



## Mary Helen Sumpter Cress

April 9, 1934 - April 15, 2016

Mary Helen Sumpter Cress, went home to be with the Lord on Friday, April 15, 2016, at the age of 82.

She was born in Jonesville, VA to the late Charles and Elizabeth Jerrell Sumpter.

She married William “Bill” Cress, Sr. in 1949 and served faithfully alongside him until his death in 2003.

Mary Helen had a servant’s heart – she made sure the hungry were fed, volunteered at Flatwoods Primary for many years, and nothing made her happier than cooking a big meal for her family.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Neal Jerrell and Carlos Sumpter.

She is survived by three sons, Charles Cress and wife Billie, William Cress Jr. and wife Kim, and Timothy Cress; three daughters, Dorothy McNeil and husband Bob, Debra Ledford and husband Robert, and Rita Brown; ten grandchildren, Mandi Wagner and husband Richie, Megan Ledford, Scott Brown and wife Deanna, Amie Dodson and husband Nick, Elizabeth Cress, Kristi Taylor and husband Nick, Elizabeth Cress, Kristi Taylor and husband Jared, Michael Cress, Nicholas Cress, Rachel Adams and husband Richie, and Emily Cress; eleven great-grandchildren, Remington and Maddie Cress,

Britton and Davis Brown, Katie Ann Dodson, Anna and Isaac Taylor, Monica Livesay, Mary, Richie, and Brody Adams; four brothers, Paul Jerrell, Cecil Sumpter and wife Georgia, Buck Sumpter and wife Reba Sue, and Bill Sumpter and wife Rebecca; brother-in-law, Edgar Cress; and many nieces and nephews.

Deepest appreciation is extended to her caregivers, Barbara Collingsworth and Sheila Cody, and the staffs of Lee Health and Rehabilitation Center and Norton Community Hospital, for their wonderful care in her last days.

The family will receive friends from 5 until 7:00 p.m. Sunday, April 17, at Robinette Funeral Home in Jonesville. A celebration of her life will follow at 7:00 p.m. with Revs. Robert Ledford, George Flanary and Tim Cradic officiating. The graveside service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, April 18, in Lee Memorial Gardens. Everyone is asked to meet at the cemetery by 10:45 a.m. for the graveside service.

# Cemetery Details

## Lee Memorial Gardens

Pennington Gap, VA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 17. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Robinette Funeral Home (Jonesville)  
146 Maple Drive  
P.O. Box 238  
Jonesville, VA 24263  
(276) 346-1196

## Funeral Service

APR 17. 7:00 PM (ET)

Robinette Funeral Home (Jonesville)  
146 Maple Drive  
P.O. Box 238  
Jonesville, VA 24263  
(276) 346-1196

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Helen Sumpter Cress*

October 05, 2023 at 07:31 PM



“ *I am so very sorry for your loss. The Bible makes this comforting promise: "Jehovah is close to the brokenhearted, he saves those who are crushed in spirit." (Psalm 34:18) It also assures us: "Throw your burden on Jehovah, and he will sustain you." (Psalm 55:22) May these thoughts bring you a measure of comfort at this difficult time.*

K - May 26, 2016 at 09:58 PM



“ *Lisa Fee Stapelton lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Sumpter Cress*



Lisa Fee Stapelton - April 18, 2016 at 09:14 AM



*So sorry for your loss. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.*

Lisa Fee Stapelton - April 18, 2016 at 09:14 AM



*To the Cress Family, especially Rita and Bill - We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Peace to you.  
Tony and AnnMarie Girardi*

AnnMarie Mackway-Girardi - April 20, 2016 at 12:01 PM

BG

“ To all the Cress Family , I am so sorry for your loss ,but I am glad that she is in paradise right now , Mary and Bill are shouting praises to our Lord ,what a wonderful time they are having ,I know it's hard right now ,I guess we are selfish ,we want to keep them with us ,but God welcomed her home with open arms .She really now knows what the true meaning of LOVE is , I Pray God Bless you all and comfort you , Love you ,Billy and Sheila Greene.

**Billy & Sheila Greene** - April 17, 2016 at 06:34 PM

EH

“ Billy, Tim and to all of the Cress family, my deepest sympathy and prayers go out to each of you. May God comfort and give you grace during this time. May His unseen Hand guide each of you. (Matthew 11:28). Elaine Mullins Hatfield

**Elaine Mullins Hatfield** - April 17, 2016 at 01:35 PM

SH

To our aunt we could not have a preious aunt. My mom Cleo will be waiting to meet you at those pearly gates with her arms opened wide. My dad Paul has Alwas thought the world of you. He surely miss those special phone calls from you. But hopefully we will all be together one day. Love to all cress family.

**shirley jerrell hynes** - April 18, 2016 at 07:56 PM

RS

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss you and your family will be in our prayers ... David & Regina Spivey



**regina spivey** - April 17, 2016 at 11:04 AM

BL

*Our deepest sympathy in the loss of your mothers. Our prayers & thoughts are with you during this time.*

**Belinda Napier & Helen Ledford** - April 17, 2016 at 01:51 PM

BC

“ *I am so sorry to hear about your Mother. Please know that each of you are in on My heart and in My prayers.*

*'To be absent from our body, is to be present with our precious Lord'*

*Deepest Sympathies,*

*Jerry and Betty Crusenberry*

**betty crusenberry** - April 17, 2016 at 09:32 AM



PS

“ *Polly Snodgrass lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Sumpter Cress*



**Polly Snodgrass** - April 17, 2016 at 06:35 AM

RJ

“ *I have vivid memories of spending many great times with this family at church and eating from a huge table of food that this sweet wonderful lady had prepared. She treated me like one of her kids as she did every young person that visited her house. Thank you so much for the influence you and your family were to my life. Rest in peace dear sweet lady!!*

**Ralph Johnson** - April 16, 2016 at 08:21 PM

JG

“ *Jean Gregory lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Sumpter Cress*



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**Jean Gregory** - April 16, 2016 at 08:09 PM

GH

“ *Dearest Cress family,  
You are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. May God hold you tightly in his heart as you move forward.*

*The Ralph Cox family*

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**Gina Cox Hensberger** - April 16, 2016 at 05:27 PM

RH

“ *Robin And Lawrence Hall lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Sumpter Cress*



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**Robin and Lawrence Hall** - April 16, 2016 at 02:23 PM