



# *Virginia Mae Franklin*

**March 4, 1924 - April 20, 2025**

Virginia Mae Franklin, 101, of Drexel, NC, passed away Sunday, April 20, 2025.

Born in Burke County, NC on March 4, 1924, she was the daughter of the late Thomas Manley Whisnant and Maggie Cook Whisnant.

Virginia had a deep passion for flowers and found great joy in working with them. Her love for gardening was evident in the vibrant and beautiful blooms she nurtured, which brought happiness to all who saw them.

A woman of many talents, Virginia was an excellent seamstress and also enjoyed crochet. She was also known for her delicious cooking. Most of all, Virginia treasured her time with her children and grandchildren.

Those left to cherish her memory include her son, Tommy T. Franklin; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; and numerous extended family.

In addition to her parents, Virginia was preceded in death by her husband, Oran Claywell Franklin; son, Sheldon Clay Franklin; brother, Clifton Whisnant; and four sisters, Mary Jane Self, Lyer Alexander, Louise Franklin, and Zeda Lee Coleman.

The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m., Thursday, April 24, 2025 at Sossoman Funeral Home. The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. in the Colonial Chapel of the funeral home with Rev. Allen Bolieck officiating. Burial will follow at Burke Memorial Park.

Memorial contributions may be made to Zion Memorial United Methodist Church, PO Box 3061, Drexel, NC 28619 ([zionmemorialmorganton.org/giving](http://zionmemorialmorganton.org/giving)).

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

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## Visitation

April 24, 2025

10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center

## Service

April 24, 2025

11 a.m.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center

## Committal

April 24, 2025

Burke Memorial Park

# Tribute Wall

Tommy I was so sorry to here about your mom. I didn't know about her passing until after the service. I really hate that couldn't be there. I really liked her. I visited her several times after monk died. She lived a long life but she will still be missed by me.

—Franklin B. Walker, Jr.

I have many fond memories of Aunt Gin ,which I will always hold close to my heart . To the family,my thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time .

—Shelia Self Carswell