



Frank N. Gillespie

February 9, 1923 - November 8, 2018

Frank N. Gillespie, 95, of Nitro passed away Thursday, November 8, 2018 at Hubbard Hospice House West, South Charleston.

Born in Charleston to the late William Harvey and Beulah Woodrum Gillespie. He was also preceded in death by his loving wife, Phyllis Blackwood Gillespie and brothers, William H (Dorothy Lookado) Gillespie Jr, and Kellis L Gillespie, husband of Virginia Dumont.

Frank was a graduate of Dunbar High School and a graduate of Springfield College, Massachusetts. While at Springfield College, he was on the Gymnastics Team. During his college years he worked as a professional circus clown performing on the trampoline and as a juggler. He was also a member of the Barbershop Quartet at Morris Harvey College (University of Charleston) while working on his advanced degree in education.

He came to St. Albans Junior and Senior High School in 1952 as a Science Teacher. He served as counselor and Vice Principal of the new St Albans High School and returned to the Junior High School as Principal in 1962. Before entering education, Frank was Physical Director and Association Secretary of the Kokomo, Indiana YMCA and remained involved in the YMCA teaching water safety, diving, and swimming at the Charleston YMCA. His work in youth programs continued in the summer months, working at

Tapawingo Farm Camp in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania with his wife, Phyllis for over 18 years.

His college studies were interrupted by World War II when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy Medical Corp. He served three years at the Medical Research Institute, National Naval Medical Center.

Surviving is his son and daughter-in-law Greg W and Janet L Gillespie of Ormond Beach, FL. Also surviving are his two loving grandchildren, Zachary (Kelsey Majoy) Gillespie and Andrea Gillespie, as well as his great granddaughter, Charlotte G Gillespie.

Funeral service will be held at 1:00 pm Thursday, November 15, 2018 at the First Presbyterian Church, 201 Kanawha Terrace, St. Albans with Rev. Doug Jenkins officiating. Burial will be in Cunningham Memorial Park, St. Albans.

Friends may call one hour prior to the funeral service at the church.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations to the Hubbard Hospice House, West, In Memory of Frank Gillespie, 4605-A MacCorkle, SW, South Charleston, WV 25309.

You may visit Frank's tribute page at chapmanfuneralhomes.com to share memories or condolences with the family.

Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home, family owned and located at 409 Sixth Ave., St. Albans is honored to serve the Gillespie family.

Cemetery Details

Cunningham Memorial Park

815 Cunningham Lane
Saint Albans, WV 25177

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 15. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
201 Kanawha Terrace
St. Albans, WV 25177

Funeral Service

NOV 15. 1:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
201 Kanawha Terrace
St. Albans, WV 25177

Tribute Wall



“ *Frank N. Gillespie*

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ *What a wonderful teacher, principal and all round amazing guy. He and my late father-in-law, Noell Bland, taught together at St. Albans Junior High for many years and were great friends.. A life well lived.*
Paula Bland

Paula Bland - November 15, 2018 at 06:37 PM



“ *Frank was a part of our Wednesday night services at Rolling Meadows and was always so kind and involved. I learned to love him very quickly and looked forward to seeing him every week. He was truly a great Christian who lived out his faith. We miss him but know he is home and we will see him again. My condolences to the family.*

Charles Webb - November 15, 2018 at 09:38 AM



“ *Samantha Browning sent a virtual gift in memory of Frank N. Gillespie*



Samantha Browning - November 14, 2018 at 07:12 PM

LB

“ *Lauri/Jared/Nathan, Jenny/Anthony/Mary, Bob/Julia purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Frank N. Gillespie.*



Lauri/Jared/Nathan, Jenny/Anthony/Mary, Bob/Julia - November 13, 2018 at 09:40 PM

TC

“ *Teresa Collins lit a candle in memory of Frank N. Gillespie*



Teresa Collins - November 13, 2018 at 05:47 PM

BF

“ *Barbara and John Booth and Family purchased the Glorious Grace Bouquet for the family of Frank N. Gillespie.*



Barbara and John Booth and Family - November 13, 2018 at 05:27 PM

EM

“ *Frank was my principal when I began teaching at St Albans Jr High School in 1966- 1968. I remember Frank as a solid principal with the students' as his main concern. He was always talking with the students and getting them interested in their studies. Due to Frank's work and interest in his students, we never had a discipline problem at SAJHS.*

Evan Moody - November 13, 2018 at 01:32 PM

KE

“ *The West Virginia and Kanawha County Associations of Retired School Employees extend their sincere sympathy to you, the family, in your sorrow. Blessings to all.*

Kanawha Co. Retired School Employees - November 13, 2018 at 10:24 AM

LK

“ *Tapawingo Farm Camp - a life-changing experience; building a family from friendship , founded on love and fun, music and warmth and caring. Well, even though it only got one line in his obituary, Frank (and Phil) Gillespie were the soul(s) of that place. That magical place, wonderful place that gave us campers a great start in life.*

Love to all my Tapawingo family who are grieving together today.

Rest well Uncle Frank,

Love.... Jet



Leslie A Kohlberg - November 12, 2018 at 01:42 PM

FF

“ *From Ginny Gillespie and Family purchased the Southern Magnolia Tree for the family of Frank N. Gillespie.*



From Ginny Gillespie and Family - November 11, 2018 at 07:04 PM

KP

“ *Kathy Phillips lit a candle in memory of Frank N. Gillespie*



Kathy Phillips - November 11, 2018 at 08:57 AM

CG

“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,*

May your memories of Frank N. Gillespie, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete. I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten.

*My thoughts
and prayers to the family of*

*US Navy Veteran, Frank N. Gillespie, is “A True American Hero”
God Bless†*

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †

Cheryl J Skinner, WV Patriot Guard - November 10, 2018 at 03:48 PM

BD

“ *Barbara O Dell lit a candle in memory of
Frank N. Gillespie*



barbara o dell - November 10, 2018 at 02:17 PM

JB

“ Rest in peace, Uncle Frank. Thank you for all the wonderful memories, life lessons, and guidance about how to live life, the importance of "buddies", and especially how to greet each day. Oh, what a beautiful morning! -- John Booth, Jr.

John Booth - November 10, 2018 at 10:35 AM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Frank N. Gillespie.



November 09, 2018 at 09:39 PM

PA

“ Time spent on the waterfront with Frank was so influential in my future. Thanks to good teaching , I continued with swimming from my WSI in college (in 1956) to more than 45 years in aquatics with people with disabilities; finally gave up my teaching at age 80! Good friends Frank and Phyl will live on in memories of Tapawingo, where I began in 1939 (my Mom was Aunt Jane the music counselor) Pat Kurtz Ameling

Patricia Kurtz Ameling - November 09, 2018 at 07:52 PM

PM

“ Pam (Norton), John and Caitie Mitchell purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Frank N. Gillespie.



Pam (Norton), John and Caitie Mitchell - November 09, 2018 at 04:46 PM