



Virginia Ann Powders

December 6, 1948 - January 10, 2024

Virginia Ann Powders was born December 6, 1948 and named by her mother Iva Jo Hamilton. My grandfather, Melvin Grey Hamilton reportedly decided that Virginia was a “difficult name” (knowing him--this was not in regard to pronunciation) and began calling her Rooney. Grandma relented to call her Ann, which is how Grandpa came to refer to his daughter as Annie Rooney. The earliest story I remember about mom was her chasing a chicken, falling onto a Folgers Coffee can, and cutting her forehead. I noticed this slight scar at the top of her forehead often when growing up, and throughout her life. It gave me a sense of her vulnerability, reminding me she was human like everyone else—which is hard to believe about a mom, that she’s not only invincible, but all-knowing in her protectiveness...and with a common child-like narcissism, believing that her existence, specifically there for us. I often glanced at the scar as an adult and felt a tug, and need to protect her, then and now—or always.

Virginia Ann played basketball, a lot of her close friends were boys, and she loved to climb trees. She spent most of her younger years doing what she chose to do--mostly outside with her dad, friends, cousins, pets--until age required her to be of gender and present as a “lady”. She did become a lady, yet maintained a beautiful residual effect of her true, dynamic self throughout her life. Some say this was stubborn or that she was just turning out like her dad.

Mother was particular in her dress which required our grandmother to hand-

make her clothes or adorn and alter anything store bought to suit her taste and fit. Grandma said that she was “forced” to sew fur/silk collars, and add layers of lining to most of her dresses and outfits. Despite her wardrobe, mother was normally disinterested in “suiters”—especially those favored by her parents. She described most were “better as friends”; More often, she could be found helping grandpa repair the roof or challenging them to climb the ladder as high without being scared. She drove farm trucks, rode horses, fed the cows, fished with grandma’s sisters, and went to church not only locally but as needed—or required at her two Aunt’s churches as well—again, Grandma’s sisters, Eva and Dessie. She did well academically but approached school as inconsequential—maybe boring--- but excited about what could be next, or possible.

Kennth Ray Powders...My mother knew of “Kenny Powders”. The story goes: their first date came about simply to upset her father, Melvin Hamilton. I remember the story as...” Well then---watch me...I will go with KENNY POWDERS”. A few days later our father called mother saying, “ I heard you said you’d go on a date with me—I’m on my way to introduce myself to your dad...”. They married on December 24th, 1966 and immediately moved for his work.

Our mom hand-sewed most of Scott and my clothing—jeans, dresses, bows, until we were both 4 or 5. She also made daily audio tapes of the three of us talking to “Granny” which she would mail weekly to OK anytime we lived out of state when Dad was working on a pipeline job.

Our mom worked very hard, normally for the betterment of those around her; but, had the veracity to not only be our rock and care-taker, but also a person that knew who she would and could be outside of a mom and wife. I was told that her first enrollment in Cosmetology College failed, as I would not stop crying. She tried again 2 years later, graduated, and worked successfully in an independent beauty shop building her own clientele. She later worked long hours at the Anchor Glass Plant and busted a few glass ceilings--climbing the ladder to a department manager in a predominately male-dominated industry

in the 1980s. In the evenings she often (or was forced) to become my fashion designer, personal dresser, and seamstress. She designed and created every dress, formal/prom dress that I wore until I was 25—and I still have them all. She assisted with editing and long-distance dictation on my brother's major college papers. All the while, she never missed a basketball game, performance, or request for a meeting—and never stepped in, interfered, provided her opinion—or took our experiences as her own. She held us responsible for our decisions, commitments, and gave us the opportunity to understand responsibility of actions, and which battles were worth fighting. She demanded that Scott and I follow through with our choices, to not choose the easier route, nor the most comfortable. She in other words provided the confidence to dream, do, and go far beyond what was in our playbook or current environmental focus.

Mom's third career was an elected position as the Okmulgee County Election Board Secretary or long-term resident of the Okmulgee County Court House. She again took on challenges with little fear, and more often excitement. She tackled these challenges, worked hard, and continued to create an environment of opportunity and equality

Her passion was not only serving her community, but also, volunteering within her community. She volunteered for years with Okmulgee County CASA, in the field as a child-advocate working one on one with children in vulnerable family and environmental situations--and later on Executive Boards. She also loved the role of her second biggest philanthropic endeavor--Deep Fork Community Action fundraising, i.e. "The Neighbor without Shame Players". She had leading roles in several productions that raised monies vital to the continued operations of community services.

Her other talents were interior design and architectural engineering which she studied along with graphic design at OSU Tech in the 90's. She knocked down many literal walls during my Dad's out of town business trips to have him return in shock, then in awe by the new "rooms" or over all house structure.

My mother spent many of her last years as a full-time dedicated caretaker of our father, her husband of 53 years, that died by her side October 16th 2020; And for her mother that died at 93, also by her side, November 12th 2020. We were so impressed with her adventure to travel and pursue life when suddenly on her own again—also enjoying time with friends and grandchildren. She truly embraced life without fear, with laughter, and on her own terms. My brother and I will miss her daily, and as many will, mourn the lost shine in our worlds.

