



Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis

October 1, 1943 - January 27, 2020

Verna L. Ellis was born October 1, 1943 in Kansas City, Kansas to Evelyn Murphy and Stonewall Jackson. She passed away on Monday, January 27, 2020 at Ascension St. Mary's Hospital at the age of 76 years.

She became a resident of Saginaw, Michigan after moving from Kansas City, KS in 1944. On November 7, 1978 she married John Ellis, Jr., her husband of 41 years. She attended Delta College receiving an Associate's Degree as a Registered Nurse and she furthered her education earning her Bachelor's of Science Degree in Nursing from Ferris State University. Verna continued her quest for knowledge and later obtained her Master's Degree in Healthcare Administration from the University of Phoenix.

Mrs. Ellis retired from HealthSource Saginaw. She began instructing as a Licensed Practical Nurse Professor at LaToya's Health Education & Training, while working part-time as a contracted nurse for HealthSource. She was a member of New Jerusalem Baptist Church, where she was a faithful member of the Mothers' Board, and enjoyed singing in the choir. She also enjoyed knitting, crocheting, fishing and traveling; especially to Florida where the majority of her children and grandchildren reside.

Verna leaves behind to cherish many memories, her husband, John Ellis, Jr., Saginaw, MI; mother, Evelyn Murphy, Saginaw, MI; five daughters, Rebecca

McAdory, Largo, FL, Livinia (Maurice) Collins, New Port Richey, FL, Rosanna (Lawrence) Knowles, Brandon, FL, Tina (Donnell) Smith, St. Petersburg, FL, and Mary Collins, Saginaw, MI; one brother, Ronald Williams, Saginaw, MI; eleven grandchildren, Derek Smith, Lakeland, FL, Jonathan Wilson, Reno, NV, Joseph (Nicole) Comer, Jr., Bradenton, FL, Stephon McAdory, Largo FL, Jasmine (Juahn) Evans, Lamont Collins, all of Dunedin, FL, Daniel (Paulina) Collins and Quentin Knowles, both of Brandon, FL, Felicia Collins, St. Petersburg, FL, C'erra Jackson and Aaliyah Layton, both of Saginaw, MI; 13 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends, including special friends, Earlie Gipson and Sandy Johnson, both of Saginaw, MI.

Mrs. Ellis was preceded in death by her son, Ronald Stapleton; father, Stonewall Jackson; grandmother, Girtha Green and great-grandmother, Lula Kendall.

Family Hour will take place at 10:00 a.m. with funeral service commencing at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, February 7, 2020 at Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, 441 North Jefferson Avenue, Saginaw, MI 48607. Rev. John L. Williams will officiate with entombment in Oakwood Memorial Mausoleum , 5950 Gratiot Rd., Saginaw, MI 48638. Friends may call at the Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, 441 N. Jefferson Ave., Saginaw, MI 48607 on Thursday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m.

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Memorial Mausoleum

5950 Gratiot Road
Saginaw, MI 48638

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 6. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home
441 N. Jefferson Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48607
(989) 754-0481
evansbrownes@gmail.com
<https://www.evansbrownesfuneralhome.com>

Family Hour

FEB 7. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home
441 N. Jefferson Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48607
(989) 754-0481
evansbrownes@gmail.com
<https://www.evansbrownesfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

FEB 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home
441 N. Jefferson Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48607
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Tribute Wall



“ *Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Browne's Mortuary - February 07, 2020 at 10:36 AM



“ *Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Browne's Mortuary - February 07, 2020 at 10:19 AM

TD

“ *My Auntie Verna did more for me than anyone would ever dream of. She was in my corner when no one else was and allowed me to be me... I will always love her and cherish her*

T'lasa Cantrell (Sonny's Daughter) - March 03, 2020 at 08:44 PM

MB

“ *This is a saddens me that Mrs Verna Ellis has passed, she was such a beautiful and knowledgeable Lady, who will be truly missed... My Condolences to her children and family who she always talked about....RIH Mrs Verna*



Marilyn K Burns-Bowman - February 10, 2020 at 12:57 PM

BE

We are so sorry to hear of the passing of your mother Verna. From day one when we meet you all over thirty years or more we became like family them we all grew up and move on with no love lost. We will keep you all in our prayers that God will continue to keep, comfort and strength you all. God bless ❤️

Betty - February 23, 2020 at 10:29 PM



“ *Ebony McAllister lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Ebony McAllister - February 07, 2020 at 03:46 PM

NB

“ *Narvel & Felicia Badger lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Narvel & Felicia Badger - February 07, 2020 at 02:08 PM

PR

“ *Pastor Terry Randolph and the Gethsemane MBC would like to extend our sincere condolences to Mary and the entire family. We are praying that God will comfort each of you during this period. May God bless each of you*

Pastor Randolph - February 07, 2020 at 10:44 AM



“ *My deepest condolences are extended to the family of Verna Ellis, I had the pleasure of working with her at Saginaw General Hospital for many years. So sorry for your loss.*



Cheryl Fentress-Nash - February 07, 2020 at 10:04 AM

TF

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



The Gaines/Tippins Family - February 07, 2020 at 04:20 AM

LB

“ *Lawrence Brooks lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Lawrence Brooks - February 06, 2020 at 07:25 PM

YV

“ YvonneSanders sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis



YvonneSanders - February 06, 2020 at 06:32 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis.



