



Mary Ellen Arnott Tant

October 11, 1940 - April 11, 2026

Mary Ellen Arnott Tant, 85, of 607 Riverview Drive, Altavista died Friday, April 11, 2026 at Centra Lynchburg General Hospital. She was the wife of the late John Arthur Tant.

She was born October 11, 1940 in Virginia, a daughter of the late Paul Hershall Arnott and Ethel Collins Arnott. She was a member of Lane Memorial United Methodist Church and a retired teacher.

She is survived by her nephew, Duane Tant of Altavista.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her brother, Jimmy Arnott.

The family suggests that those wishing to make donations consider Lane Memorial United Methodist Church, 1201 Bedford Avenue, Altavista, VA 24517.

Finch & Finch Funeral and Cremation Service, Altavista is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

LR

“ I met Mary Ellen Tant when I started working at CVCC Altavista Center in 2001. She taught some of our math classes and did an excellent job. Some of the courses were done completely online and she learned quickly that it would also involve some personalized instruction. We were lucky to have someone with her knowledge and talent in dealing with a variety of learning levels of adults. She had that beautiful smile and worked hard in everything she did. Now she joins her husband John in heaven and I'm thinking how happy they must be. The last time I saw her was at El Cazador a while back and we were able to catch up on a few things. May she RIP and condolences to her family. She was a real asset to our Altavista Center.

Linda Rodriguez - April 22 at 09:27 PM

MM

“ Mary Ellen was a lovely lady. She was very talented and smart. I went back to school later in life and Mary Ellen became my math tutor. AND did I mention very patient.... when I was in school, we had math problems like Bill had \$5, brought a dozen eggs for 75 cents, gallon milk for \$1.25 and a candy bar for 5 cents, how much did Bill spend? Not $X+Y-2x=?$. I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER HOW PATIENT AND UNDERSTANDING AND HOW YOU TREATED ME WITH LOVE AND KINDNESS. You will be missed and always remembered. R.I.P. Mary Ellen.



Mary Moses-Hicks - April 14 at 11:33 PM

CM

“*Mrs. Tant was my geometry teacher at E.C. Glass - many years ago. Looking back, we had a teacher who had more patience than anyone I've ever known. I always enjoyed talking to her when I was working in Altavista. Her sweetness made me a better person!*”

Catherine Robertson Monroe - April 14 at 05:39 PM

GC

“*Glenna W. Carr lit a candle in memory of Mary Ellen Tant*”



Glenna W. Carr - April 13 at 09:56 PM

JB

“*Mary Ellen was a sweet neighbor and dear friend of 25 years plus we always considered John and Mary Ellen as family we are so sorry for your loss prayers for family 🙏*”

Joyce Bolen & Family



Joyce Bolen - April 13 at 05:11 PM