



## Ursula Martha Massengill

February 15, 1926 - April 5, 2016

Ursula Martha Massengill died on Tuesday, April 5th, 2016, at the Life Care Center of Dayton. Jesus came for her and she took his hand. She was 90 years old. She was born in Frankfurt, Germany and was a World War II bride. The story of her youth is an inspiration to many. She received her Certificate of Naturalization on May 22nd, 1954. She worked for Dwight Eisenhower after the war as a translator and later retired from Kayser-Roth Hosiery Mill in Dayton, TN. She lived her adult life in Dayton and attended the First Methodist Church of Graysville. After she stopped driving, she attended the First Methodist Church of Dayton with her daughter, Ursula. She enjoyed traveling back to Germany to visit. She also loved geography and listening to German music. She was devoted to her family and was a very loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother. She instilled her love and values in everyone she was around, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They meant the world to her and made her day every time they visited. In her last days, listening to stories about her great-grandchildren were her only comfort. She leaves behind a legacy of Christian values, courage, strength, and love.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Eulalia Mertens and Philipp Fritzel, and brother, Otto Fritzel. Also preceded in death by her husband, Perry "Ole Head" Massengill. Survivors include her 5 children; Ursula (Jack) Brown, Annalee Pitts, Perry Jr. (Sheila) Massengill, Diana (Billy Ray) Matthews, and Mike (Vicki) Massengill all of Dayton. She had 10

grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, and 1 very special great-great-grandson, Jude Simonis of Utah. Several nieces and nephews, including Helga Rosen and Heinz Fritzel of Germany. We want to especially thank the staff at Life Care Center of Dayton for the love and kindness they showed her. A very special thank you to Dr. Mark Sumida and Angela Reeves. We are all forever grateful. She will truly be missed by all that knew her. Möge sie in Frieden ruhen.

Graveside services will be held Friday evening at 5:00pm at Rhea Memory Gardens officiated by Rev. Ken Pierce followed by a white dove release.

Please share your memories of Ursula on her online guest register at [www.vanderwallfh.com](http://www.vanderwallfh.com).

The family is being cared for by Vanderwall Funeral Home.

# Previous Events

## Service

APR 8. 5:00 PM (ET)

Rhea Memory Gardens  
Hwy 27  
Dayton, TN

# Tribute Wall

PF

“ *When I was a child I lived outside in Griesheim. Otto Fritzel and his wife Anna are my aunt and uncle. Helga and Heinz are my cousins. I have been looking for them. Anna's sister was Paula Scholl Slovak. If this link still connects to Ursula's family please let me know.*

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**Paulina Slovak Flint** - January 17, 2021 at 02:13 PM

DU

“ *You are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Keith, Bev and Molly Duckett*

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**Ducketts** - April 08, 2016 at 07:59 PM

GB

“ *Thinking of. You.*

*Glenna*

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**Glenna Beene** - April 08, 2016 at 12:26 PM

TS

“ *Sending prayers and love for all the family!*

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**Trish Shipley** - April 08, 2016 at 10:19 AM

DE

“ *Our Thoughts and prayers are with each of you during this time.*

*The Tollett Family (Agnes Tollett, Jim, Jennifer and Brad Tollett, and Bill and Darlene (Tollett) Edgeman.*

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**Darlene Edgeman** - April 08, 2016 at 08:02 AM

RE

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sadness.

Love,  
Your Rhea Central Family

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**Rhea Central Elementary** - April 07, 2016 at 08:20 PM

JM

“ I remember well when I as a kid Daddy would take me down to visit with Uncle Perry and Aunt Ursula and her Mother. I was fascinated with the German language that Her and her Mother would have. The last time Aunt Ursula was in the Lifecare center I went to visit her, she shared with me some of the stories of her childhood memories in Germany and the things she went thru, I enjoyed that so much. She was truly an Awesome Woman! And her memories will last a lifetime. I will be praying for you'all, may God's peace be with You.

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**Jimmy Massengill** - April 07, 2016 at 06:00 AM

TH

“ Terri And Steve Haile lit a candle in memory of Ursula Martha Massengill



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**Terri and Steve Haile** - April 07, 2016 at 04:26 AM

TH

So sorry to hear about Ursula...prayers going out to the family.

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**Terri and Steve Haile** - April 07, 2016 at 04:27 AM

BC

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with this sweet family at this time of great loss.  
May God bless you and yours,  
Paul and Bonnie Cochran

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**Bonnie Cochran** - April 06, 2016 at 11:33 PM

SW

“ STEVE & TERESSA GENTRY WILSON sent a virtual gift in memory of Ursula Martha Massengill



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**STEVE & TERESSA GENTRY WILSON** - April 06, 2016 at 07:00 PM

PC

We are there thinking of each family member during this time. Mrs. Ursula was a Lady in every way. Our thoughts and prayers are with you .  
Pat and Janie Conner

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**Pat and Janie Conner** - April 07, 2016 at 10:18 PM

JD

“ To the Massengill family; so sorry for the loss of your mother. She cannot be replaced because her love is like no other. May God comfort each of you as you deal with the loss



Perry, we are praying especially for you and your family. We didn't know your mother very well but we know she was special to you.

John Morgan and Shirley Denton

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**John Denton** - April 06, 2016 at 06:48 PM

JM

“ *I loved they way she would speak German when she could to know her was to love her.*

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**jamie mcknight** - April 06, 2016 at 05:08 PM

SW

“ *Sorry for your loss. Praying that God holds you in His loving arms and floods you with comfort.*

*Scott Wooden*

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**Scott Wooden** - April 06, 2016 at 02:15 PM

MH

*We were saddened to hear of Ursula's passing. We first met her at the Spring City boat dock and Franklin loved speaking German with her. She was a special lady, always beautiful and poised.*

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**Martha and Franklin Hickman** - April 07, 2016 at 10:00 AM

ID

*So very sorry to learn of dear Ursula's passing. She was such a wonderful, sweet person. I shall always remember her from the Graysville United Methodist Church. working in Bible School and various positions*

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**Iris Fox Davis** - April 07, 2016 at 05:12 PM