February 06, 2020 at 05:27 PM

DS

“ Rosanna Knowles it was so thoughtful of you to send me a letter about Verna she told me she was getting better I should of sent the card earlier she was a beautiful lady and a great nurse we worked the chemical dependency unit together she was my boss but I thought of her as a friend we had good times together so sorry I'm unable to go to the funeral home so wish I could we shared Xmas cards each yr thank you again for the letter it means a lot Dora Smiley ps she sure loved her grand kids

dora smiley - February 06, 2020 at 10:48 AM

KM

“ Praying For My Family as they Moan the Loss of there beloved Daughter/Mother/Sister/Grandmother/Aunt/Cousin you will be Missed Love you cousin Verna RIH Beautiful Until we Meet again save a seat For Me Karen Murphy

karen Murphy - February 06, 2020 at 09:39 AM

DT

“ Praying that the Good Lord strengthen the Family in their time of need. Praying that the Angels welcome Verna to Heaven and she see the Good Lord Face today.

Dorothy Nelson Tarver - February 05, 2020 at 11:31 PM

JC

“ Grandma, it's so hard to put how I feel down in words. But I am glad that I did get to you when we had or lunch's together when you came down. As many times as I want to ask why I know I'm not supposed to ask why. I know your home and at peace so no need to ask. I know I will see you at lunch when in my dreams and I will catch you up on everything else. I love you so much.



Joseph Comer - February 05, 2020 at 02:48 PM

F(

“ From your Postal Family (HRM) purchased the E nchanted Cottage for the family of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis.



From your Postal Family (HRM) - February 04, 2020 at 01:38 PM

 Cathy Dean

“ John, sorry I forgot to tell from where you know me...I'm was at Rite Aid

Cathy Dean - February 04, 2020 at 12:34 PM

Cathy
Dean

“ John, Verna was such a great patient to wait on at the store. She always a smile (just like you always do too, John!) ad was always so patient, just waiting her turn in line. I pray you feel our Savior’s arms around for His peace and comfort.

Cathy Dean - February 04, 2020 at 12:31 PM

PF

“ Patricia Frierson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis



Patricia Frierson - February 04, 2020 at 10:17 AM

MG

“ Verna was such a thoughtful caring nurse. I first met her when I worked at HealthSource Saginaw working as a nursing assistant. I am saddened she has passed on. My prayers are with her family at this time. Michael R Gaudreau

Michael R Gaudreau - February 04, 2020 at 09:31 AM

LI

“ Most sincerest condolences to the family.

Losten Arnold III - February 03, 2020 at 11:10 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis.*



February 03, 2020 at 09:40 PM



“ *Sabrina Hines lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Sabrina Hines - February 03, 2020 at 09:09 PM



“ *Ralph And Shirley Culpepper lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Ralph and Shirley Culpepper - February 03, 2020 at 07:39 PM



Jill
Loth

“ My deepest sympathies to your family. I worked with Verna at Healthsource back in the 80's. She had the most infectious laugh and a smile that lit up a room. She was kind, compassionate and dedicated to the patients that we served. I always looked forward to working with her. I am so sorry for your loss. Heaven truly welcomed a beautiful angel back home. It was a blessing to have had our paths cross in life. Rest in peace.

Jill Loth

Jill Loth - February 03, 2020 at 04:55 PM



MJ

“ Avery dear professional womanhood gotten her wings. Verna & I work together at SAGINAW General Hospital years ago, send was a Good hearted woman, praying for her family & extended family. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. We work on the maternity floor the fourth floor.

Mattie Jackson - February 03, 2020 at 02:50 PM



CS

“ I worked with Verna at Saginaw General and learned a lot from her. Rest In Peace, Verna.

carol Swartz - February 03, 2020 at 12:27 PM



DD

“ Sending prayers to Verna's loved ones! I use to work at the hospital with Verna. She was a very dedicated, sincere and loving person! Thank you for everything you stood for!

