



Virginia Conway Killingsworth

June 29, 1918 - September 22, 2017

On September 22, 2017, our mom, Virginia Leah Conway Killingsworth, slipped peacefully through the pearly gates to her heavenly home. She was blessed to live 99+ years, and according to her funeral notes, the years were good and rewarding. She is survived by two daughters and sons in law, Bette and Mike Cassidy and Laurie and Brent Duncan, daughter in law Pam Killingsworth, 6 granddaughters and spouses, Vinessa Killingsworth, Kristy Stockman (Steven), Kamala Jones (Coty), Kelli Sanburn, Meghann Brown (Justin), Whitney Bahm (Max), 2 step-granddaughters, Stephanni Cassidy and Tyfanni Cassidy, 2 step-grandsons and a spouse Chip Cassidy (Loretta) and Mark Cassidy, 24 great-grandchildren and 13 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Lyle Vincent Killingsworth I, her son Lyle Vincent (Vin) Killingsworth II and a sister Geneieve Conway Mora.

Mom was born on the 29th day of June 1918 in Clinton County, Missouri. Later at the age of 2, she and her parents, Charles Orwell Conway and Sallie Augusta Van Kirk Conway moved to Plattsburg, Missouri. She grew up there, graduating in 1936, dreaming of going to art school. Her first hobby had been designing clothes for her dolls, and she planned to continue her education in art/fashion design. However, her dad considered this frivolous and refused to support her training in this field. Along came my handsome dad who is working in Missouri as a REA lineman and sweeps her off her feet. They

married, May 21, 1940, and after living a short while in Tennessee and Mississippi, moved to Franklinton in 1941.

Franklinton was to become her permanent home and both were quick to begin working and becoming involved in various civic organizations. J.C. Simmons once said of mom that she was a planner, a mover, and a shaker, always with a path prepared ahead of her, and that she was. They both decided that they wanted to be involved with the Washington Parish Free Fair after attending their first fair in 1941. It was 1945 before they began their volunteer work since there was no fair during the war years of 1942, 1943, and 1944.

Once the fair was re-established, Mom began her 61 year work with her favorite project. She was known as “the Fair Lady”, and was involved with every aspect of it. Some of her contributions were: Member and Chairman of the Publicity Committee, Member and Chairman of the Front Entrance Committee, Member of the New Stage Committee, Member of the Education Building Committee, Member of the Parade Committee, Member of the Trophy Committee, Member of the Creative Crafts Exhibit Committee, Member of the Hospitality Committee, Member of the Dedication Luncheon Committee, Member of the Doubloon Committee, Member of the Silver Doubloon Committee, Member of the 70th and 75th Anniversary Pageant Committees, Member of the Honor Roll Committee, Member of the Fair History Committee, Publicity Chairman for the Walking and Western Horse Shows, Member of the Returning of the Fairgrounds to the Fair Association from the Police Jury, Charter Member, 1987 Chairperson and 18 year member of the Mile Branch Settlement Committee, Chairperson of the Mile Branch Brochure Committee, Researcher and Author of brochure, Member of the Mile Branch Ornament Committee, Member of the Mile Branch Activity Committee, Member of the Mile Branch Policies, Procedures and Rules Committee, 1983 Parade Marshall, 1984 Promenade Belle of Mile Branch Settlement, 1988 Catalog Honoree, 1992 Fair Mystery Person, 2008 designated Board Member

Emeritus status, 2003 Mile Branch Honoree, 2007 named Volunteer of the Year by the Louisiana Association of Fairs and Festivals.

Mom was also a member of Centenary Methodist Church, Washington Parish Tourist Commission and a 50 year member of the Waverly Club. As part of the Waverly Club, she was able to use her art talents as designer of the costumes for the Children's Coronation for 13 years. She also designed costumes for school plays, pageants and civic organizations. In addition, she worked for many years as a legal secretary and did some bookkeeping at various offices in town. As J.C. said, she was indeed a mover, a shaker and a planner and I will add to the list, a caring and supportive mom and grandmother. In her handwritten obituary instructions written sometime after 2008, she described herself as always being proud of her family, Franklinton and the Fair, and that she tried to be a positive thinking, friendly person.

For the last 5 ½ years, Mom has been a resident of the Good Samaritan Living Center, and Laurie and I can tell you that she kept them hopping there also!

The celebration of her life will begin Wednesday September 27, 2017 at Crain Funeral Home. Family visitation will be from 5:00-5:30 p.m. Public visitation will be 5:30 to 8:00pm. Visitation will continue Thursday morning September 28th at 9:00 am. The service will follow at 11:00 am with Rev. Brian Ridgedell officiating. Burial will follow in Ellis Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to one of the following:
Washington Parish Fair Association, Mile Branch Settlement, Centenary United Methodist Church of Ellis Cemetery Association.

