



## Nelma Delphine Hengstler

May 2, 1925 - June 22, 2018

Nelma Delphine (Sims) Hengstler, 93, died June 22, 2018 in Knoxville, Tennessee following a brief illness. Born May 2, 1925, to Elvin and Mary Sims in Surgeon, Missouri, she was married on December 15, 1945 to Luther Christian Hengstler (deceased 1989) of Wapakoneta, Ohio, for 44 years.

During World War II, she worked at the Pratt & Whitney plant in Kansas City, Missouri that produced “Double Wasp” aircraft engines. After her marriage, they resided in Wapakoneta where she worked at the Goodyear Tire Plant in St. Marys, Ohio.

When the family moved to Indiana, Mrs. Hengstler worked in various jobs, including school cafeteria cook, supermarket cashier and finally as a railroad clerk for the Norfolk & Western (now Norfolk Southern) Railroad. Although, retired, she continued to work into her '70s as a caregiver for seniors until sidelined by cancer.

She is survived by her two sons, Gary (Phirawan) of Buriram, Thailand, and Dennis (Zibelle) of Knoxville, Tennessee; two grandsons, Dylan Hengstler (Elaine) of Arlington Heights, Illinois, and Joel Hengstler (Renae) of Las Vegas, Nevada; four great-grandchildren -- Sammy Hengstler of Arlington Heights, Illinois, Carmelo Barfield, Ryan Jaffee and Asher Jaffee, all of Las Vegas Nevada; a brother, Gerald Sims of Hallsville, Missouri, and a sister

Nina Helen Wilhite of Overland Park Kansas; and 17 nieces and nephews .

A lifelong Christian, she regularly attended the West Hills Baptist Church in Knoxville.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m., Tues. June 26, 2018, at the Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, 1102 Lincoln Ave. (St. Rt. 501) Wapakoneta, with Pastor Becky Sunday officiating. Burial is to follow in the Greenlawn Cemetery, Wapakoneta. The family will receive friends from 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., Tues. at the funeral home.

The family requests any donations be made to the American Cancer Society.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenlawn Cemetery

Presar Road  
Wapakoneta, OH

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JUN 26.** 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

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

## Service

**JUN 26.** 10:30 AM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory  
1102 Lincoln Hwy  
Wapakoneta, OH 45895  
(419) 738-7676  
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com  
<https://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com/>

# Tribute Wall

TD

“ I am deeply sorry to hear the passing of Delphine. I worked at Echo Ridge when she lived there and had many wonderful conversations in the beauty shop with her. She was such a lovely lady and enjoyed her tremendously.

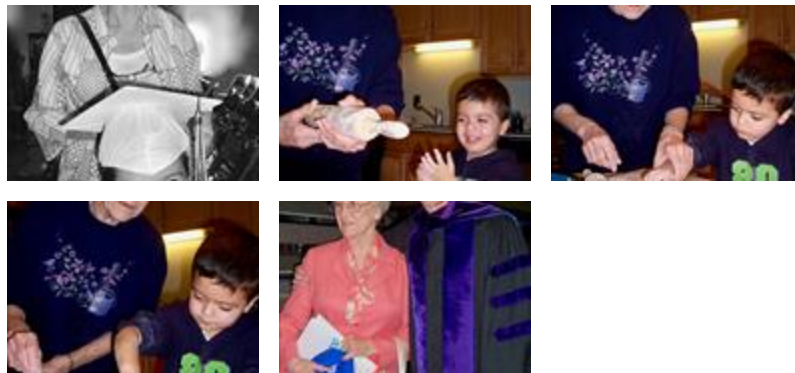
*My deepest condolences for your families loss  
Tabitha Dyer*

---

**Tabitha Dyer** - July 04, 2018 at 07:17 PM

LR

“ 8 files added to the album New Album Name



---

**Linda Hengstler Ratliff** - June 25, 2018 at 10:46 PM

MY

“ Mrs. Michael Yost purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Nelma Delphine Hengstler.



---

**Mrs. Michael Yost** - June 25, 2018 at 02:12 PM

MM

“ *Marilynn, Stephanie, Sue, Sandi, and Mike purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Nelma Delphine Hengstler.*



---

**Marilynn, Stephanie, Sue, Sandi, and Mike** - June 25, 2018 at 12:15 PM

LR

“ *Linda Hengstler Ratliff purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Nelma Delphine Hengstler.*



---

**Linda Hengstler Ratliff** - June 24, 2018 at 12:24 AM

GC

“ *Thank you Aunt Delphine for the great memories you and your family have given us over the years. You will always be remembered with love and fondness.*

*Allen and Joy Coverdell*

---

**Glen Coverdell** - June 23, 2018 at 01:48 PM

HB

*I remember her fondly as a great wife and mother. A hard worker with a sweet smile . She is now is lovely hands. God knows ones heart condition and their love for him .*

---

**Helen (Hengstler) Bryer** - June 24, 2018 at 07:12 AM

MD

*I did not know her but my Dad Raymond Hengstler and Luther were first cousin. They spend alot of time together. My Dad talked alot about those days. He told lots of stories about those times .My prayers are with her family.*

*Mary Hengstler Dotson*

---

**Mary Dotson** - June 24, 2018 at 08:05 PM

MF

*Aunt Delphine, You gave me love every day, no matter how far apart we were. Every one of your nieces and nephews felt the same love you game me. You were a wonderful example for the world! I'm so happy that my Dad, Uncle Luther and you were so close. What a wonderful life we all had together because of Luther and Dad's Navy Day. You will always be with your brothers. sisters, Mom & Dad, plus other family members. We have you with us forever, you are sick no more! God Bless You, Love Forever and Ever!*

---

**Marilynn Sims Ford** - June 25, 2018 at 10:37 AM

LR

*Delphine is my great friend forever and was my unmatched mother-in-law for 17 years. Never for one second did I relate to the proverbial wry remarks about in-laws. I had Luther and Delphine! They were my dear family and my sons' beloved grandpa and grandma. It was nothing but joy to be with them. Looking at pictures of Delphine with Dylan, Joel, and Sammy reminds me of her sense of fun, too. She loved family more than anything in the world. I will never forget the sound of her laughter and I very much hope I will get to meet Delphine and Luther again in health and happiness. Linda Hengstler Ratliff*

---

**Linda Hengstler Ratliff** - June 25, 2018 at 11:58 PM

DS

*We all loved Delphine very much at West Hills Baptist in Knoxville. She was a delight! We were all very impressed with her intellect and keen observations. I am grateful I was able to stop by and visit with her in the last couple of weeks. She was still the same sweet, bright woman I admired. We will miss her very much and will keep the family in our prayers.*

---

**Donna Silvey** - June 26, 2018 at 07:02 PM



“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Glen Coverdell - June 23, 2018 at 01:48 PM