



Dennis Michael Griffin

August 14, 1950 - August 17, 2025

Dennis Michael Griffin passed away peacefully at Lima Memorial Health System on August 17, 2025, just days after celebrating his 75th birthday. Born on August 14, 1950, to the late Charlie W. Griffin Sr. and Gladys Curry Griffin, Dennis was raised in faith as a member of Good Samaritan Missionary Baptist Church from a young age. He attended Lucy C. Laney High School, and upon graduation, proudly joined the United States Navy. While serving aboard the USS Saint Paul, Dennis became a member of the ship's boxing team—winning a few, losing a few, but always enjoying the sport and camaraderie.

After his military service, Dennis moved to Long Beach, California, where he attended Long Beach College and graduated in 1975. He went on to work as an engineer at Procter & Gamble, later transferring to Lima, Ohio, in 1987, where he remained until his retirement.

Dennis was known for his love of storytelling and spending time with loved ones. His sharp wit, sense of humor, and welcoming personality made him someone others naturally gravitated toward. He had a gift for making people laugh and feel at ease.

He is survived by his fiancé and life partner, Goldie Stevens; his children, Michael Griffin (Nina) and Michelle Griffin; his sister, Carolyn Boone; brothers, Carl Griffin Sr. (Carrie) and Darryl Griffin (Lorine); and grandchildren, Alexis, Kaden, Kinsley, and Brayden. He also leaves behind a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Dennis was preceded in death by his brothers, Charlie W. Griffin Jr. (Lorice) and Alfred T. Griffin Sr. (Nancy); and sisters, Evelyn Melton (Alvin) and Patricia Caine (Robert), brother-in-law, William Boone, and sister-in-law, Yvonne Griffin.

Dennis will be remembered for his generous heart, his unforgettable life stories, and his singing voice, which could fill a room with joy no matter the song. His memory will live on in the lives he touched and the stories shared by those who knew and loved him.

Funeral services will be 4:00 p.m., Thursday, August 21, 2025, at the Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, St. Rt. 501, Wapakoneta, with his sister-in-law, Lorice Oates Griffin of Augusta, Georgia, officiating. The family will receive friends 2-4 p.m., Thursday at the funeral home. Military rites will be conducted at the funeral home by the Wapakoneta V.F.W. Post #8445. Condolences may be expressed at www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **21**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory
1102 Lincoln Ave.
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com
<http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com>

Service

AUG **21**. 4:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory
1102 Lincoln Ave.
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com
<http://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com>

Pastor Lorice Oates Griffin will be officiating.

Tribute Wall

LL

“ Mike and Michelle I am so sorry for your the loss of your father. Know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. Love you

Linda L Luckadoo - August 21, 2025 at 09:36 PM

TH

“ Wonderful man. God blessed him here and will continue to do so in his presence. He was of Charlie Griffin wise, sincere, humble and a positive influence on us all. He will be greatly missed and well-remembered. Loving and loved.

Terence and Susan Haythe

Terence Haythe - August 21, 2025 at 03:35 PM

CI

“ I going to miss my uncle DENNIS. He always took time to know what was going on and everybody's life. It was always so positive.. I am going to miss our talks. We always had them every time he came down to visit. I'm gonna miss him and his authenticity. I love you. See you on the other side

Charlie Griffin III - August 21, 2025 at 03:03 PM

DC

“ Michael and Michelle I am thinking and praying for yall. I know how painful this is to lose a parent. Gonna miss you Uncle Dennis, there was never a dull moment being around you. I will miss all the stories that you use to tell us. Condolences to the family. Love yall cousins

Derek Caine - August 21, 2025 at 03:03 PM

KH

“ Remembering Uncle Dennis and the times we shared. Thinking of you Michael and Michelle at this difficult time. Deepest condolences.
Cousin Kim and Kendall

Kimberly Haythe - August 21, 2025 at 02:34 PM

JP

“ Cousin Janice Howard and family sends our deepest sympathy to you and the family, in the loss of our loved one. Know the you and the family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Janice Pruitt-Howard - August 21, 2025 at 02:10 PM



“ Going to miss you unc. He never met a highway he didn't like! He'll get on the road in a heartbeat. Just saw you in march where you told your usual stories, some of them a little embellished, on the back porch with that Ohio hat on! We spoke again in June where you were doing good. Gonna miss the times we spent together and you auditioning for Americas Next Soul Singer!! 😭😭 Rest easy unc. Tell my mom I said hello.

