



Kathryn Viola Groce

April 16, 1930 - March 20, 2026

Kathryn V. Groce, 95, of Goldsboro MD passed away peacefully at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, surrounded by family on Friday March 20, 2026. She was born on April 16, 1930, in Burrsville, DE to the late Ethel Virginia Benson. Upon the death of her mother at the age of 2, she was raised in Denton MD, by the late Nettie Baynard whom she considered family. She attended Lockerman School in Denton MD graduating in May 1948 with a full scholarship to Hampton University in Hampton Virginia. She declined the scholarship and instead married the love of her life, the Late Rayfield Groce, Jr. on December 25, 1948. She was an avid crocheter and seamstress and was a stay-at-home wife for the majority of her life, until her children became teenagers, and she accept a cooking position at the Benedictine School, retiring in 1999 after 19 years. She attended Trinity AME Church in Ridgely MD regularly until her health began to fail.

In addition to both mothers, she is predeceased by her husband, Rayfield Groce, Jr., favorite Uncle Clearence Benson (Hulda) and nephew Irvin Groce.

She is survived by her 2 children Clark Groce., Sr., (Tampa) and Sarena McKnight (Roger), 3 Grandchildren, Clark Groce Jr., (Katherine), Stephanie Jefferson (Mike), who was raised as a daughter and Amber Groce (Anthony),

11 Great Grandchildren, Thomas, Dominick, Gavin, Madisyn, Ashtyn, Miranda, Averie, Bryson, Ava, Austyn and Aizley, 3 sister-in-laws, Doris Washington, Freda Hairston (Ed) and Joan Redwood (Chris), 1 brother-in-law Donald Butch Groce, bonus daughter Rodecia McKnight-Davis (Larry) and bonus grandson Bryce Griffin. Specials friends, who she considered family, William and Mary Ellen Flamer, Nora Cannon, Tom and Karen Loveless, Arlene Gordon and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and her Ocean Pines MD friends and acquaintances.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Fleegle and Helfenbein Funeral Home
106 W Sunset Ave
Greensboro, MD 21639
(410) 482-8914

Funeral

MAR 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fleegle and Helfenbein Funeral Home
106 W Sunset Ave
Greensboro, MD 21639
(410) 482-8914

Graveside Service

MAR 27 (ET)

Union Memorial Cemetery
Goldsboro, MD 21636

Tribute Wall

BD

“ Bruce H Dean lit a candle in memory of Kathryn Viola Groce



Bruce H Dean - March 28 at 06:48 PM

LL

“ Kathryn was a wonderful lady and a joy to have known. I always looked forward to seeing her when she came down to Ocean Pines. I know she truly missed her husband so I imagine she is dressed up in MK and dancing with her husband now. We will miss you. Jim, Lou Ann & Dot

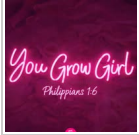
Lou Ann Danner Loveless - March 26 at 09:49 AM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Kathryn Viola Groce.



March 26 at 09:42 AM



“ Mom, I will miss you forever. You tried to prepare us for the day we’d have to go on without you, but my heart will never truly be ready. You were the most beautiful grandmother, and I couldn’t have been blessed with anyone better. You never told us “no”—I don’t think that word existed for you when it came to us. The genuine love you had for my children warms my heart, and I’m so grateful they got to experience that. It’s often said to give people their flowers while they’re still here, and I pray you knew just how deeply we love you.

Selfishly, I wanted you here forever, never wanting to accept the reality that our time together would come to an end. I thank God that I was able to tell you how much I love you in your final days and to see your beautiful smile one last time.

Your love will live in my heart always. I’ll miss your soft voice, your incredible sense of humor, and your understanding spirit. I love you, Mom. I’ll see you again someday. Rest peacefully—job well done.

-Amber & the girls

Amm Berr - March 25 at 07:39 PM



“ Mom - Roger and I Love you!!!



Roger McKnight - March 25 at 03:39 PM

SR

“ Mom, our hearts are broken. I am grateful for everything that you done for all of us. You never missed a beat when Dad died, you just kept on handling the family and keeping everyone in check. To me you were always strong and could handle every situation. The family circle has been broken as well as my heart. I could not have asked for a better mother than you. You were and always will be the best in my eyes. Take your well earned rest. We will forever love you and try to carry on but it will never be the same.



Sarena & Roger - March 25 at 03:32 PM

JR

“ Joan Redwood sent a virtual gift in memory of Kathryn Viola Groce



Joan Redwood - March 25 at 02:46 PM

Jl

“ Joan Redwood(sister In-law) lit a candle in memory of Kathryn Viola Groce



Joan Redwood(sister in-law) - March 25 at 02:44 PM

JB

“ Janet M Burruss lit a candle in memory of Kathryn Viola Groce



Janet M Burruss - March 25 at 10:33 AM

KR

“ Aunt Kathryn, I loved coming down to you and Ucle Junior's house. The stories that always brought tears of laughter are fond memories of good times with you.
Love Bootsie

Karen Robbins - March 25 at 09:50 AM

CS

“ Cynthia S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathryn Viola Groce.

Cynthia S. - March 25 at 09:11 AM

CY

“ Aunt Kathryn,
Before Mom no longer had an interest talking on the phone, I remember the last calls listening to the laughter between you and Mom. After you talked to Mom, you had me laughing.😂😂
Rest in peace Auntie.
We light this candle for you.
Sister in law Doris and niece Cynthia



Cynthia - March 25 at 08:59 AM

FH

“ *My dear sister in law I will miss coming & bringing you a birthday luncheon every year April 15th, even though we found out later it was on the wrong date. What fun we had. Rest now. We love you.*

FREDA HAIRSTON - March 24 at 08:11 PM

DT

“ *Mrs Groce was one of the first parents I met when I was student teaching. She was a very nice lady who always took an interest in her children and their education. My condolences to her family and all those whose lives she touched.*



Dan Towers - March 24 at 05:06 PM

SJ

Thank you, Mr. Towers. Kathryn is my grandmother. I was NCHS class of 2001. I am also Gwendolyn Wright's niece. Mom always taught us that God came first and a good education was right after that. Thank you for your kind words.

Stephanie Jefferson - March 25 at 04:51 PM

SJ

“ *To the most beautiful woman I've ever known. No one will ever hold a candle to you. Hands down the best mom, grandmom, and great-grandmom in the world, and we were blessed to call you ours. You have fought the good fight, the race has been won. Now it's time to receive your crown and take your rest. We love you in this life and will love you in the life to come.*



Stephanie Jefferson - March 24 at 02:34 PM



Beautiful ☐☐

Cynthia - March 25 at 08:41 AM