



## Jessie Maxine Smilling

November 30, 1933 - July 7, 2024

Jessie Maxine Smilling, (maiden name Leach), passed away on July 7, 2024, in Suffolk, Virginia, at the age of 90. Maxine was Born on November 30, 1933, in Johnson County, North Carolina, she spent her formative years in Portsmouth, Virginia, graduating from Our Lady of Victory High School. She furthered her education with two years of nursing school, which fueled a lifelong passion for caring and service to others.

Jessie was a dedicated member of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, where she found much solace and community throughout her life. Her hobbies included reading, gardening, and antique shopping, each of which she approached with great enthusiasm and a keen eye for detail.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 60 years, Joe Smilling, her father, Thurman Leah, and her mother, Helen Leach. Jessie leaves behind a family, her adopted son, Michael Taylor, cherished cousins and a community of friends who will miss her warm presence, her resolute spirit, and her boundless kindness.

Jessie's life was marked by her devotion to her family, her church, and her community, making her a beloved figure in all the circles she touched. Her legacy of love and dedication will continue to live on in the hearts of those who knew her.



# Cemetery Details

## Albert G Horton Jr. Veterans Memorial Cemetery

5310 Milner's Road  
Suffolk, VA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 16. 3:00 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

JUL 17. 1:00 PM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Jessie Maxine Smilling* ”



**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - July 16, 2024 at 02:53 AM

JN

*Mrs. Maxine will be missed we love YOU here at Nansmond Point*

**JACKIE NEWSOME** - July 16, 2024 at 07:00 PM

FA

*I'm going to miss you cousins*

**Fleance T. Archie** - July 17, 2024 at 08:23 AM

JM

*God plucked a beautiful rose from the garden take your rest Maxine. Your friends from Stone Mountain, Ga*

**Joyce McFadden** - July 17, 2024 at 01:27 PM

PG

*Cousin you are no longer here. But you will remain in my heart forever. RIP.*

**Pearlene Greer** - July 18, 2024 at 10:10 AM

LA

*Love you Maxine and Rest in Peace. You were my best cousin. Leon Archie*

**Leon Archie** - July 18, 2024 at 11:41 PM

DT

“ *Those we love never truly leave us. There are things that death cannot touch. Rest in Peace Miss Maxine. Your friends for over 60 years.*  
*The Taylors*

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**Deborah Taylor** - July 16, 2024 at 04:30 PM



“ *26 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - July 15, 2024 at 10:46 PM

RF

“ *Ruth & Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Jessie Maxine Smilling.*



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**Ruth & Family** - July 15, 2024 at 10:16 AM