



Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill

February 11, 1962 - September 11, 2016

North Hampton – Vilma J. “Jeannie” Merrill, 54, of North Hampton, died at her home on Sunday, September 11, 2016.

She was born on February 11, 1962 in Winchester, MA, the daughter of William B. Merrill of Wilmington, MA and the late Vilma Y. (Bedell) Merrill.

Jeannie was raised in Wilmington and graduated from Wilmington High with the Class of 1980. She attended Salem State College and earned her cosmetology certificate from Wilfred Academy. She relocated to NH in the early 1980's and worked as stylist for many years across the seacoast. Most recently, Jeannie worked as a hairdresser at Bliss 360 Salon in Hampton, where she was loved by both longtime clients and colleagues.

She loved people and people loved her. Jeannie was a big-hearted lady, famous for her hugs, and would help anyone in their time of need. She had a green thumb, was an amazing gardener and a great cook. Her family will miss those giant breakfast/brunch buffets where there was always too much food. Jeannie loved her trips to Bremen, ME and staying at the oceanfront family cottage built by her great grandfather. She loved to swim, no matter how cold the water, a trait she has passed on to her children. Jeannie was an active and faithful member of the United Church of Christ in North Hampton. She had a great love of music from musicals, to the Grateful Dead, and beyond.

Jeannie will be deeply missed by her family, her many friends and all the people she met through her work.

In addition to her father, family members include her children, Elisabeth Jeffs and her husband, Daniel of Kingston, Jon Bassett, Jr. of North Hampton and William Bassett of Keene; her brother William Merrill and his wife, Lee Ann of Windham; her many nieces and nephews and her expectant granddaughter, due in November.

Visiting hours will be from 4 to 7 PM on Friday, September 16, 2016 in the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home-Crematory, 811 Lafayette Road, Hampton. Services will be held at 11 AM on Saturday at the United Church of Christ, 295 Atlantic Ave., North Hampton. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Burial will be private. If desired, memorial donations may be made to the mission program at her beloved church, UCC North Hampton, 295 Atlantic Ave., North Hampton, NH 03862.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **16.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Celebration of Life

SEP **17.** 11:00 AM (ET)

United Church of Christ
295 Atlantic Avenue
North Hampton, NH 03862

Tribute Wall



“ *Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *I am so sorry to hear this news of Jeannie. I have wonderful memories of her, Beth, Jon and Willie from back during the summer we volunteered painting on the UCC church mural. Memory Eternal to a most loving and very cherished woman. May God be with you all during this most difficult time and may He lift you up and surround you with the support and Love that you need. Much love in Christ, Cherie LeClair. PS Beth I am in Groveland, MA helping my mother for the rest of the year. If I can do anything? Or listen, I am still always your friend. Hugs, Cherie.*

Cherie LeClair Iconographer - September 21, 2016 at 01:34 AM



“ *I'm so sorry- I'll always treasure our summer times in Maine- our love to all you guys*

Edward O'Donnell - September 18, 2016 at 08:08 AM



“ *So many great memories with Jeannie. The white water rafting trips are amongst my favorites. No matter where we were or what we were doing it was always more fun if Jeannie was there. I am so sorry for your loss. She was one of the good ones.
Betsy and Ron Tatro*

Betsy Tatro - September 17, 2016 at 12:21 AM

JN

“ Jodie Nielsen purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill.



Jodie Nielsen - September 16, 2016 at 11:13 AM

YF

“ Your Keene Middle School family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill.



Your Keene Middle School family - September 16, 2016 at 09:04 AM

EP

“ Jeannie was truly one of a kind. Her infectious smile and warm demeanor always made everyone around her feel loved. She cut my hair for the past 15 years and always made me feel like a "movie star" as she would put it. Her love for life and her pure spirit will live on because she has undoubtedly left a mark on each and every person she has touched. I hope her family can find peace in this very difficult time. Heaven has gained another angel. Rest Easy Jeannie <3

Eryce Penniman - September 16, 2016 at 08:18 AM

PM

“ Jeannie you will be sadly missed by me . Your beautiful smile and the fun times we all shared. I pray for Peace to the family Your mom was an awesome person.

RIP Jeannie your friend Paul Murphy

Paul Murphy - September 15, 2016 at 05:18 PM

KL

“ I met Jeannie at the Exeter High School kitchen where we worked together as lunch ladies. She and I spent her first day In the dish room, singing. She always had a smile even for those who didn't deserve one. And, her hugs, you could feel the love. I know she worked very hard, she loved her family, her friends, she was full of love for everyone, and positive every step of the way. I will miss her terribly, and I believe the world just lost one of the good guys, but now God has her at his side.