In Remembrance of Virginia Ann Powders: by her daughter and family.

Celebration of Life will be 2:00 pm, Monday, January 15, 2024 at the Rogers Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Ryan Wells, officiating.

DUE TO THE WEATHER, ANN'S SERVICE WILL BE LIVE STREAMED FOR THOSE WHO CANT ATTEND ON THE ROGERS FUNERAL HOME FACEBOOK PAGE, STARTING AT 1:45 PM TODAY, MONDAY, JANUARY 15TH

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **14.** 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Rogers Funeral Home
1302 West Main Street
Henryetta, OK 74437
(918) 650-9090
rogersfh@aol.com
<https://www.rogersfuneralhomeinc.com>

Celebration of Life

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Tribute Wall



“ *Rogers Funeral home created a Tribute Video in memory of Virginia Ann Powders*



Rogers Funeral Home - January 13, 2024 at 10:14 AM

CC

Such a beautiful tribute.

Charyl Cummings - January 13, 2024 at 04:47 PM

MA

Ann's life in pictures that was a lovely tribute ❤️

Marilyn Arnold - January 13, 2024 at 06:11 PM

LB

Kristie, what a beautiful video tribute and obituary. Your mom was a beautiful lady inside and out and will be missed by many. My heart goes out to you and your family at this time.

Linda Boyd - January 14, 2024 at 09:47 PM

BA

Beautiful Tribute! Ann and Kenny are together again! Praying for Scott and the family strength, comfort and peace ❤️🙏🙏🙏🙏😊

Becky Arnold - January 15, 2024 at 02:43 PM

PV

Kristi, you and Scott have done your mother proud! My tears are falling for my dear friend. I love you 💕💕 pv

Patricia Vaughn - January 15, 2024 at 03:27 PM



What a beautiful tribute to Ana, Kristi. As I viewed the pictures, I reminisced about our teenage years in and around Henryetta. Then, our times as young mothers. Oh, and sharing our “joys” of raising teenagers! Your mom accomplished many things in her life. I know she was most proud of you kids. Cherish your memories and her love.

Sharon Sawyer - January 30, 2024 at 02:41 PM

BA

“ *Scott , Kristi and family so sorry to hear this sad news. We have lots of memories from pipelining with your parents. They were great friends and always enjoyed being on jobs with them. So sorry we couldn't make the service due to the weather. Praying for you all and your family strength, comfort and peace* ❤️🙏



Becky Arnold - January 16, 2024 at 10:45 AM

BA

“ *We have so many memories of Ann and Kenny starting in our teenage years. Ann's brother Charlie Hamilton was the one who introduced us to each other--at that time he was dating our good friend the late,Elizabeth (Bo) Ellis. Come May of 2024 we will be married 60 years so I would say Charlie was a good match-maker! I loved running into Ann's mother down through the years--she would fill me in on what was going on with her family. Ann was a very sweet person and always so friendly. We are sending our sincere sympathy to all of Ann's family--we know all of you will miss her very very much.*

Betty and Everett Gene Allen

Betty and Everett Gene Allen - January 15, 2024 at 11:08 AM

MA

“ Dear Kristie and Scott,

Those were beautiful words you wrote about your mom. I'm thinking about, and praying 🙏 for, you all and the rest of the family.

*With All My Love,
Marilyn Arnold*

Marilyn Arnold - January 14, 2024 at 08:49 PM

DH

“ Thank you so much for sharing your stories of your Mom. She truly was a lady. Have so many fond memories with our time with your parents. Prayers for all the family. Diane Hester

Diane Hester - January 13, 2024 at 09:03 PM

MA

“ Oh Ann, you were always so special, so entertaining, so fun to be around and so funny, you made me laugh all the time. We sure had some special times and made lots of good memories. You will always be in my heart Ann. I love you ❤️

Marilyn Arnold - January 13, 2024 at 02:29 PM



“ 46 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Rogers Funeral Home - January 13, 2024 at 01:06 PM



“ *Mary F Buchanan sent a virtual gift in memory of Virginia Ann Powders*




Mary F Buchanan - January 13, 2024 at 12:06 PM



Ann received her wings Fly high sweet cousin!

Mary F Buchanan - January 13, 2024 at 12:09 PM

 Ashley
Carnes

“ I first met Ann in 2010 when she hired me part-time at the election board, and I did house cleaning for her, too, occasionally. I adore her independence and knowledge. I have so much respect for Ann. I enjoyed hearing her stories before Anchor Glass and the election board, her opinions about political situations, and hearing about Hank, her dog. Ann was a devoted daughter, wife, and mother. And she loved those grandbabies. To be able to call Ann a friend was a blessing. Heartfelt condolences.

My deepest sympathies for the families loss. Ann was a wonderful lady with so much light. Prayers of comfort and love.

