



Virginia Lee Cooper

June 12, 1938 - August 8, 2025

Virginia L. "Ginny" Cooper

June 12, 1938 - August 6, 2025

Virginia L. Cooper, lovingly known as Ginny, age 87, passed away peacefully on August 6, 2025, at her home on the Mississippi River.

Born June 12, 1938, in her grandmother's farmhouse in Bruce, Wisconsin, Ginny developed an early love for old barns, farm animals, and the beauty of the forest. She especially cherished trees, rocks, driftwood, and ferns. The North Shore along Lake Superior held a special place in her heart throughout her life.

At home, Ginny found joy in tending her gardens and watching the deer on the island. She loved collecting pretty dishes and treasured books, surrounding herself with the things that brought her happiness and beauty.

Ginny was preceded in death by her beloved son, Michael; her sister, Wanda; and her parents, Clyde and Katherine Cooper.

She is survived by her son, Jeff Olson (Kelli), and daughter, Patty Brown (Tom); grandchildren Austin, Everly (Emily) and Brianna Gohman, and

Joshua, Jacob (Ashley), and Jordan (Kaity) Olson; and great-grandchildren Wiley, Rainey, and Parker Gohman. Also survived by sister's Carol Palmer and Gale Olson.

Her love of nature and the simple joys of life will always be remembered by those who knew and loved her.

Visitation is at 10:00, service at 11:00 followed by lunch at Discover Church located at 1400 81st Ave. N. Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

Champlin Cemetary, 812 Cartway Ave, Champlin MN 55316

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 25. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Discover Church
1400 81st Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

Church Service

AUG 25. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Discover Church
1400 81st Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

Graveside Service

AUG 25. 1:30 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Champlin City Cemetery
812 Cartway Rd.
Champlin, MN 55316

Tribute Wall

“ Ginny's Gift Of Wisdom

Instead of a memory, I would like to share Ginny's influence on my life and the impact it will have on the rest of my life. Our relationship was rare among most relationships. It started with Ginny making a phone call to her cousin, Jimmy. Ginny and Jimmy were close in age as well as close throughout their lives. They had always made an effort to stay in contact for more than 50 years, despite living in different states and having busy lives. The day I answered her call for Jim, I was aware of who she was and how important she meant to Jim. So it was important to let her know of his health condition, as well as his inability to answer her call. This would be her cousin's last year of life. It would be the year Jim would need her support more than any other. It had become impossible for them to keep in touch as they had. It would have been a great loss to both of them not to share this last year. So I did what anyone would do for someone they cared deeply for: I answered her call.

That call started a 15-year relationship for Ginny and I. Neither of us saw it coming, yet we recognized how comfortable and familiar we felt with each other. It was as if we had known each other all our lives. Even with the sad reason for the call, we had an exciting feeling about this stranger, but not a stranger that had just entered our lives. Our spirits were in sync, and we truly felt like family. Our lives, upbringings, and even our faces were unknown to each other. But I could recognize her spirit in the crowd, and vice versa.

I became the source between Jimmy and Ginny, supporting each other, over the next year, simply by answering her call every day. It allowed Ginny to be the support and gave her the feeling that she was by his side, and I was able to feel her support as if she were by my side. I do not think I could have cared for Jim as well as I did without her daily calls for updates and natural words of support. I was alone, caring for Jim, and his family only offered exclusion and fake smiles to me while doing as little as possible to participate in his care.

Every day, every experience, I forced my frightened self to stand by his side. Alone. Jimmy wasn't even aware of the intensive care he

was going through. I was completely alone, except for Ginny's daily calls.

I only shared 2 weeks of physical time with Ginny in our 15 years, and in that small amount of time, we created memories doing all the things that Ginny loved. I, too, shared those same passions. STAY WITH ME, IT WILL BE WORTH THE READ.

I want to bring attention to the effort Ginny put into a phone call and the important lesson I learned from it. And our continuing calls, texts, Ginny's every holiday cards, including celebrated birthdays we shared, being only days apart, up until the day before she passed. Ginny's simple yet valuable effort of motherly love, support, and concern for my well-being, as well as providing me with the security that I was not alone, changed my life!

Lastly, Ginny's gift of wisdom....

It only requires a small amount of effort from any of us to reach out to another who might be alone, a stranger, or a loved one facing challenges we might not understand, a smile, a phone call, or a gesture of kindness to someone who might appear in need of it. We often get so busy in our lives that we don't recognize the need of a neighbor, or fellow man. Or consider the impact a small gesture could make in someone's life. I want to close with honoring Ginny by leaving this thought with you all...

I will walk in love for strangers or not, and will make an effort to make someone else's life better in anyway I can, because I now know at the end of the day, all the material things I worked for in life will not make me feel as rewarded as my effort I put out to help another in need.

Thank you, Ginny, for your gift of wisdom. I love you, your dearest Ellie. RIP

Sandra Jelinek - August 24, 2025 at 09:35 PM

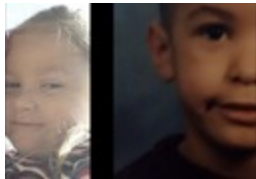
JA

“ Hi,

It brings me great grief and sadness to have to post online for one of my dearest family members, these years that have gone by seemed to fly like seconds on a clock, I wish I would have been more proactive about finding you all, I am thankful for the memories that we created before hand! You will always be loved, remembered and missed. I thank you for being one that my mother could depend on especially in those times where family affairs where of the utmost importance and concern, you are and will always be a person that means the world not only to me but to the ones before that took their journey into the next chapter. I look forward to seeing you again and hope that you know you are and will be truly missed.

Love you!

*Love always,
Nevaeha & Jaime (Wanda's son)
5079330518*



Jaime - August 24, 2025 at 07:27 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Virginia Lee Cooper.

August 23, 2025 at 04:39 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Virginia Lee Cooper.*



August 23, 2025 at 04:39 PM



“ *Ellie lit a candle in memory of Virginia Lee Cooper*



Ellie - August 23, 2025 at 04:15 PM



I love you, Ginny

Ellie - August 23, 2025 at 04:20 PM



“ *The Hilgers Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Virginia Lee Cooper.*



The Hilgers Family - August 23, 2025 at 01:35 PM

LA

“ Love Always, Donna & Amber purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Virginia Lee Cooper.



Love Always, Donna & Amber - August 22, 2025 at 04:09 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Virginia Lee Cooper.



August 19, 2025 at 10:49 PM

GO

“ Gale A Olson lit a candle in memory of Virginia Lee Cooper



gale a olson - August 19, 2025 at 09:55 PM

GO

God loves you, so do I

gale a olson - August 19, 2025 at 09:58 PM

CF

“ Carol, Kelly, Jim, Sue & families purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Virginia Lee Cooper.



Carol, Kelly, Jim, Sue & families - August 19, 2025 at 01:11 PM

RO

“ I was a driver for OSI for 18 years, Ginny was very helpful to all of us, whether we knew it or not, she took pride in her duties as she corrected all of our mistakes, as I didn't like that part, she always told me if she doesn't do it correctly, we all pay the price, it's a lesson in life we should all carry to the end of our days, we will miss you. Again thanks for the lessons and great conversations.

Randy m olson - August 19, 2025 at 10:11 AM