



Virginia P. Sleeman

April 17, 1927 - November 19, 2024

Virginia P. Sleeman, a devoted wife, mother, cherished grandmother, and esteemed educator, passed away peacefully on November 19, 2024, at the remarkable age of 97. Born on April 17, 1927, in Highland Park to Frederick and Pearl (née Williams) Barrett, Virginia lived a life defined by love, learning, and service to others.

A lifelong resident of the Detroit area, Virginia and her beloved husband, Calvin Sleeman, made their home in Huntington Woods in 1965, where they raised their family and shared a beautiful life together until Calvin's passing in 2009. Her roots in the community were deep and enduring, and her life was a testament to dedication, compassion, and quiet strength.

Virginia pursued her passion for education, completing her undergraduate studies and earning a Master's degree from Wayne State University. She embarked on a distinguished career with the Detroit Public Schools, teaching 4th through 9th grades, where her love for learning and her students left an indelible mark on all who passed through her classroom. Known for her patience, wisdom, and encouragement, she inspired countless young minds over the years.

Virginia's passions extended far beyond the classroom. She was an avid reader, finding joy and solace in the written word. Her green thumb and love of

nature were evident in her beautifully tended gardens, which brought color and life to her home and community. She was also deeply committed to her faith, a longtime member of Highland Park First Methodist Church before becoming an active and devoted member of First United Methodist Church of Royal Oak. A proud member of PEO, Virginia's dedication to empowering women through education reflected her lifelong commitment to helping others achieve their dreams.

Above all, Virginia will be remembered for her devotion to her family, who brought her boundless joy and pride. She is survived by her loving children, Janet (Steve) Kinney, Craig (Julie) Sleeman, and Geoffrey (Mary) Sleeman, who were her greatest treasures. Her grandchildren-Mark Sleeman, Michael Sleeman, Nora Sleeman, and Devin (Jacob) Murray-brought immense light to her life and carry forward her legacy of kindness, curiosity, and grace. She will also be deeply missed by her dear sister, Carolyn (the late Bob) Lennington, as well as extended family and friends who were blessed to know her.

Virginia's long and fruitful life was filled with meaningful contributions to her community, a devotion to lifelong learning, and the countless ways she enriched the lives of those around her. She will be remembered not only for her accomplishments but for her gentle spirit, her unwavering faith, and her love for her family.

Visitation for Virginia will be held on Monday, November 25, from 5-8 pm at First United Methodist Church of Royal Oak, 320 W. 7th Street, Royal Oak. A funeral service celebrating her life will take place on Tuesday, November 26, with in-state visitation at 10 am until the time of service at 11 am at the church. The service will also be live-streamed - check the Church site for the link. Virginia will be laid to rest beside her beloved Calvin.

In honor of Virginia's generous and caring spirit, memorial contributions may

be made to First United Methodist Church of Royal Oak or Cass Community Social Services, organizations close to her heart. To share a memory or leave a message of condolence, please visit www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Cemetery Details

Acacia Park Cemetery

31300 Southfield Road
Beverly Hills, MI 48025

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **25**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church of Royal Oak
320 W. Seventh Street
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Funeral Service

NOV **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

First United Methodist Church of Royal Oak
320 W. Seventh Street
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Tribute Wall

DH

“ Dan & Michelle Henke planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Virginia P. Sleeman.

Dan & Michelle Henke - November 22, 2024 at 07:49 PM

DH

“ Dan & Michelle Henke purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Virginia P. Sleeman.



Dan & Michelle Henke - November 22, 2024 at 07:49 PM

TC

“ The Albert M. Higley Co. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Virginia P. Sleeman.

The Albert M. Higley Co. - November 22, 2024 at 04:28 PM

TC

“ The Albert M. Higley Co. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Virginia P. Sleeman.



The Albert M. Higley Co. - November 22, 2024 at 04:28 PM

DF

“ David & Linda Carpenter and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Virginia P. Sleeman.

David & Linda Carpenter and family - November 22, 2024 at 02:56 PM

DF

“ David & Linda Carpenter and family purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Virginia P. Sleeman.



David & Linda Carpenter and family - November 22, 2024 at 02:56 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Virginia P. Sleeman.



November 22, 2024 at 02:33 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Virginia P. Sleeman.

November 22, 2024 at 02:25 PM



“ A Full Life was purchased for the family of Virginia P. Sleeman.



November 22, 2024 at 02:25 PM



“ Love Jamie and Dawn and Julie and Jake purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Virginia P. Sleeman.



Love Jamie and Dawn and Julie and Jake - November 22, 2024 at 01:20 PM



“ Chee-Chee, Roger, Danielle, & Sophia purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Virginia P. Sleeman.



Chee-Chee, Roger, Danielle, & Sophia - November 22, 2024 at 11:54 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Virginia P. Sleeman.

November 22, 2024 at 10:36 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Virginia P. Sleeman.*



November 22, 2024 at 10:36 AM