



## Ms. Mary LaVerne Hamilton

August 11, 1934 - June 4, 2025

Ms. Mary LaVerne Hamilton, formerly of Peoria, IL, 90, departed this life at 2:08 am on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at Antebellum Grove Senior Living in Warner Robins, GA.

Mary was born in Peoria, IL on August 11, 1934, the only child of William and Delores (Jones) Hamilton.

Growing up, Mary was always seen with her twin cousins Harry and Harold Proctor. She graduated from Peoria Central High School. Mary later went on to graduate from St. Francis Nursing School on September 5, 1956. During her nursing career, she continued her education and fulfilled the requirements to become an IV Specialist and an Anesthetist.

Mary's precious memory will be cherished by her loving and devoted family which includes, her caregiver Brenda Robinson, Vera Irving, William "Bill" Irving, Clinton (Liz) Irving, Harry (Jeanette) Proctor, Lynne (Jerry) Proctor Costic, Audrey Foster and Rene (Robert) Adell; and other relatives and friends.

Mary loved to travel and her nursing career provided her with the opportunity to live in several states in America as well as to visit Europe several times.

Mary was a devout Catholic and attended St. Ann's while living on Kettelle Street until the passing of her mother. Mary was famous for her love of walking. She loved meeting people and taking care of others.

Mary was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and took up residency at Bickford Senior Living of Peoria, IL in June of 2013. She relocated to Lizella, GA with her cousin in August of 2016.

Mary's last place of residence was at Antebellum Grove Senior Living located in Warner Robins, Georgia. She was lovingly given the nickname of "Bud" by the staff at Antebellum and often seen assisting them with their daily chores. Very loving, generous and caring to everyone she met. Her kind and compassionate spirit will be missed.

A Funeral Mass will be at 11 am on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at St. Ann's with a visitation one-hour prior beginning at 10am. Father Jeremy Freehill will officiate. Mary will be laid to rest at Parkview Mausoleum.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [SimonsMortuary.com](http://SimonsMortuary.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Parkview Mausoleum

2001 N University St  
IL 61604  
(309) 688-0733

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 11. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church  
1010 S. Louisa Street  
Peoria, IL 61614

## Funeral Mass

JUN 11. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church  
1010 S. Louisa Street  
Peoria, IL 61614

# Tribute Wall



“ *Forever missed and loved from your baby cousin Marleen LaVerne Proctor always and forever*

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**Marleen LaVerne Proctor** - May 15 at 04:47 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Mary Hamilton Funeral Mass*



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**Simons Mortuary** - June 27, 2025 at 01:28 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Parkview Mausoleum*



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**Simons Mortuary** - June 12, 2025 at 12:13 PM



“ *Sending 🙏🙏🙏*



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**Camille Thomas-Harris** - June 11, 2025 at 01:40 PM

JP

“ I was privileged to be related to Mary LaVerne and I can say, without reservation, she was a true blessing to the world. I don't remember her ever being in a bad mood or having a negative thing to say. The word that comes to mind when I reflect on her is 'saintly'. I was relieved to know that her passing was very peaceful. I know that she's looking down upon all of us from beyond the pearly gates of Heaven, where she has earned in her place. God gifted the world with her presence, and now she's returned to His side where she belongs. I'm just grateful to have had her in my life. Rest in Peace beloved cousin.



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**Justin Powell** - June 11, 2025 at 12:51 PM

BJ

“ Being a part of Mary's life has been an honor we started as neighbors when she lived on 5th St in Peoria but the Hamilton's became more family than friends. The love I have for Mary and her parents is unmeasurable, some of the kindest people you could have ever met if you were lucky enough to have the pleasure. Mary will be missed by many because she spread nothing but joy wherever she went and welcomed you with a warm heart and a smile. Until we meet again RIH Love, Benita

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**Benita Jones** - June 11, 2025 at 12:41 PM

EE

“ *The Hamiltons and I were neighbors on Kettelle St. After Miss Mary moved into the facility on Willow Knolls, I would occasionally visit her on Sundays and stay for the worship service. She cheerfully took me on a tour of her very nice new home and introduced me to the staff. When Miss Mary shared with me her medical diagnosis, it was done casually. She didn't seem bothered by it, just sharing. The last time I stopped by she was no longer living there. I later found out she had moved to GA. Miss Mary was a very special lady. I cherish her memory and longevity...Eva Ellis, Charlotte, NC*

Eva Ellis - June 10, 2025 at 05:39 PM

HP

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



harold proctor - June 10, 2025 at 03:07 PM

MP

*Forever loved from Marleen LAVERNE*

Marleen Proctor - June 11, 2025 at 11:12 AM

NP

“ *Nancy Proctor lit a candle in memory of Mary Hamilton*



Nancy Proctor - June 10, 2025 at 01:03 PM

FF

“ From the proctor family. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Ms. Mary LaVerne Hamilton.