Pallbearers: Wayne Kuhn, Karl Bickham, William Paige,

Gary "Bo" Pierce, Keith Fussell, Richard Passman

Obituaries can be viewed online at www.crainfh.com

Previous Events

Family visitation

SEP **27.** 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM (CT)

Crain Funeral Home, Inc.
1109 Bene Street
P.O. Drawer H
Franklinton, LA 70438
(985) 839-5676
crainfh@yahoo.com
<https://www.crainfh.com/>

Visitation

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Visitation

SEP **28.** 9:00 AM (CT)

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Service

SEP **28**. 11:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

CE

“ Cheryl Crain Ellison lit a candle in memory of Virginia Conway Killingsworth



Cheryl Crain Ellison - September 27, 2017 at 10:22 PM

CE

I am so very sorry for your loss (Bette, Laurie and all family members). I cannot imagine Franklinton and The Washington Parish Fair with our Mrs. Virginia. She was always a kind and fine southern lady. She will be missed by so many of us. RIP Mrs. Virginia. You made such an impression on me and many from childhood through adulthood. <3

Cheryl Crain Ellison - September 27, 2017 at 10:29 PM

MC

“ Missy & Benny Creel lit a candle in memory of Virginia Conway Killingsworth



Missy & Benny Creel - September 27, 2017 at 11:24 AM

RH

“ *What a lady. One of my two favorite aunts. I will always remember summers spent in Franklinton with my Killingsworth cousins. Aunt Virginia was a real talker and she was also a good listener (obviously since she usually had the scoop on everything and everybody). Wow, BK and Laurie, you two really were blessed to have a mother for a very long time - that's really cool. Vin had a mother all of his life. She was always interested in details of everyone she talked with.*

We are connected to people in our lives four ways; physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally. When they leave us we are only separated from the physically. We stay connected to them mentally, spiritually and emotionally in our memories FOREVER.

*Much love,
Randy Harrison, great nephew
Houston, TX*

Randy Harrison - September 26, 2017 at 07:10 PM

RT

“ *Randy and Harriet Harrison and family, Houston, TX purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Virginia Conway Killingsworth.*



Randy and Harriet Harrison and family, Houston, TX -
September 26, 2017 at 06:54 PM

DB

“ *Mrs Bette and Laurie,
Mrs. Virginia was a delight to know. She was full of information. I really begin to know Mrs. Virginia during our "beer" runs (you know diet root beer and diet sprite) at Good Samaritan. She and I would talk of all kinds of things, especially birds. Although I was not able to bring one of my fan-tailed pigeons for her to see, she would ask about them every time I visited. She was also full of love - and that love was for everyone and everything. You have been blessed to have such a wonderful Mother and I have been blessed to be able to call her my friend.*

Darlene Bennett - September 26, 2017 at 04:14 PM

KS

I am so blessed to have had Mrs Virginia cross my path in this life. Loved to sit and listen to her tales of life.

Kathy Smith - September 26, 2017 at 09:22 PM

LS

“ *Bette and Laurie,
I want to express my deepest sympathy at the loss of your mother. She was such a grand and elegant lady, and although you feel the emptiness of her loss, I hope you find comfort in knowing that the face of heaven is shining even more brightly with her presence there.*

Linda Stringfield

Linda Stringfield - September 26, 2017 at 02:30 PM

JM

“ *Ms. Virginia's indelible imprint is all over the town of Franklinton and the Washington Parish Free Fair! And, so much for the better! Her place in heaven was well prepared. She .. is resting in sweet peace. God bless her family.*



Judy McCasland Micelle - September 26, 2017 at 10:11 AM

BS

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Mrs. Virginia was always such sweet lady and always a loving supportive part of the community. Bill & Teresa Stafford*

Bill Stafford - September 26, 2017 at 09:54 AM

RS

“ *Rachael Spears lit a candle in memory of Virginia Conway Killingsworth*



Rachael spears - September 26, 2017 at 02:15 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Virginia Conway Killingsworth.*



September 25, 2017 at 08:34 PM

DV

“ *Debbie Varnado lit a candle in memory of Virginia Conway Killingsworth*



Debbie Varnado - September 25, 2017 at 04:55 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Virginia Conway Killingsworth.*



September 25, 2017 at 03:42 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Virginia Conway Killingsworth.*



September 25, 2017 at 02:13 PM

KD

“ *I always loved her smile and the way she made people feel special when talking to you. Miss Virginia was loved and will be missed by her family.*

Kaye Jean Miller Doss - September 25, 2017 at 02:05 PM

ME

“ *Bette Katherine and Laurie,
Our neighborhood has lost another precious mother. You have been so blessed to have had your mother with you for so long. One of my memories of Miss Virginia is when I was 12 or 13, she asked me to be a "Ribbon Girl" at the horse show at the Fair. I was so honored. AND I was invited to a dinner for all those involved in the show. WOW!
Miss Virginia has always been a town treasure and now memories of her will be treasured by all who knew her.
There will be a big empty space in your lives. Fill it with continuing love for her and thankfulness to our God for the blessing of being her daughters.
Lovingly, Martha Knight Elliott*

Martha Knight Elliott - September 25, 2017 at 12:32 PM

BS

“ *Brenda Simon lit a candle in memory of
Virginia Conway Killingsworth*



Brenda Simon - September 24, 2017 at 11:21 PM

BS

“ *Mrs. Virginia was a great role model for many people. She gave me a great compliment when she told me that I reminded her of herself when she first came to Franklinton. I am so thankful to have met her and to have her give me an orientation into Mile Branch Settlement. Her legacy lives on in her wonderful family and in all of the people that she touched through her many years of service to this community. Rest in peace, Mrs. Virginia!*

Brenda Simon - September 24, 2017 at 11:19 PM