



## Dorothy Gantz

October 12, 1918 - May 14, 2014

An angel came during the quietness of sleep on Wednesday May 14, 2014 at 12:40 a.m. to end the life of a dear mother, grandmother, aunt and well known friend, Dorothy Lee James Gantz.

Dorothy was born in Norfolk County) Virginia (now Portsmouth), on October 15, 1918, the daughter of the late Lawrence and Alice James. She professed Christ's salvation at an early age and joined Grove Baptist Church.

Affectionately known as "Dot) Dimp, Nanna and Aunt Dot",

she received her early education at C. S. Brown High School) Winton North Carolina. She later graduated from Elizabeth City State Teachers College, now (Elizabeth City State University), Elizabeth City, North Carolina. She majored in elementary education. Over time, Dorothy had the opportunity to teach in both private and public school systems. As an elementary school teacher she influenced, encouraged and mentored many young people. As a wife of a military service-member Dorothy's desire to learn about different cultures and experience different lands, led her to travel to Germany, France, Spain, Italy, Africa, Alaska, New Mexico and Texas, and finally residing in Virginia Beach, VA. Dorothy genuinely enjoyed meeting new people and exchanging ideas. She delighted in music, especially Bob Jones Gospel Hour and dancing. Cooking, dressing up daily and just having a good conversation were specialties of hers. She also loved animals, gardening and helping people all along her life's journey. Dorothy loved the Lord, her children and this family. Finally, as the James' family matriarch the most important things

are the fond remembrances of those who loved and were loved by "Momma, Nanna, Aunt Dot." Dorothy lived a life of service with a special commitment to family. Her children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews will all know what it is like to be loved by an exceptional, spiritual woman whose love will linger long after she is gone. Her family will commemorate this life well lived, and cherish their memories forever. Dorothy J. Gantz was married to the late John F. Gantz. She was predeceased by her daughter, Judith A. Franco. She leaves to cherish her memory a son John A. Gantz (Janet) of McKinney, TX; four grandchildren, Heather Williams of Hampton ) VA; Megan Franco of Virginia Beach, VA; Marcel Franco of Virginia Beach VA. and Lance Corporal USMC Julian Franco of Jacksonville, NC; one great-grandson Gideon Williams; as well as many loving nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends. To Niece Betty Robinson: Betty, Jaye and I will never forget the love and special attention you have shown to Momma. You and Isaiah opened your arms and your home to her, at a time when she most desired to remain here at home. The word 'gratitude' could never adequately explain how much we cherish you for your selfless devotion. Sincerely, John.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 18. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services  
1248 N. George Washington Hwy.  
Chesapeake, VA 23323  
(757) 487-3700  
info@jtfisherfuneralservices.com  
<https://www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com>

## Service

MAY 19. 2:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services  
1248 N. George Washington Hwy  
Chesapeake, VA

# Tribute Wall



“ *J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Dorothy Gantz*



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**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - May 18, 2014 at 12:37 PM



“ *Written in the Stars was purchased for the family of Dorothy Gantz.*



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May 19, 2014 at 07:53 AM



“ *Dear Mrs. Gantz ,  
Memories of your smile and the caring neighbor that you were to us  
(Green Run, Virginia Beach 1984-2004) will always be in our hearts.  
Rest in peace.  
Prayerfully,  
The Harris family,  
(Michael, Donna, and Michael Jr.)*

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**Mr. & Mrs. Michael Harris Sr. & Son** - May 18, 2014 at 11:38 AM

JM

“ *What a an elegant Earthly- Angel she was. A character full of wit, charm and endurance; and a model of class personified! When we FIRST met, her warm & genuine embrace let our family know we were welcomed to her friendship and a lasting family relationship. When John or Jaye would mention Momma, her family presence was felt so strong that it can never be missed, only enjoyed for time everlasting!! She left a blueprint of how to live a 'Well-Spent-Life' to guide her family. No doubt that today she's a special 'flower' in Heaven's Garden now personally nurtured by our Lord and Savior - at last and forever more resting with The Comforter! "WELL DONE MOMMA" thy good and faithful servant.*

*With Love Always & Forever,*

*The McNeal's (aka) Your 'Oklahoma' Family  
John, Diane, Brandi, Cynthia (Victor Riley), John III (Laci Rios), and  
Sarae*

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John McNeal - May 17, 2014 at 06:45 PM

UM

“ *How are we going to live without your smile, your great memories, and lawd Jesus, your fried potatoes and onions??? Miss you Nana*

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umiah - May 17, 2014 at 04:35 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dorothy Gantz.*



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May 17, 2014 at 09:09 AM

JG

“ Momma,  
For 57 years, you were there to share my life. My good and bad times, you helped instruct me and guide me through life. You taught me how a man was supposed to act, and what he was supposed to do. I never could have become the person I am, without your wisdom, your guidance, your devotion and your LOVE. I am going to miss your laughter, your jokes, your smile, and our times together. But I promise we will still talk. I promise. This hurts so bad, but I know that now you are finally HOME. Monday will be the hardest day in my life, but I know you will talk to me and pull me through, and I will do my best to let everyone else know how great a person, woman and MOTHER you have been. Enjoy your wings and learn to use them FAST, because I am going to need you again!

*Closing with "Love Johnny", can't express my love and devotion to you, so I will just say good nite Momma, talk to you soon!*

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**John Gantz** - May 17, 2014 at 08:49 AM

TO

“ The Dallas Regional Office purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dorothy Gantz.



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**The Dallas Regional Office** - May 17, 2014 at 08:28 AM



“ *Dear Aunt Dot, first Mom, now you, unbearable loss. The memory of you laugh and welcoming hugs will always be in my heart. There are few friendships like Dot and Helen had. Love you, I will keep you in my heart and prayers. Rest well, you're home.*

*Love, Jackie*

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**Jackie Thomas-Suggs** - May 15, 2014 at 06:17 AM