



## Virginia G. Kiely

April 6, 2023

Virginia Kiely, 98, of West Hartford, passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, April 6, 2023. Born in Hartford on Christmas Day, 1924, the daughter of Selden K. Griffen and Marguerite Rothbrust Griffen, she grew up and lived in Newington, CT until she met her dashing late husband, Arthur J. Kiely Jr at the Hartford Courant where they both were employed. Virginia and Art were married for 57 years, until Art's death in 2005.

Virginia was a graduate of Mount St Joseph Academy and Cambridge Secretarial School and would have graduated from Hartford College for Women if she had not decided to skip the final exams and travel to Fort Bragg to see her brother off to war. Her first career was as a legal secretary working for Gilman and Marks. After raising her family, she returned to the workforce at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and then the Hartford Board of Education, as Executive Administrative Assistant to the principal at Weaver High School.

Virginia served as a member and officer of the Hartford Retired School Secretaries and Weaver HS Retired Staff associations, as well as past president for the West Hartford Belles. She was a member of St John's Episcopal Church in West Hartford.

She leaves daughter, Patricia of West Hartford, son, Christopher of Winsted, grandson Cooper Davis and wife Laura, grandson Luke Davis and wife Anastasia, four great grandchildren, Casper, Lewelyn, Linnea and Liliana, who knew her as "GG", and many adoring nieces and nephews and close friends.

She was predeceased by her brother, Selden K Griffen Jr.

The family is grateful for the wonderful and compassionate care of Care at Home by JFS caregivers and staff at Aviva Hamilton Heights and Accent Hospice.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, April 19th at 1:00 pm in St. John's Episcopal Church, 679 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at [www.molloyfuneralhome.com](http://www.molloyfuneralhome.com). In lieu of flowers please plant something this Spring and think of Virginia

# Cemetery Details

## Fairview Cemetery

200 Whitman Ave.  
West Hartford, CT

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

APR **19**. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. John's Episcopal Church  
679 Farmington Ave.  
West Hartford, CT

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Virginia G. Kiely.*



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April 17, 2023 at 11:42 PM



“ *So Very sorry to hear of Virginia’s passing to her next journey. It was a pleasure to know her for the few years when she and my dad became reacquainted. Our family was so happy to know that they were able to enjoy each other’s company in their senior years.*

*I hope that all of your wonderful memories of her will be comfort to you during this time.*

*Sending condolences, peace and love,*

*Ginny Normandy (John James’ youngest daughter from Cape Cod)*

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**Ginny James Normandy** - April 17, 2023 at 10:44 PM



*So sorry to learn about the passing of your mom. She was such a vibrant cool lady! Sending condolences and hugs.*

*♥Beezy*

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**Louise Noman** - April 18, 2023 at 12:41 PM

JT

“ Deepest sympathy to your family. We are sad to hear the word of Virginia’s passing. But also have joy to think of her and Art being back together. And imagine the stories her and Dottie have to catch up on. My husband, Jon- Dottie’s grandson, stopped by to visit her years back while we were visiting from Nebraska. She meant a lot to him and he loved all the memories growing up in the summers around her and his grandma.

For those who are familiar enough with Facebook I have a funny story to share. Jon and I live in a small town in Nebraska. Our community often times will post a status to swap or sell/buy gently used kids shoes since there’s often times so much life left in them. Everyone knows everyone around here. Well, Dottie called us almost in tears with worry thinking we were struggling financially so bad that we had to ask Facebook for shoes to help our children after her bestie, “Ginny”, called her and told her she needs to send us money to buy our children shoes. We had Virginia as our friend on Facebook and apparently she took the status about shoes wrong. Haha! It made for a great laugh.

Those two ladies were the best of friends. 💕 I’m sure she was waiting for her to arrive as well.

Thoughts and prayers being sent your way.

Sincerely,  
Jonathan and Jaimee Thomas

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Jaimee Thomas - April 17, 2023 at 10:27 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Virginia G. Kiely.*



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April 17, 2023 at 09:59 PM



“ *Ginny -- and Art -- were two of our most memorable friends. They, along with daughter Patty plus Vera and Griff (Griffin) comprised the tightly-knit New Britain/West Hartford circle with which we enjoyed many delightful afternoons and evenings at their houses... and ours. Ginny, with her permanent smile and laughter, never seemed to have a negative day and always brightened every occasion. Although we hadn't shared her companionship in a long time, and are down here in Florida until May, we will miss her but never forget the good times we shared together.*

*Mary & Bill Hennessey (Niantic & Port Salerno)*

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**Bill Hennessey** - April 11, 2023 at 07:18 AM



“ *I'm so sorry for the passing of your mother. I taught at Weaver for 26 years and Virginia was a gem from day one. Hoping your love and memories will soften your pain. Arleen Monroe*

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**Arleen Monroe** - April 10, 2023 at 08:52 PM