



Mary Rodes Yoder

October 10, 1955 - September 6, 2025

Mary Rodes Yoder, (Grams) aged 69, of Gladys, VA, passed from this life into eternity at 8:21 P.M. on September 6, 2025. Mary was born October 10, 1955 in Norristown, PA to John Ervin and Sadie Lee Burkholder Rodes. She spent her growing up years on the family dairy farm in Mount Crawford, VA, where she was an integral part of the milking crew by the age of ten.

She was married December 11, 1976 to Merle Yoder, who survives. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her older brother David.

She is survived, in addition to her husband, a daughter: Laurie, grandchildren Alexis (Tevin) and Ashten. Also a son: Myron (Heidi) and grandchildren Caleb, Clifton, Carlton and Carabeth, all of Gladys, VA.

She is also survived by one sister-in-law: Darlene Rodes, of Bridgewater, VA, one sister: Lois Martin (Arthur) of Edinburgh, VA, four brothers: Eldon Rodes (Sue) of Mount Crawford, VA, Mark Rodes (Janet) of Goshen, IN, Fred Rodes (Lois) of Mount Crawford, and Ervin Rodes of Mount Crawford.

Mary was an exceptionally devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sibling and friend. She lived her life in service to others. She will be greatly missed.

Visitation will be held Wednesday evening, September 10th, from 6:00 to 8:30.

The funeral will take place Thursday, September 11th forenoon at 10:00. Both will be held at the Bethel Mennonite gym just north of Gladys. (5946 Brookneal Highway).

The family wishes to thank everyone for all their kind words and deeds. We feel so blessed to have so many friends!

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

Cemetery Details

Perrows Chapel Cemetery

2285 Covered Bridge Road
Gladys, VA 24554

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 10. 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM (ET)

Bethel Mennonite Church
5946 Brookneal HWY
Gladys, VA 24554

Funeral Service

SEP 11. 10:00 AM (ET)

Bethel Mennonite Church
5946 Brookneal HWY
Gladys, VA 24554

Tribute Wall



“ *Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Rodes Yoder*



Finch & Finch, Inc. Funeral & Cremation Service - September 11, 2025 at 09:45 AM

JS

“ *Lois and the Rhodes and Yoder families
Just heard about Mary passing many fond memories when we kids
growing up on the farm
Loved to visit the dairy and play with you all
Sending hugs and prayers
So sorry for your loss*

Jane Lam Smith - October 09, 2025 at 10:32 AM

SS

“ *To the Yoder family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this
difficult time. We met you at the Couples event. It was wonderful to
share together and how you spoke very highly of Mary. Continue
prayers,
Tosey and Stella Sparrow 🙏🙏*

Stella Sparrow - September 10, 2025 at 12:53 PM

“ A memory and tribute to my friend, Mary:

I first met Mary shortly after moving to Lynchburg from out of state about three years ago. We were both getting out of our cars in a store parking lot when I heard someone yell out to me. It was Mary. She noticed that I had a knee brace on and wanted to tell me she was sorry I was having "knee problems" as she had experienced the same issue. I told her I would be having surgery and she said she had gone through that surgery herself and shared what a difficult

experience that had been. She was worried that I would have no one to help me during the recovery as I knew no one in Lynchburg except my son. We stood and talked for at least an hour, maybe more before parting. In fact we talked so long, she didn't even get to go in the store, she had run out of time and had to leave. Before leaving she insisted on giving me (a complete stranger) her phone number and told me to call her because she knew I would need help during recovery from the surgery and she wanted to help. I kept her number but really didn't expect to ever see or talk to her again. (I didn't think to give her my number.) About two months later I did decide to call her just to ask a question (not to ask for help!) about the surgery. I didn't think she would even remember me but she did and she said she was glad that I called. She asked if we could arrange to meet for coffee to talk. We met for coffee a short time after that and from that day forward, Mary and I began a friendship that lasted almost continually until her passing. We have laughed over those three years at what "unlikely friends" we were because while we had almost nothing in common, we just seemed to connect in a special way. I loved the time I spent with her either through her almost daily texts (sometimes multiple texts per day) or our get togethers about once every month or two where we had coffee with brunch or lunch and spent two or three hours just talking. I also loved the many pictures and videos of her family, her church community, farm life, etc. that she sent to me.

There are so many wonderful things I would say as a tribute to

Mary. I will just summarize by saying that I found Mary to be an exceptionally kind, giving, generous, and gracious person. She was very curious, so very smart, and she could be incredibly funny. We laughed a lot! I learned a lot! I enjoyed her so much and I treasure the time we spent together, I just wish that we could have had more time. I consider my friendship with Mary to be a true blessing and I am thankful for that. I will miss her so very much.

I am so sorry that I am unable to attend Mary's service due to health problems but I want to send to Merle, the children, and grandchildren my deepest condolences during this very sad and difficult time. I wish them comfort and strength in the days ahead.

Mickie Vecera

Mickie Vecera - September 09, 2025 at 03:16 PM

DB

“*Dave and Betty Beachy purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mary Rodes Yoder.*



Dave and Betty Beachy - September 09, 2025 at 09:04 AM

NA

“*Merle and Family,
Thinking of you all during this difficult time. Mary was a sweet lady.
Love
Nancy Ashwell*

Nancy Ashwell - September 09, 2025 at 08:43 AM

LD

“ *I miss you mom so much!*



Laurie Daye - September 09, 2025 at 08:43 AM

FM

“ *Freeman & Vickie Miller purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mary Rodes Yoder.*



Freeman & Vickie Miller - September 08, 2025 at 10:16 PM

MV

“ *Mickie Vecera purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mary Rodes Yoder.*



Mickie Vecera - September 08, 2025 at 07:50 PM

ES

“ To Merle and family, as well as each of you siblings and spouses, nieces and nephews. We send our condolences, love and prayers! Knowing Mary will be greatly missed!
Always enjoyed Mary as a sweet, curious, serious, but fun, loving yet open cousin! So happy we could stop by and visit her this spring! Loved the many hugs from her at that short visit! Our chats have been precious! Praise the Lord she has found total peace and joy in the arms of her Redeemer!
Isaac and Emma(Rodes) Showalter 🙏❤️🙏

Emma Showalter - September 08, 2025 at 06:32 PM

LR

“ We did not know Mary very long and met her and Merle when he spoke at our last couples night. Didn't actually get to talk with her at length until we visited their church when Mark preached there. It was then I realized what a sweet person she was and a blessing to so many. I was sad to hear that her homecoming with the Lord was going to be sooner than expected, but at least she's not suffering any more and is in Jesus' presence. I look forward to seeing her again someday and our condolences go out to Merle and the family. We are praying for you all and appreciate your friendship. Love and prayers, Brother Mark and sister Laura Rhodes

Laura Rhodes - September 08, 2025 at 06:03 PM

YA

“ Your friends&family atcovenantfellowship purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Mary Rodes Yoder.



Your friends&family atcovenantfellowship - September 08, 2025 at 04:58 PM

HY

“ *Mary was an inspiration to all who knew her. May all of us, her loved ones, experience God's healing grace. A part of her will live on forever in the lives of those she has influenced for good.*

Harvey Yoder - September 08, 2025 at 03:16 PM