutheran, Frances grew up in Christ Lutheran East Spencer and later joined Union Lutheran when Christ Lutheran closed. She helped her husband with his tax preparation. She was a faithful member of the quilting group in Christ Lutheran Church and then Union Lutheran Church. She was also a member of the Lutheran women's organization WELCA and previous Lutheran women's groups.



Effie's parents, Luther Frank Kluttz, Sr and Esther Cauble Kluttz, were members of Union Lutheran Church, making Effie a life-long member of our church. She also belonged to the Anna Petrea Woman's Circle and the Good Timers Senior Group.

Effie and her three brothers and four sisters grew up helping their parents on the family farm. They picked cotton along with other chores. Just a few years ago, Effie planted and grew some cotton in her backyard, enough for a cotton arrangement.

Effie was a 1944 graduate of Granite Quarry High School, where she played on the girls' basketball team. She married James W. Vellines in 1946 (who presided her in death in 2009).

As a young mother of three children, she was an excellent seamstress making some of her own and her daughter's clothes, including two prom dresses.

She was a wonderful cook and loved to bake. She also continued to mow her own yard and tended to all her flowers.

Holidays were special for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and their families. Her home was filled with delicious aromas of home cooking and decorated with love.



These stories about loved ones were written by friends and family members. This booklet is dedicated to the Glory of God and in memory of Members of Union Lutheran Church who have passed this year.