Kerry Lord - September 15, 2016 at 04:56 PM

PJ

“ Peggy & Happy Power Cara & Michael Joyce purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill.



Peggy & Happy Power Cara & Michael Joyce - September 15, 2016 at 01:02 PM

MP

“ *Such a happy, great friend, always giving to others. I'm glad to have known you Jeannie all these years. I am so sorry for you, I know how much you were looking forward to your first grandchild. You will be truly missed! Your big smile, quirky jokes & hugs! We will not forget you, you'll be watching over all of us! My deepest sympathies to JB, Elisabeth, John Jr. & Willie, Thinking of you all at this time. We'll see each other again! Rest peacefully my friend.*

Mary Peters - September 15, 2016 at 10:40 AM



“ *Sunny Memories was purchased for the family of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill.*



September 14, 2016 at 08:15 PM

KC

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with always. Your mother was quite a lady. I will miss her smiling face. May she rest in peace. I know she is in heaven with her mom and is looking down smiling on us.*



Kathleen, Jonathan, and Meaghan

Kathleen Collyer - September 14, 2016 at 07:11 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill.*



September 14, 2016 at 03:42 PM



“ *Always such a warm and embracing presence. A smile and a hug like no other.
She will be truly missed. Prayers and condolences to her family.*

The Haraden's

Karen Haraden - September 14, 2016 at 02:27 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill.*



September 14, 2016 at 08:54 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill.*



September 14, 2016 at 08:36 AM

MN

“ Hugs and prayers to you and yours. Jeannie was simply fun! She always had a smile and a giggle.

Melissa (Husen) Nobile and family

M Nobile - September 14, 2016 at 04:57 AM

PP

“ We watched you grow from that cute little kid across the road to a bubbly sweet adult. Our love and sincere condolences to Dad, Billy and the kids.

*Peggy & Happy Power
The Villages, FL*



Peggy Power - September 14, 2016 at 01:25 AM

RS

“ I met Jeannie when I sat next to her in art class at Wilmington High. She laughed a LOT and we had so much fun... I remember that she loved "The Things We Do For Love" by 10cc. What a sweet soul she was... and she will be missed so. Sending prayers to her family.

Robin Stratton - September 13, 2016 at 10:08 PM

SF

“ Serena and Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill.



Serena and Family - September 13, 2016 at 09:35 PM

DC

“ Thank you Jeannie for doing something for my girls ,I could not. You were able to make their inner beauty shine to outer beauty. Our hearts will miss your smile and gentle heart. The Craigs❤️💕💕💕🙌

deb craig - September 13, 2016 at 06:06 PM

DB

“ My heart is broken today but I know that heaven is now a better place

Deb Bent - September 13, 2016 at 05:40 PM

CS

“ Rest in peace, Jeannie. My thoughts have been with you, Beth and Willy. Thank you for all the fun, jokes and kindness over the years. You will be truly missed by all the lives you touched. Little Sista Carol Stover

Carol Stover - September 13, 2016 at 03:23 PM

CS

“ Jeannie was the kindest soul and generous person I knew. She was always will to help anyone. She will be missed dearly. Cheryl Strong

Cheryl Strong - September 13, 2016 at 03:05 PM

TH

“ The Borg Family of Hampton purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill.



The Borg Family of Hampton - September 13, 2016 at 02:12 PM

BH

“ Jeannie's fabulous smile lit up the room, that I will never forget. My heart goes out to her children and family



Bonnie Rainbolt Houle - September 13, 2016 at 12:16 PM

JG

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your three wonderful children. Jeannie had a smile that would light up the room and every one around her. She will truly be missed God has gotten a wonderful angle.



*The Graves
Malcolm, Julie, Kevin, Sarah*

Julie Graves - September 13, 2016 at 11:53 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill.



September 13, 2016 at 11:44 AM

TC

“ Tracey Stewart Costello lit a candle in memory of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill



Tracey Stewart Costello - September 13, 2016 at 08:18 AM

TC

Your smile and laughter was contagious. My deepest sympathy to the Merrill family

Tracey Stewart Costello - September 13, 2016 at 01:02 PM

JA

My thoughts and prayers are with her children and the Merrill family !! I have fond memories of Jeannie growing up in Wilmington !!!

