



## Craig Wesley Griffis

March 16, 1937 - July 5, 2020

Craig Wesley Griffis, 83, of Laurel Hill Road, Milan, PA passed away early Sunday morning, July 5, 2020 at the Robert Packer Hospital in Sayre, PA. Craig was born in Towanda, PA on March 16, 1937, the son of Verne B. Griffis Sr. and Marjorie L. VanNest Griffis. He was a graduate of Towanda High School with the class of 1955. On October 25, 1958, Craig married the former Faye McPherson. Craig began his career in construction with general contractor, Nick Shamot, and during this time he built the first of his five homes on Laurel Hill Road in Ulster Township, and was residing in the last home he constructed at the time of his passing. Craig was subsequently employed by Croft Lumber Company in Sayre as a planner and estimator for a number of years. While being employed full-time, Craig continued his education and received his Bachelor of Education degree from Penn State University. From 1976 to 1998, Craig taught building construction at Bradford County Vo-Tech and the Northern Tier Career Center in North Towanda for 22 years until his retirement. During his retirement, Craig was an active volunteer with Habitat for Humanity and completed numerous private building projects in the area. He loved to help those in need and freely volunteered his labor whenever called upon. He enjoyed making flag cases which he provided to area veterans in honor of their service.

Craig was an active member of the Athens United Methodist Church and was a 60-year member and Twice Past Master of Rural Amity Lodge No. 70,

Athens, PA. He was a member of Amity Royal Arch Chapter No. 293, Athens, Northern Council No. 24 Royal and Select Masons, Athens, Ancient Accepted Order of Scottish Rite 32nd degree bodies of Towanda and Williamsport, the Council of Anointed Kin, the Order of the Silver Trowel, Tall Cedars of Lebanon Sullivan Forest No. 210, Irem Temple Shrine Club, the current president of the Bradford County Shrine Club and held membership as a Past Patron with Rome Chapter No. 26 Order of Eastern Star.

Craig loved spending time with his family, the outdoors and traveling the United States and abroad with his wife Faye. Craig will be remembered for his devoted faith, strong work ethic, integrity, congenial personality, and willingness to help others to learn and better their lives.

Craig's Family includes his children, Kathy G. Watkins and husband Dale of Troy, PA, Mark C. Griffis and wife Sheri of Mansfield, PA, William A. Griffis and wife Tammy of Westlawn, PA, granddaughters, Julia and Melinda Griffis, sister and brother-in-law, Deanna and Robert Thurston of Milan, as well as several nieces, nephews cousins and many good friends.

Craig was predeceased by his loving and devoted wife of 60 years, Faye McPherson Griffis on October 10, 2018, mother, Marjorie L. Griffis on September 16, 1998 and father, Verne B. Griffis Sr. on March 25, 1999 and brother, Verne B. Griffis Jr. on May 4, 2011.

The family will receive friends Thursday, July 9, 2020 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Alteri-Bowen Funeral Home 314 Desmond St. Sayre, PA.

A funeral service will be held Friday, July 10, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the Athens United Methodist Church with Rev. Rich Hanlon, pastor, officiating. Rome Chapter No. 26 Order of Eastern Star will hold a Service of Remembrance Friday at 10:30 a.m. at the church. Rural Amity Lodge No. 70 F. & A.M. will hold a Masonic Funeral Service Friday at 10:45 a.m. at the church. Interment will be private in Tioga Point Cemetery, Athens, PA. The family suggests that contributions may be directed to Shriners Hospitals for Children, 3551 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19140, Rural Amity Lodge No. 70 F. & A.M., P.O. Box 324, Athens, PA 18810, or to Penn-York Valley Habitat for Humanity,

P.O. Box 63, Sayre, PA 18840 in memory of Craig Wesley Griffis. Memories and condolences may be expressed by visiting [www.bowenfuneralhomes.com](http://www.bowenfuneralhomes.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Tioga Point Cemetery

803 North Main Street  
Athens, PA 18810

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 9. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Alteri-Bowen Funeral Home  
314 Desmond Street  
Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 888-2113  
[info@bowenfuneralhomes.com](mailto:info@bowenfuneralhomes.com)

## Service

JUL 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

Athens United Methodist Church  
118 South Main St  
Athens, PA 18810  
<http://athensumc.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Craig Wesley Griffis*