Keith

Keith Caine - August 21, 2025 at 01:56 PM

RC

“ Robin C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dennis Michael Griffin.

Robin C. - August 21, 2025 at 12:31 PM

CG

“ Sorry for your loss Goldie and family Dennis always drove by big wave and smile and in the winter continued with the snow blowing do there neighbors sidewalks you will be missed Dennis

Cheryl Ann Gerstner - August 21, 2025 at 03:37 AM

HF

“ It was a pleasure knowing you and all the time we share and bowling with you so now my friend it's time for you to rest in peace and to the family stay strong for each other you all are in my prayers.

Henry B Freeman - August 20, 2025 at 08:06 PM

AS

“ Aaron, Trev, Derrick, Brady & Scott planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dennis Michael Griffin.

Aaron, Trev, Derrick, Brady & Scott - August 20, 2025 at 06:35 PM

AS

“ Aaron, Trev, Derrick, Brady & Scott purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dennis Michael Griffin.



Aaron, Trev, Derrick, Brady & Scott - August 20, 2025 at 06:35 PM

BS

“ Bernadette S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dennis Michael Griffin.

Bernadette S. - August 20, 2025 at 04:43 PM

AG

“ Dear Michelle and Michael,

I want to offer you both my sincerest condolences, with respect to Uncle Dennis's passing. I was always happy to see him, whenever he would come down to Georgia to visit. His presence would always light up a room, and I will always cherish the memories of the stories that he would share with me during his visits, of my father and their experiences growing up.

I know how deeply he loved you both and how much he'll be missed by you all. Please know that I'm thinking of the both of you and the entire family constantly during this painful time. May God give you both the strength that you need presently, as well as moving forward.

Sending all my love and support,

Alfred Griffin Jr.

Alfred Griffin - August 20, 2025 at 01:39 PM

CF

“ Cousin Eric Evans and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dennis Michael Griffin.



Cousin Eric Evans and Family - August 20, 2025 at 01:33 PM

“ In Loving Memory of Dennis

Michael, Michelle, and Goldie – We all have so much to remember about Dennis.

Dennis was smart, sharp and witty. I'm convinced he knew every R&B song recorded in the '60s and '70s, at least the first two or three verses. Bebe and I are really going to miss those verses he'd sing around the house whenever he visited us in Evans. Sometimes after a meal, Dennis was the first to get up from the table and start gathering the plates and humming one of his favorite songs. After Bebe and Dennis finished in the kitchen, all of us would sit around the kitchen table and laugh and talk for hours.

Dennis would tell us about their garden, (Goldie's Garden) or the latest remodeling project he and Goldie had going on. And when it came to sports, I honestly think Dennis could've given Stephen A. Smith a run for his money. But there was just one thing we could never see eye to eye on — I could never get Dennis to root for the Georgia Bulldogs or the SEC. Still, every time he called, and that bright red shirt popped up on my phone, I'd smile and think, that shirt would look a lot better with a big Georgia "G" on it.

I'll miss those calls. I'll miss those conversations — the ones where we'd laugh about all the wild things we did as kids, always pushing the limits.

I remember last March; I told Dennis about an event where I was going to be honored. He mentions to me that he wasn't going to miss it because he had already missed too many family moments. At the time, I didn't realize how sick Dennis truly was, but he still came. Words can't express how much that meant to me and our entire family. I'll never forget it.

When I left Dennis bedside at Lima Memorial that Tuesday afternoon, August 12th, heading back to Augusta, Dennis told me to take care of myself — and that he loved me. I said the same to him, and we hugged. I left his bedside with tears and that hour drive to the Dayton Airport was the longest 100 miles I've ever traveled.