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**From the proctor family.** - June 10, 2025 at 11:26 AM

FF

“ From the proctor family. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Mary LaVerne Hamilton.

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**From the proctor family.** - June 10, 2025 at 11:26 AM

DT

“ I want to say it was such a pleasure to have Mary Lavern in my life. Even though she is no longer on this earth her memory will always and for ever be with me. She could be funny, loving, caring, and sometimes even stubborn but always had a kind heart and a smile when you see her. I remember once I went to visit her when she lived at the Bigford House. It was a hot summer day. I walked into her apartment an she was standing there in a jogging suit and had the heat blasting because she said she was cold but her face showed otherwise. The heat took my breath away. I said .. Mary Lavern.. it is so hot in here as I started opening the windows and turned the heat OFF. We both laughed as her apartment began to cool down. Then she and I had a very pleasant visit. Mary Lavern, I'll miss your infectious laugh and smile but I know so many others will enjoy it. Love always.....Deborah

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**Deborah Totten** - June 10, 2025 at 09:59 AM

LH

“ 8 years ago I began working at an assisted living facility, as a caregiver in the memory care unit. I was assigned to that area for my first 6 months. I absolutely loved it. I had the pleasure of meeting one of the residents who went by the nickname “Bud”. On my first day, she asked if I was new, I said yes, and she said, “Welcome aboard!”

*This sweet lady loved doing daily exercises, they would listen to an exercise CD, she would lead the other residents in this activity. She was quick witted, kind and had the best sense of humor. Over the years we became so close and even when I was assigned to different areas, I would make sure to pop in and say hello to my friend, Bud. In the last few months, she started declining, but she'd still greet me with her infectious smile and always asked me how I was doing. These last two weeks, she really started transitioning and it became clear that her time with us was coming to an end. Every free moment I had, I would go down to her room and spend time with her. I'd hold her hand and say, “I love you Mary LaVerne”, she would squeeze my hand, some days she'd have enough strength to reply back, “I love you”. I played her favorite songs by Etta James, Frank Sinatra and Tina Turner for her, she tapped her hand to the music. That last night before I left, I stopped in one last time and held her hand and said the Our Father and Hail Mary to her. She was a devout Catholic. I gave her a kiss on her forehead and said one last time, “I love you Mary LaVerne”.*

*Sometime during the night she passed away. I am going to miss my friend so much. I am so thankful I was able to know her. RIP Bud 💔*



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**Lisa Heinisch** - June 10, 2025 at 09:57 AM

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**Lisa Heinisch** - June 10, 2025 at 09:56 AM

BR

“ 3 files added to the album tribute wall



Brenda Robinson - June 10, 2025 at 09:45 AM

KB

“ Mary LaVerne was a great Role Model for me, in Nursing. Her parents lived on 5th Street, near my Parents Helen and Kermit Burton. Mr. Hamilton sold my Dad his first car, a Blue 1957 Chevy Nomad. Mrs. Hamilton was great friend to Mom....in later years they played Cards together. Mary Laverne was an Extraordinary Nurse. I worked with her at St. Joseph's Hospital, in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois. She was the IV Specialist. It was an honor and a blessing to see her there. Whenever my Mom or Sister would have Surgery, at OSF, in Peoria, she would wait in the waiting Room with me. She would pray....and give me such Comfort. She was an Angel of Mercy. 90 years is a long life....and she always used it to help others. I will miss her kind words and Gentle Spirit....but I know she is resting in Peace and in Power. Love Karen Burton RN/BSN...Bradley School of Nursing 1977. She was such an Inspiration for Me!

Karen Burton - June 09, 2025 at 04:34 PM

CC

“ Cousins William & Clinton purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Ms. Mary LaVerne Hamilton.



Cousins William & Clinton - June 07, 2025 at 01:45 PM

NJ

“ Mary Laverne always had a smile on her face whenever we came to visit. I know that we all know the look on her face after a motorcycle ride was priceless. We love you and will miss you.



Nancy Jones - June 07, 2025 at 09:02 AM

CS

“Condolences” to the family of Ms Mary she walked a marathon every day all over Peoria she has been missed “RIP” neighbor 🕊️🕊️🕊️



Charlie and Loretta Simpson - June 06, 2025 at 06:37 PM