



Marilyn "Sissie" K. Davis

JUN 21, 1937 - FEB 11, 2021



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Hamlin & Hilbish
Funeral Directors

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Marilyn "Sissie" K. Davis

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Marilyn Kirkland Davis "Sissie" June 21, 1937 – February 11, 2021. A lifelong resident of Lake County from pioneer families who settled this area of Central Florida before Florida was even a state, passed away with her family by her side. She was one of four children born to Martin and Myrtle Kirkland and grandparents Jess & Lillie Getford, who came to Eustis in the late 1800's. She raised 2 children: Denise "Dee Dee" Branham and Tamela "Tammie" Parnell. Sissie was a lifelong member of Lake Eustis Christian Church where she served as a Sunday School Teacher, Bookkeeper, and many other roles. She is a 1955 graduate of Eustis High School where she was a cheerleader, a member of the E Club, Glee Club, Thespian Society, Panther Annual Staff, FHA, Quill and Scroll, Who's Who, voted Most Popular, Class Secretary, and Class Treasurer. She was a four-year basketball letterman and played on the 1955 Girls State Championship Team. Sissie was a 1954 Lake County Poinsettia Debutante and she was a Rainbow Girl of the Order of the Eastern Star. She attended the University of Florida where she pledged AOPi sorority. She was an avid Gator fan. She worked at the First National Bank until her first daughter was born. Sissie spent numerous hours volunteering for her community through The Eustis Service League and was a member of Pine Meadows Country Club and Adventures Unlimited. She volunteered for the State of Florida Girl Scout Council and helped start Girl Scout Troop 288. Sissie lived life to the fullest, always giving her best and expecting the best. She traveled all over the world, was active in many bridge clubs and travel groups, and supported the community theater groups in Lake County. Sissie was an avid reader, and loved camping, hiking to waterfalls, hunting, playing bridge, trying new and different things, going out to eat, traveling, going to the beach, and spending time with her family and friends. Sissie is survived by her daughters Denise "Dee Dee" Branham (Jeff) of Columbus, GA, and Tamela "Tammie" Parnell (Tad) of Dallas, TX; sister Janelle Kirkland Hicks



Obituary

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(Bob) of Woodstock, GA; grandchildren Ashley Branham (Kim) of Columbus, GA, and Emily Parnell and Blake Parnell of Dallas, TX; nieces Jenna Hicks (Betsy) of Milton, GA and Robyn Hicks of Woodstock, GA; and great-nephew Tanner Hicks of Milton, GA. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Eustis Memorial Library (eustismemoriamlibrary.org/about-us/support-the-library/), Girl Scout Troop 9295, 704 Jewell St., Fruitland Park, FL 34731. There will be a graveside service on Tuesday, February 16th, 2021 at 10:00 AM at Greenwood Cemetery. The family has requested those attending please adhere to CDC guidelines by wearing masks and practicing social distancing.





Events

Marilyn "Sissie" K. Davis

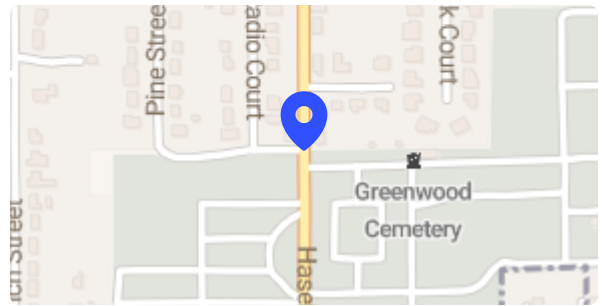
JUN 21, 1937 - FEB 11, 2021

Graveside Ceremony

 **Tuesday**, February 16, 2021

 10:00 AM ET

 **Greenwood Cemetery**
220 Haselton Street, Eustis FL 32726





Tribute Wall

Marilyn "Sissie" K. Davis

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Raquel Wells posted:

Sissie, You were such a great lady and friend. No pretense in our conversations. Always honest and usually very funny. One time in team tennis we were partners way over at Tuscawilla on a very hot day. You had extra shirts in your tennis bag and since there was not a dry spot on our clothes, at one switch over you pulled out a nice dry shirt and changed right there! Pretty funny and your great little chuckle afterward I have never forgotten how great it was calling you my friend. Donna Potter

June 1 at 8:38 PM



Diane G Thornburg lit a candle in honor of Marilyn "Sissie".