*Good night, Dennis, you've traveled your last mile, your family members will be there to welcome you.
We love you and we will truly miss you!*

*We all love you.
Darryl and Lorine (Bebe)
Evans, GA*

Darryl Griffin - August 20, 2025 at 01:10 PM

FK

“ *Fish and Kathy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dennis Michael Griffin.*

Fish and Kathy - August 20, 2025 at 10:28 AM

FK

“ *Fish and Kathy purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dennis Michael Griffin.*



Fish and Kathy - August 20, 2025 at 10:28 AM

VY

“ *Goldie, You have our deepest Sympathy*

Vince & Patty Yaklich,Sr - August 20, 2025 at 08:55 AM

AG

“ Dennis was one of those one in a million friends. Always had great conversations with him. Quick witted, and always helping others. You will be missed my friend. My deepest sympathies to Goldie and family. Peaceful sleep to our friend. 🙏💔💔



Angi Glass - August 19, 2025 at 10:29 PM

LJ

“ Oh, Goldie, I just saw this on Facebook through Carol. I am so sorry for your loss. I enjoyed the times I would spend talking with Dennis about various things. He was truly a gentlemen. I really liked him! I've passed the word onto our family and will pass it onto Linda Pulkownik.
Love and care, Louie

Lou Yaklich, Jr. - August 19, 2025 at 07:31 PM

EJ

*From the Jones Family, Augusta Ga.
We will forever be reminded of that gracious smile, laughter and fun times our families experienced while growing up together.
Indeed the world has lost a person of delight in Dennis.
Our hearts will continually be with the Griffin Family during your present times of difficulty and forever.*

*The families of Eljenette (aka Ann) and Bennett
(aka Bobby) Jones.*

Eljenette Jones - August 20, 2025 at 10:33 AM

CL

“ Carolyn L. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Dennis Michael Griffin.



Carolyn L. - August 19, 2025 at 04:21 PM

CL

“ Carolyn L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dennis Michael Griffin.

Carolyn L. - August 19, 2025 at 04:21 PM

CL

“ You will be missed by all who knew you. Rest in peace.
Carolyn Lutes

Carolyn Lutes - August 19, 2025 at 04:15 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dennis Michael Griffin.



August 19, 2025 at 11:56 AM

CF

“ Carol & Don Brown,& Family purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Dennis Michael Griffin.



Carol & Don Brown,& Family - August 19, 2025 at 10:00 AM

RG

“ Deepest sympathy for Dennis's family. So sorry for your loss.



Rose Gossard - August 19, 2025 at 10:00 AM

RG

“ Deepest sympathy for your loss. So sorry Goldie. Love you!



Rose Gossard - August 19, 2025 at 09:57 AM



“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,*

May your memories of Dennis Michael Griffin, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete. I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten...

*My thoughts
and prayers to the family of*

*US Navy Veteran, Dennis Michael Griffin, is “A True American Hero”
God Bless†*

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - August 19, 2025 at 08:11 AM

HS

“ *Griffin Family,
Sympathy to each of you during the loss of your loved one. Take comfort in knowing Dennis is safe in the Master’s care.*

*Hazel Sullivan-Striggles
Augusta, Ga*

Hazel S Striggles - August 18, 2025 at 11:51 PM

SJ

Although Cousin Dennis is resting in peace, he has blessed his family with wonderful memories of his life.

Our days belong to the Lord—every hour, every second, every moment. And moment by moment we're kept in His care. Our gracious Heavenly Father knows the way He takes. He goes before us as an ever-caring God, and underneath are His everlasting arms.

*Love,
Cousin Sheila*

Sheila G Griffin Jackson - August 19, 2025 at 08:27 AM

SB

“ *So saddened by this news. Some fun times at PG. So sorry for your loss.*

Susan Beale - August 18, 2025 at 11:32 PM

CB

“ *Carolyn Boone
Dennis, I will never forget our last time together. I stayed with you and Goldie for a week in July 2025. I really enjoyed my stay. I didn't want to leave. You rode me around with you to do some errands. I thought you were getting better. I'm was sad you here you were admitted to the hospital a few days after I left. I will surely miss you, my brother. Rest in peace. I love You, but God loves you best.*

Carolyn Boone - August 18, 2025 at 11:14 PM

RC

“ *Robin Conway lit a candle in memory of
Dennis Michael Griffin*



Robin Conway - August 18, 2025 at 08:10 PM

RC

“ *Michael & family: praying for you. May Jesus wrap his arms around you and give you comfort. I'll always remember telling Dennis “ my washer broke. I need a new one. Want to sign up at 20th and bowl scotch doubles”. We did and we won! A lot of memories with you & nicki Jr bowling.*

Robin Conway - August 18, 2025 at 07:52 PM