Judi Morris Allen - September 13, 2016 at 03:44 PM



I knew Jeannie way back when as a member of my first Junior Choir at the Wilmington Congregational Church. Even then she was a ray of sunshine - always looking for the best in people and situations. She will be greatly missed!

Judith Rachdorf - September 13, 2016 at 04:11 PM

JF

My deepest sympathy to Jeannie's children & family. She was such a warm & loving woman. I have many fond memories of her.

June Roche Frechette - September 13, 2016 at 06:50 PM



My Heart hurts, you were such an amazing woman. no words could ever really express how you made such a difference in everyone's life. Such a beautiful person and kind soul. Until we meet again! I love you Auntie Jeannie

love always-

Jamie Mandra - September 14, 2016 at 02:05 AM

JB

Dear Jeanie, So many wonderful memories of your beautiful smile and your loving ways. You children will be a great legacy of your love. Say hi to Mike for me. will miss you our special ANGEL. Love Joan Buchanan

joan buchanan - September 14, 2016 at 07:51 AM

BK

Our sincere sympathy for the family and friends of this beautiful woman. We are so saddened and shocked at her sudden passing. Jeannie was the sweetest person, always with a warm and welcome smile. She was always there to lend a hand in times of need. Our prayers go out to you as you begin to heal.


John and Betty Kuester

Betty Kuester - September 14, 2016 at 11:07 AM

DJ

“ Rest in peace Jeannie 🌹

Dori Jamieson - September 13, 2016 at 02:42 AM

 Tracy
Burke

“ Tracy Burke lit a candle in memory of Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill



Tracy Burke - September 12, 2016 at 09:33 PM

CM

“ Claire St Martin lit a candle in memory of
Vilma J. "Jeannie" Merrill



Claire St Martin - September 12, 2016 at 08:45 PM

RG

You were a wonderful mother and leave this world with a lot to be proud of. We all will miss you.

Rick Griffin - September 13, 2016 at 05:52 AM

DB

You lived your truth for that you were loved by all that had a part in your journey. May you rest in peace and you will always be remembered.💕💕💕

Debbie brander - September 13, 2016 at 08:21 AM

DL

Jeannie you will be missed by so many. My thoughts and prayers are with your three amazing children and your entire family. Thank you for always lighting up my day when I would see you! I have been so blessed to know you.

Dyan Lambert - September 13, 2016 at 08:49 AM

SB

So sorry to hear. You always had a smile and brightened every ones day. You will be missed by many. My thought are with your family.

Sandy Brien - September 13, 2016 at 09:05 AM



From grade school, the congregational church, to Jr. High and High School. Jeannie, you were always fun to be around and always the first one to greet me at our reunions. You will be missed by many.

Peter Mullarky - September 13, 2016 at 10:49 AM

VC

The world has lost another wonderful soul that will be remembered for her warm smile. Too soon Jeannie - but know you touched many by just being you.

Vin Colella - September 13, 2016 at 11:00 AM

KV

The class of WHS 80 will greatly miss your smile and great soul.

karen vergakes - September 13, 2016 at 11:09 AM

DR

They say only the Good die young Jeannie and you were definitely one of the many. Rest Easy...

Doreen Scolastico Riley - September 13, 2016 at 11:11 AM

DP

I'm just a classmate, I did get to see your kindness inaction. Thank you for caring about my feelings. I wish I had been able to go to the reunion. Glad you went to the next to last one. You will be missed. I send my sincere sympathy to your loved ones.

denise patterson - September 13, 2016 at 12:06 PM

KS

I will miss her laughter, her hugs, and her friendship. My condolences to her three children and extended family. Such sad news. What a great soul.

Kris Sawyer - September 13, 2016 at 01:31 PM

BM

Jeannie was a very sweet and caring soul, who I'm sure will be missed greatly by the many lives that she touched. Our sincere condolences to all of her family.

Brian McGrath - September 13, 2016 at 07:41 PM

EL

So sorry for your loss, Bill... Love to your Dad and family during this difficult time.

Eileen London - September 14, 2016 at 07:33 PM

NC

My children, my husband and I, all recall how Jeannie went out of her way to say kind things to us and always with a big smile. We all experienced and appreciated her sincere warmth. We are so very sorry for your loss.

Deepest sympathies from all the Conklins

Nancy Conklin - September 16, 2016 at 03:40 PM