



Leila Darlene Hemming

May 20, 1946 - January 14, 2026

Rye - It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Leila "Nonnie" Darlene Hemming (Leonard). Leila passed away peacefully with her family by her side after a courageous battle with Alzheimer's on January 14th, 2026.

She was born on May 20th, 1946 in Rome, NY where she was raised by her parents, alongside her siblings. She went on to attend Oriskany high school where she fell in love with the love of her life, Terrence "Poppie" Layton Hemming.

Defying all odds at a young age, they eloped in South Carolina and went on to celebrate over 61 years of marriage together. The two of them created eight children who blessed them with 20 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Together, Leila and Terry created the life they always dreamed of. The two would always look at each other throughout the years and say "Look what we started." Eventually, a job opportunity brought most of the family to New Hampshire where they quickly formed lifelong friendships and developed deep ties within their community.

Leila was an amazing, strong-willed woman who was born to be a nurturer. Blessed with beauty, an infectious smile, and a warm heart, Leila won over the hearts of everyone she met. There seemed to be nothing she couldn't do; whether it was making her children's clothing, crocheting blankets for all the

new babies, cooking delicious meals for her large family, painting masterpieces, or mending a broken heart. Leila made motherhood look effortless. She was lovingly known as "Nonnie", not only by her grandchildren but by nearly everyone who had the privilege of loving her. This includes the many local children she cared for through her in-home daycare. She had a gift for making everyone feel loved and welcomed, as though they were a part of her big, crazy family - That was her specialty. Above all else, Leila believed that family is everything. She always put her loved ones first and treasured time spent together.

Leila could never sit still or sit at all, for that matter. Leila was deeply devoted to serving others. For many years, she was an active member and President of the Rye Lions Club and the Rye Women's Association, and she served as President of the Our Town Committee, organizing countless events for the Rye community. She generously gave her time and energy to her community, her friends, and her family; always placing the needs of others before her own.

In her later years, Leila and Terry enjoyed taking drives to Rye beach with their beloved fur-babies; stopping for fried clams at Bobs or ice cream at Beach Plum. These outings became especially meaningful following her diagnosis. No matter what, they were always together, rarely ever apart. After the sudden loss of the love of her life this past April, it became very clear that their two hearts were never meant to be apart for long.

Though our hearts are aching, we take comfort in knowing that Leila is now resting in the arms of our Heavenly Father, and is reunited with her soulmate, Terry, and all the loved ones that passed on before her, including her cherished fur-babies.

Everything we know we learned from Mom. From cooking to cleaning, to

folding laundry perfectly, advocating fiercely for our children and always being right (even when we are wrong). We were always taught that family comes first, no matter what, and her legacy of love will live on through all who knew her. We know that Mom and Dad are dancing in heaven where their love story continues.

Pleasant dreams Mom; we love you.

Leila is survived by her eight children, Brenda (Michael) King, Michelle Marsh (Kevin Edick), Mary Ann (Brian) Short, Patrick (Tina) Hemming, Jamie (Julia) Hemming, Jennifer (Kevin) Craft, Johanna (Eddie) Jackman, and Jonathan Hemming; Her 20 grandchildren, Matthew Crandall, RYANNE (Tory) Bianchi, Jason (Valerie) Crandall, Kelsey (Matthew) Adams, Stephanie (Zak) Snyder, Joshua (Sarah) Crandall, Brandon Marsh, Connor Marsh, Nolan Marsh, Layton Hemming, Nathan King, Ethan Hemming, Caleb Hemming, Nicholas Hemming, Scarlett Ross, Mason Craft, Noelle Hemming, Landon Craft, Savannah Jackman, Darrel (Lauren) Short; Her 16 great-grandchildren, Summer, Madelyn, Jackson, Benny, Leila, Lily, Daisy, Violet, Owen, Skyler, Myles, Jack, Brayden, Emelia, Logan, and Sophia. Leila is pre-deceased by her loving husband, Terrence "Poppie" Layton Hemming, her father, Herbert Augustus Leonard, her mother, Edith Grace Leonard (Furney), her brothers "Art" Davis, "Tommy" Davis, "Eddie" Davis, Owen Davis and sister "Mona" Davis. She is also predeceased by her father-in-law Frederick Hemming and her mother-in-law Edna Hemming (Mitchell).

Our family would like to thank the angels on Earth who cared for Leila/Nonnie at Watson Fields in Dover. We couldn't have done it without you and your love for our Mom. And she loved you all so much.

Family and friends will gather to honor and remember Leila for a period of

visitation on Sunday, January 18th, 2026 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at Remick & Gendron Funeral Home, 811 Lafayette Road, Hampton, NH 03842. Leila's funeral Mass will take place on Monday, January 19th, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Theresa Parish, 820 Central Road, Rye Beach, NH 03871. Burial to follow in Central Cemetery, 20 Central Road, Rye, NH 03870.