Diane Davis - February 03, 2020 at 09:51 AM

MW

“ *To the Family of the Very Gracious Lady!
I worked with Verna many years ago when HSS was called
Saginaw Community. And, I found her to be just as kind and
compassionate as she was back then when the hospital became
HSS, She had a smile and laugh like no one else and treated her
patients and co-workers with the same respect. The world needs
more Verna Ellis’ and I thank her family for sharing her with many of
us for so many years. Hold on to your precious memories of this
lovely woman,
Mary Walraven*

Mary Walraven - February 03, 2020 at 09:07 AM

KC

“ *Katrina Culberson sent a virtual gift in memory
of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Katrina Culberson - February 02, 2020 at 07:27 PM

SB

“ *My prayers go out to Verna's family. I worked with Verna for years at
HSS. She was a dedicated nurse, compassionate, caring,
respectful, and treated others with dignity. She had a smile that was
comforting.
We worked hard but could always laugh and enjoy each others
company. Peace and prayers to the family during the weeks to
come.*

Sandra Brown - February 02, 2020 at 11:17 AM

MJ

“ To Verna family my prayers are with you and your entire family. My mother and Verna worked many years in the hospital to which they became good friends. They stayed close during the years. Verna was a shining light and her smile would light up a room. May the family find peace and comfort. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.

Mattie M Johnson - February 01, 2020 at 02:01 PM

EG

“ Earlie M Gipson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis



Earlie M Gipson - February 01, 2020 at 01:51 PM

MJ

“ Mattie Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis



Mattie Johnson - February 01, 2020 at 01:51 PM

IC

“ IRMA CHISM lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis



IRMA CHISM - February 01, 2020 at 12:47 PM

MS

“ *Min. Thomas & Helen Speed sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Min. Thomas & Helen Speed - January 31, 2020 at 09:10 PM

TF

“ *Tanya Strickland Feltson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Tanya Strickland Feltson - January 31, 2020 at 07:38 PM



“ *Myrtle Collier sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Myrtle Collier - January 31, 2020 at 05:51 PM



“ *Myrtle Collier lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Verna Louise Ellis*



Myrtle Collier - January 31, 2020 at 05:49 PM

FC

“ Grandma I just want you to know that I’m proud of you. Because of you I’m the product of a strong willed woman who to this day continues to sacrifice for me and loves me to the best of her ability. Because of you I have more than enough aunties to look to for guidance. Because of you I have an abundance of cousins to laugh and cry with. Because of you I have two boys that I love more than life itself. My entire life is surrounded by and began with you. So thank you Grandma for my family and thank you Grandma for being you. Despite the distance Ive looked to you for more than you realize. I became a nurse because of you. Thank you grandma for everything, I love you, and I will miss you. I know I will see you again, but until then you will forever be my missing piece to this puzzle called life and the beautiful puzzle of your creation, our family. RIP grandma, I love you

Felicia Collins - January 29, 2020 at 05:09 PM

DG

Beautiful comment Felicia for your grandmother. Love you all Diane!!!

Diane Blackmon GR - February 03, 2020 at 01:12 PM

PS

“ Mother Murphy and family my condolences tou you al my thought and prayer to you all. May the lord strengthen you at this time of sorrow.

Peggy (Fleming) Scott - January 29, 2020 at 01:11 PM

LO

“ To Mother Murphy/Family/Ellis Family, know that our family share in your sorrows. When you are weary and everything seems to be going wrong, release matters into God's control and know you are in the security of his everlasting arms. Continue to pray, Trust him & Keep the Faith. "God will give you PEACE in the midst of your storm.

Prayers & Love,

The Owen Family (Liz, Aric, Davina, Arlisa, Alliyah, Alise, Jaden & Elijah

Liz Owen - January 29, 2020 at 12:11 AM

DG

“ To Mother Murphy, Ellis Family, and extended Family. We the Blackmon would like to extend out heartfelt condolences to you all. May God's grace comfort you all to endure the loss. Verna has earned her wings, and leaves a legacy of love behind. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord, and whether we die, we die unto the Lord, whether we live therefore, or die WE ARE THE LORDS. Family one day in the resurrection, you will see her again. RIH VERNA



Diane Blackmon GR - January 28, 2020 at 11:02 AM



Thank you Diane
From Rosanna

Rosanna Knowles - January 28, 2020 at 04:34 PM

DM

I worked with Verna at A&D for a few years and always enjoyed her smile and her sense of humor. I am saddened to hear of her passing. My condolences to her extended family. Donna Malburg

Donna Malburg - February 03, 2020 at 06:51 PM

MR

Peace to Verna and Family! Verna and I worked together at Saginaw General in OB and then at Saginaw Community Hospital that became HealthSource Saginaw. Verna was a true professional and an excellent compassionate well educated nurse. She left this world too soon but is in a perfect place where the pain is gone and she can delight in the presence of our Lord. My prayers and sympathy are with her dear family that she deeply loved. Rest in God's peace dear friend. Mary Reynolds .

Mary Reynolds - February 03, 2020 at 08:42 PM

LV

My deepest condolences for the lost of a wonderful instructor. Mrs. Verna was one of my instructors in 2010. Mrs. Verna always kept it real in her nursing instruction and in our conversations on life in general. Special prayers to all who were fortunate to have spent time with this great woman.

Lillian Volk - February 04, 2020 at 06:36 PM