October 22, 2023 at 08:10 PM



“ *Craig Wesley Griffis*

October 08, 2023 at 10:34 PM



“ *Craig Wesley Griffis*

October 06, 2023 at 09:57 AM



“ *Craig Wesley Griffis*

October 06, 2023 at 03:29 AM



“ *Craig Wesley Griffis*

October 05, 2023 at 02:02 PM



“ *Kathy and family, I just heard about your Dad's passing. So sorry for your loss!*

**Sheila Kingsley** - July 17, 2020 at 01:33 PM

FS

“ Don and I have always thought and said that Uncle Craig was a class act. Don, especially, appreciated all of his help when he help refurbished the house on 5th street in Towanda, PA. He was a voice of reason when Don, Sr. was sometimes being stubborn during the construction job. Don also cherishes and still owns the wooden cabinet Uncle Craig hand-made for him. He will be missed and we are sorry for the loss to the rest of the family.

*Faith and Don Smith*

*Bridgewater, VA.*

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**Faith Smith** - July 10, 2020 at 02:58 PM

ST

“ Craig was a prince of a man; he was a wonderful father, a devoted husband, and a friend to all who knew him. He was a man of many skills who worked tirelessly for his community through all the organizations with which he was involved. He was a great teacher, helping to form the work ethic of so many young people. His passing is a great loss to us all. His passion for life and his compassion for others will be sorely missed. Our deepest condolences go to Craig's family and friends. May he rest in peace in the arms of the Lord.

*Julia and Stephen Tubbs*

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**Stephen Tubbs** - July 09, 2020 at 02:47 PM

MT

“ Craig was a generous man who radiated kindness and good cheer. His mere presence in a room could make everyone around him feel his warmth and calm. I have known Craig only a few years as a co-member of Habitat for Humanity, but his nature was immediately evident, making it easy to know him. He was interested in each individual and genuinely devoted. To habitat, he brought compassion, building expertise and assiduous attention to managing and guiding a project.

*In many ways, Craig was a model citizen, humble yet motivated by the highest principles of morality and service. I feel enriched from having known him.*

*- Mario Testani*

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**Mario Testani** - July 08, 2020 at 10:47 PM

CS

“ Kathy, Mark, William.  
So sorry to read of your Father's passing.  
Prayers & Thoughts to you. We always  
enjoyed talking to your Mom & Dad at our  
class reunions. Rest in Peace.  
Dave & Charmaine



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**Charmaine Stempel** - July 08, 2020 at 07:49 PM

DA

“ Craig impressed me in many ways, but his dedication to Masonry and Habitat stands out. After the flood of 2011 and the destruction of the lodge hall's first floor, he initiated and directed a volunteer effort to repair the damage with scarce dollars and a handful of mostly senior lodge workers. The result was beautiful, and it couldn't have been done without Craig's leadership and talents. The Masonic lodge and Habitat for Humanity are now significantly weakened with the loss of Craig.

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**Dale Adams** - July 08, 2020 at 04:49 PM

VG

“ Verne & Julie Griffis purchased the Red, White & Blue Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Craig Wesley Griffis.



Verne & Julie Griffis - July 08, 2020 at 11:18 AM

[Profile Icon]

“ Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Craig Wesley Griffis.



July 08, 2020 at 10:34 AM

PE

“ Penske purchased the Multicolor Bright Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Craig Wesley Griffis.



Penske - July 08, 2020 at 10:31 AM

DC

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Craig and Faye were HS classmates of mine. I always enjoyed seeing Craig at our reunions. And treasure the flag case he made for me.  
Eulie Allen Costello

DEulie Costello - July 08, 2020 at 09:01 AM

BH

“ I was privileged to work as a fellow instructor with Craig at the Northern Tier Career Center. He was not only an excellent teacher, but also a gentleman and a gentle person whose morals and character were second to none. I will miss your loving and caring friendship and that wonderful smile. May you be at peace in Fayer's arms once again. Fly with the angels my dear friend 🙏🥹🙏

Brenda Houck - July 07, 2020 at 04:22 PM

PL

“ Craig a man that had a smile. He was there to help all. You will be missed. RIP my friend.

Paul Larrabee - July 07, 2020 at 06:08 AM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White was purchased for the family of Craig Wesley Griffis.



July 06, 2020 at 11:11 PM