To attend the Mass remotely please click here on the day and time of the service. (<https://sainttheresachurchrye.org/live-stream/>)

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 18. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory
811 Lafayette Road ·
Hampton, NH 03842
(603) 926-6500
info@remickgendron.com
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

Funeral Mass

JAN 19. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Theresa Church
815 Central Rd
Rye Beach, NH 03871

Interment

JAN 19. 12:15 PM (ET)

Central Cemetery
20 Central Road
Rye, NH

Tribute Wall

KP

“ We are so sorry to hear about the passing of our beloved Nonnie. She came into our lives when our daughter Stella was 10 months old, and she took care of her one-on-one for a little over a year. This was back in 2008 and Stella is now 18 & a freshman in college. Nonnie was just what we needed as first time parents. She made heading off to work much easier knowing she would love Stella like one of her own grandchildren. Stella was spoiled each and every day, and we are grateful for the time she spent with Nonnie. She will always hold a very special place in our hearts and we will never forget her. Sending all the family much love and sympathy at this difficult time. All our love, Kim, Chris, Stella & Aidan Piela

Kim Piela - January 20 at 10:50 AM

ST

“ Stephanie purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Leila Darlene Hemming.



Stephanie - January 19 at 05:19 PM

ST

“ Stephanie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leila Darlene Hemming.

Stephanie - January 19 at 05:19 PM

TF

“ The Crandall family purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Leila Darlene Hemming.



The Crandall family - January 18 at 01:15 PM

KF

“ Aunt Leila will be missed by so many. I loved her so much. Say hi to Nana and Papa for me and give uncle Terry a kiss from me and tell the rest of the family hi for me.

Kelly Freeman - January 18 at 06:14 AM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Leila Darlene Hemming.



January 17 at 01:22 PM

SH

“ Susan Hemming Field and Valerie Hemming planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leila Darlene Hemming.

Susan Hemming Field and Valerie Hemming - January 17 at 01:22 PM

CA

“ Carl, Lenice, Corey, Ashley, Ivy & Addie purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Leila Darlene Hemming.



Carl, Lenice, Corey, Ashley, Ivy & Addie - January 17 at 01:05 PM

CA

“ Carl, Lenice, Corey, Ashley, Ivy & Addie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leila Darlene Hemming.

Carl, Lenice, Corey, Ashley, Ivy & Addie - January 17 at 01:05 PM

RT

“ Ray and Muriel Terry purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Leila Darlene Hemming.



Ray and Muriel Terry - January 17 at 11:56 AM

RT

“ Ray and Muriel Terry planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leila Darlene Hemming.

Ray and Muriel Terry - January 17 at 11:56 AM

SW

“ Catherine and Matthew were so lucky to be cared for by such a woman. Nonnie’s was home away from home. The friendships that started within her loving home still exist today.

Sending love to you all.

Sue (Gray) Wolf, Catherine and Matthew

Sue Gray Wolf - January 17 at 10:51 AM

TF

“ The Marsh Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Leila Darlene Hemming.



The Marsh Family - January 16 at 07:51 PM

JA

“ I remember both Mr. And Mrs hemming they where both my bus drivers. What a wonderful caring couple. I will miss them dearly.

Julia Adsit - January 16 at 07:38 PM

JK

“ Judy, Allison, Bart and kids purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Leila Darlene Hemming.



Judy, Allison, Bart and kids - January 16 at 05:40 PM

JK

“ *Judy, Allison, Bart and kids planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leila Darlene Hemming.*

Judy, Allison, Bart and kids - January 16 at 05:40 PM

DM

“ *Such a well written tribute to Leila! The only thing I can add is a personal feeling, Upon meeting Leila and Terry, they both made me feel welcome in their family. leila was a gem and lives vibrantly in all of her family! A true loss and my prayers and good thoughts go out to her family. Blessings to you!*

Daniel Murphy - January 16 at 05:26 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Leila Darlene Hemming.*



January 16 at 05:09 PM

LA

“ *Love, Anita, Mike, and Vito Anthony planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leila Darlene Hemming.*

Love, Anita, Mike, and Vito Anthony - January 16 at 05:09 PM



“ 534 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - January 16 at 02:32 PM

JH

“ Nonnie was truly an angel on earth to all who knew her. Sending love and strength to all the Hemmings after such a tough year. I find comfort knowing she is now watching over with Poppie.

I am so grateful that my mom asked Nonnie to care for us after school all those years ago. Alehson Road gave me some of the best memories. Nonnie had the best lemonade (I think it was Country Time mixed with OJ lol) and unforgettable cheese on toast! She taught me lifelong lessons: right from wrong, how to feed a baby a bottle, the importance of manners, and made sure we were safe! You could drown in just an inch of water or suffocate with a shopping plastic bag, and we'll never forget it!

She insisted I call her Nonnie never Leila, and I felt so special to be able to do so. She wanted us to feel safe, to have fun, and to know we were part of her big, loving, and crazy family.

Nonnie made our childhoods special. From tea parties and frog jumping on the 4th of July at Parsons Field, car shows, egg hunts and summer vacations. The way childhood is meant to be. I will cherish my memories of her forever. Nonnie will be missed dearly. Love always to the family, Jody Hiari

Jody Hiari - January 16 at 10:25 AM