



## Gladys R Cotton

June 13, 1928 - January 4, 2016

Gladys R. Cotton, 87 of Bluffton passed away at 3:48 p.m. Monday, January 04, 2016, at Heritage Pointe in Warren.

A lifetime resident of Wells County, Gladys graduated from Rockcreek High School in 1946 and Wayne University of Cosmetology. She was a beautician and the owner /operator of Gladys's Glamour Shop in Bluffton for many years.

Gladys was born on June 13, 1928 in Wells County to John & Hazel (McCleery) McAfee. On July 27, 1947 she married Lyle J. Cotton. He preceded her in death on May 20, 2013.

She was an active leader and member of the First United Methodist Church in Bluffton and in the United Methodist Women. She was an active member of the Order of the Eastern Star in Bluffton and Waynedale, Bayview Reading Club and Daughters of the American Revolution along with being a District Officer for B.P.W. Business and Professional Women. She also served as the president of the Fort Wayne Society of Beauticians for several years and was an active member of the Wells County Historical Society.

Survivors include her daughter, Claudia Ann (Richard) Gipson of Dillsboro, IN, and a son, David McAfee (Kathleen) Cotton of Lynnwood, WA.

Also surviving are eight grandchildren, Jason T. (Karie) Gipson, Alysa Shay Gipson, O. Bryce (Valerie) Gipson, Ian D. (Angel) Cotton, Dylan S. Cotton, Matthew S. Cotton, Joshua F. (Brandie) Cotton and Daniel C. Cotton.

Other survivors are ten great-grandchildren and a brother Jackie (Marlene) L. McAfee of Lake George, MI.

She was preceded in death by a son, Steven F. Cotton, and a daughter-in-law, Judy A. Cotton and siblings: John McAfee, Don McAfee, Bob McAfee, Elizabeth McAfee, Fred McAfee, Harry McAfee and Maxine Moser.

Calling hours will take place from 4 to 8 on Friday (Jan. 8th) at Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. A funeral service to celebrate Gladys's life will be at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, January 9, 2016, at the First United Methodist Church with Rev. Steve Bard and Pastor Henry Favorite officiating. Burial will follow at Prospect Cemetery in Uniondale.

Preferred memorials are to First United Methodist Church or the Epworth Forest Improvement Fund.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Prospect Cemetery

0094 West 900 North  
Uniondale, IN 46791

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JAN 8.** 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
<http://www.thomarich.com>

## Service

**JAN 9.** 10:00 AM (ET)

First United Methodist Church  
325 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gladys R Cotton*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Thoughts and Prayers to you. That smile will be missed, but it helps to know that she is sharing that smile and possibly a MacDonald's cheeseburger with her very special Marine. Godspeed McAfee, Tammy Allred CNA*



Tammy Allred - January 13, 2016 at 11:09 AM



“ *Dave and Claudia, I am saddened to hear about your wonderful mom. She was quite a live wire, and her haircuts were an important part of my childhood! At "Glady's Glamour Shop" I could count on her friendly chatter and being treated like a big kid. Later I respected her in Rainbow Girls for her ability to be both dignified, strict, and fun at the same time. What an example she was to a herd of wild teenagers! I know you'll miss her, and so will many in Bluffton.*

Ann Hamilton Shields - January 13, 2016 at 04:56 AM



“ *I just learned Gladys passed away. What a special friend she was to me. She did my hair when I was little, and when I got older, We travelled a lot for BPW and had some great times together, Was glad I got to see her when Lyle passed away, Just loved this lady.*

Connie Williams - January 11, 2016 at 12:49 PM

RD

“ Sorry to receive the news about Gladys's passing. While residing in Bluffton we gained many memories with the Cotton Family both happy and sad. We shared the same wedding anniversary date with Gladys and Lyle and it was nice to attend their 50th. She was a great hairdresser and assisted us many times over at the funeral home. Just a terrific lady!  
Take care to all.