April 12 at 12:39 PM



Carl And Sandra Pettitt posted:

I am still having a hard time thinking she will no longer be there for fun travels, plays, and visits we had planned to the panhandle, plus every day on the internet! We shared so many good and some not-so-good times through the years but loved every minute of raising our Eustis High School children at the same time. Sissie was my roommate just a year ago on a girls trip to Panama Canal. We had so much fun reliving some of those great times praising how our children and their friends all grew up to be the great parents they are. Surely we did something right! RIP my friend and we will meet again . Love to your beautiful family. Sandy and Carl Pettitt

February 17 at 5:49 PM



Tom Bowers posted:

DeeDee and Tammie, I was so sorry to learn of your mother's passing. She was one of the friendliest and most welcoming persons I met when my family moved to Eustis. That same warmth was felt with every chance encounter I had with her in town for the last 45 years. Whether it was an inquiry about some real estate or crossing path while shopping in town. To my surprise, she always recognized me. I recall a visit with her as a Poll Volunteer a few years ago. There was no line behind me and she caught me up on your families in just a few short minutes. She was a great woman and so proud of both of you! While she is looking down from above and no longer physically with us, please know her fond memories and her warmth will live on forever!

February 17 at 5:03 PM



Tribute Wall

Marilyn "Sissy" K. Davis

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Tracey Lichtinger posted:

Tammie, Dee Dee and family, I am so very sorry for the loss of your precious mom. She was such a special lady. You all are in my thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, Tracey Hilbish Lichtinger

February 16 at 11:31 AM



Douglas Clark posted:

My heart is heavy with the news of "Sissy" leaving this world. Our world my have lost a bright light but there is a new star in the heavens to shine bright and light our path. My memory of "mom" was her generosity and kindness towards me when I needed it most. She took me in like a son, provided for me and was a foster mom to me. My father had passed and my mom was very ill. Sissy fed me, made sure I had someone to talk to and even gave me work around the yard so I could have some money. Then when my mom improved and the two met she was such a great encouragement to my mom. Telling her what a fine son she had. It helped my mom in her recovery. In my high school years very few people impacted me as positively as Sissy. It was just her nature to be kind, generous and a witness to her faith. My deepest sympathy to all her family and friends who have to temporarily say "see you later" to one of the best ever to grace our lives. A special I miss you & love you to both Dee Dee and Tammy. You have my prayers during this time of grief. Your mom touched us all in such a loving and positive way.

February 15 at 9:30 AM



Anonymous sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Davis family.



February 15 at 4:20 AM



H J Greenlee, Jr, Cpa posted:

My condolences to you, Janelle, and others of the Kirkland family. I grew up in Eustis and was one year ahead of Sissy at EHG, graduating in 1954. May the Lord bless you and comfort you. John Greenlee

February 12 at 7:45 PM



Tribute Wall

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Tracy M Belton posted:

I loved this woman with all my heart. She wasn't just a Girl Scout leader, she taught us life skills and to think before we acted. (At least tried!) We could always count on Sissie for the great Class of '78! Whether it was building the class float, putting together skirts, or anything else that was need to make or Class # 1 in high school competitions, Sissie was with us! She loved her daughters and all of her daughters' friends and we all knew it. All this being said, she was an outstanding role model for all of us on how to be a great MOM! Love you Sissie, DeeDee and Tammy

February 12 at 1:49 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Marilyn "Sissie" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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