Ashley Carnes - January 13, 2024 at 10:35 AM

RV

What a beautiful memorial of your Mother. Thanks for sharing this blessing . Love and Prayers

Rebecca Vanderpool - January 13, 2024 at 11:04 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Virginia Ann Powders.



January 13, 2024 at 10:19 AM



“ 23 files added to the album Life Tributes



Rogers Funeral Home - January 13, 2024 at 10:16 AM

DW

“ My Heartfelt Condolences to Ann’s beautiful family. I worked for Ann for many years at the Okmulgee County Election Board, first as a precinct worker, then as an office worker for a couple of years before she retired. Ann was Wonderful! I enjoyed all her stories about her hubby, kids, grandkids and Hank the dog!❤️ Ann will be missed by all who knew her and I’m so proud to have known her. Love and Prayers for the family.

Debbie Walker - January 12, 2024 at 09:34 PM

BL

“ We love you Grams!



Bailee Laughlin - January 12, 2024 at 03:41 PM

JM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jackie Maloney-Mays - January 12, 2024 at 02:53 PM

JM

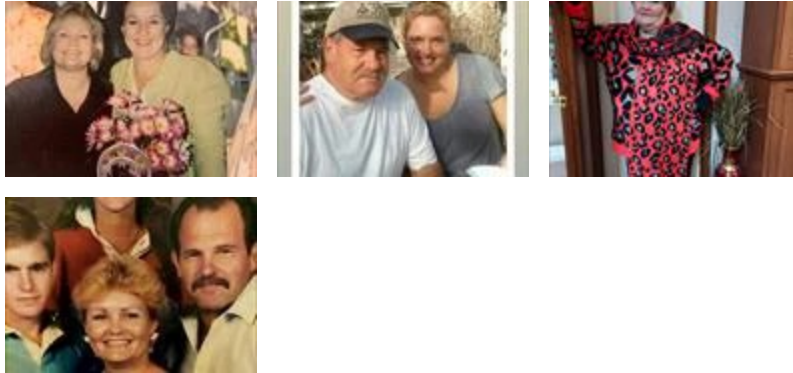
“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Jackie Maloney-Mays - January 12, 2024 at 02:50 PM

JM

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Jackie Maloney-Mays - January 12, 2024 at 02:46 PM

MA

Loved all the pics Jackie. That's just how I remember her best 😭

Marilyn Arnold - January 12, 2024 at 03:26 PM

SS

“ So sorry to learn of Ann's passing. I have many good memories of growing up with Ann at church. Prayers and condolences to the family.

Steve Saunders - January 12, 2024 at 10:03 AM

CT

“ Condolences and Prayers for all the family.



Chuck Tiessen - January 12, 2024 at 07:06 AM



“ Rose Impression Casket Spray was purchased for the family of Virginia Ann Powders.



January 11, 2024 at 09:01 PM



“ The Maloney Sisters planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Virginia Ann Powders.

The Maloney Sisters - January 11, 2024 at 09:01 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Virginia Ann Powders.



January 11, 2024 at 01:46 PM



“ I’m so sorry to hear about Ann’s passing 😞
 😞😞 My sister Barbara and I have always been good friends and with her family also ☐ my heart is broken 😞😞 Barbara, Ann and I sang together in church. Our favorite song we sang together was, Sheltered in the Arms of God 😞😞 ☐☐★ Ann is now in the Arms of God 😞😞 ☐☐★ Love you Ann ☐☐★



Mary Jobe Bullard - January 11, 2024 at 02:05 AM

MB

“ *Melissa Burgess Bear lit a candle in memory of Virginia Ann Powders*



Melissa Burgess Bear - January 10, 2024 at 07:55 PM

MH

“ *Marlyn Hamon-Harris lit a candle in memory of Virginia Ann Powders*



Marlyn Hamon-Harris - January 10, 2024 at 07:11 PM

M(

“ *Kristi and Scott..I'm sad to hear your sweet Mom has passed away. She fought a good fight now she's at peace resting with Jesus. .She and Charlie were our favorite cousins we were all very close..just know you both are in my prayers as you face the days ahead. Love you both*

Mary F Buchanan (Pollard) - January 10, 2024 at 12:31 PM

VL

Did she go by Ann Powders?

Vickie Lynn Miller Likowski - January 10, 2024 at 07:59 PM

RH

I am so sorry to hear of Ann's passing. She was such a jewel among women. Prayers for strength and comfort for her family.

Rebecca Ann Osmond Hold - January 10, 2024 at 09:14 PM

CT

Scott and Kristi: I am so sorry to hear about your Mom's passing. She was one of the nicest women I knew. A blessing to all. Our prayers are with you.

Carolyn (Branson) Torix

Carolyn Lee Torix - January 11, 2024 at 09:53 AM

SM

So sorry for your loss. Worked with Ann in the office at Anchor years ago. She was such a beautiful lady

Sheila Miller - January 11, 2024 at 12:32 PM

PH

Scott and Kristi just know that I am thinking of you both your mom was a real sweet lady and a dear friend. Sorry for your loss.

Peggy Hall - January 12, 2024 at 03:06 AM