*Randy & Eleanor Danielson  
Plymouth, IN*

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**Randy Danielson** - January 10, 2016 at 07:41 AM

KB

“ Claudia and David, So sorry to hear about your mom. I remember stopping in when she was doing hair at Capri Meadows for the seniors. You both have my sympathy and prayers. Kristine Bushee

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**Kristine Bushee** - January 09, 2016 at 08:54 AM

AH

“ My Grandmother, Betty Hankins would always get her hair done by Gladys. Our deepest condolences.



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**Angela Hockenberry** - January 09, 2016 at 01:00 AM

MR

“ So sorry to read the obit for Gladys. Your dad and mom were such fun friendly people and we loved to have them visit with us in Petroleum. George and I loved to go out and eat with the Cottons and Starrs. I extend my deepest sympathy. Mildred I. Risser

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**Mildred I. Risser** - January 08, 2016 at 04:04 PM

CM

“ Cotton Family, Wayne and I would like to extend our deepest sympathy. We miss Gladys and Lyle in our neighborhood and wish it was like it used to be. Know Gladys was an important part of all of your lives, and we wanted you to know we are thinking about you at this sad time.  
Cindy and Wayne Monticue



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**Cindy Monticue** - January 08, 2016 at 12:55 PM

JD

“ Gladys and Lyle were both lovely people and will be greatly missed. Sending thoughts and prayers to your family  
Jerry and Cindy Dillon

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**Jerry and Cindy Dillon** - January 07, 2016 at 08:38 PM

TF

“ Terry McAfee and Family purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray for the family of Gladys R Cotton.



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**Terry McAfee and Family** - January 07, 2016 at 12:25 PM

MM

“ Thinking of all of you. I miss seeing Gladys and Lyle!



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**Mindy Monticue** - January 07, 2016 at 05:15 AM

SF

“ Dear Claudia, I'm sorry to learn of your mom's passing. Gladys was a lovely lady and a friend for many, many years. She was my Rainbow Mom and my hair stylist at times. She did my mom's hair for many years. She and your dad were such a loving couple and it is a blessing to know that they have been reunited. May your memories help to give you peace. Sandy Geist Funk



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**Sandy Geist Funk** - January 07, 2016 at 12:51 AM

MG

“ Marion & BJ Gray lit a candle in memory of Gladys R Cotton



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**Marion & BJ Gray** - January 06, 2016 at 10:28 PM

VJ

“ I had a lot of fun with Gladys and Lyle on a couple of trips to Branson. Fond memories! God bless. Valerie Wilson Jackson

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**Valerie Wilson Jackson** - January 06, 2016 at 05:12 PM

JF

“ Jeannie Flowers lit a candle in memory of Gladys R Cotton



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**Jeannie Flowers** - January 06, 2016 at 10:17 AM

JF

*David and Claudia....I am so sorry to hear of your loss; I have fond memories of your mother from our high school days, of her being our "rainbow" mom; and of the contact that I've had with her since. Peace and comfort to your families in her passing.*

Jeannie Flowers - January 06, 2016 at 10:19 AM

CN

*Enjoyed knowing Gladys and her sister Elizabeth McAfee. They were so proud to trace their geneology and to become members of the local Captain William Wells Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Gladys was a strong, faithful person. I'm happy to have known her. She is in a better place now. Extending Sympathy*

Caroline (Carol) Buckner Newell - January 06, 2016 at 08:31 PM

CM

*“ David so sorry for the loss of your Mother. I remember her with fond memories from Rainbow in High School.*

Carol Betz Myers - January 06, 2016 at 05:55 AM



*“ White Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Gladys R Cotton.*



January 05, 2016 at 07:51 PM

BO

*“ So sorry to read of your Mom's death! She was my "Rainbow Mom" when I was in high school!!--- a wonderful lady! Prayers to the entire family and always cherish your many, many memories! Barbara (Baker) Overdeer*

Barbara Overdeer - January 05, 2016 at 08:07 AM