



## Marie E. Griffin

October 14, 1917 - November 14, 2012

Marie Griffin passed away peacefully at West Hills Hospital Canoga Park, CA, with Doug, her husband over fifty years, at her side.

Marie was born in Lassen, CA to Ella M. and Frank E. Santos. Marie was preceded in death by her parents and her sisters Lillian Wilson, Evelyn Mae (Tonie) Ogle, and Annabel Margaret.

Marie is survived by her husband Douglas R. Griffin, her brother, Enos F. Santos, her five daughters: La Verne George (children: Renee, Deanna, Tammy), Judy Adams (husband Frank, and children: Craig and Kirk), Jo Ann May (children: Denise, Pete, Michael, and Ashley), Sandy Horton (husband Dale, and children: David and Jolynne Marie), and Lynne Rashe (husband Wayne and children: Audrey, Donnie, and Tina), and many great grandchildren.

Marie met a young sailor, Doug, while working at Woolworths in Modesto, and from then they began more than fifty years of a shared life together. Marie and Doug were married in Carson City, NV, on May 31, 1962. Their first home together was in Mountain View, CA. Doug was stationed at Moffet Field and Marie worked in Menlo Park as a grocery checker. Marie made twice the salary Doug made as an active duty Navy man. The next duty station was Lemoore, CA. They lived in Hanford, CA and managed apartments to

supplement Doug's Navy pay. After Lemoore they went to Jacksonville, FL where Doug was in advanced training as an Aviation Electrician. There, Marie rode out a hurricane while Doug reported for duty. After training in Florida, Marie and Doug moved back to San Diego, CA. Doug reported for Sea Duty in VF 142 Nas Miramar. Marie was able to stay with her daughter, Sandy, in Modesto when Doug made three cruises to the South China Sea (combat area Vietnam) from 1965 to 1969. She flew over on a chartered plane of Navy Wives when Doug's ship was docked in Japan. Marie attended a party in Yokasuka and Marie and Doug rode a train to Tokyo and went to the Ginza. Then they went to Kauai, HI, where Doug was stationed for two years. While there, Marie's father died. On the trip back from San Diego, Marie had her boarding pass in Oahu, but got bumped out by the Admiral's wife- "we took the next flight." Next Marie and Doug drove from San Diego to New York. Doug had been selected for factory training at Grumman on the F14 Tomcat, made famous by Tom Cruise. Then back to San Diego for the commissioning of VF-1, one of the first fleet F14 Squadrons. Marie was escorted to her seat, and she really enjoyed that.

In 1972 Marie and Doug had a business, Griffin's Newstand on Broadway in San Diego. Marie worked there with help from her daughter, Lynne, while Doug continued with Navy duties. In 1974 they declared bankruptcy and were left with a '64 Nova and Doug's Navy paycheck. They continued to live in El Cajon until the final Naval destination, VX4 at Pt. Mugu, CA.

Marie and Doug lived in Oxnard, CA. Marie received a letter of appreciation from the Captain, when Doug retired from the Navy in 1980. From 1980 until 1986, the two lived in Turlock, El Cajon, and West Sacramento, while Doug was earning his education. Marie worked in child care for doctors and state representatives during this time. They went back to San Diego where Doug went to work, after training for an IRS position, in 1986. Then Marie and Doug went to Laguna in 1989, when he accepted another position with the IRS, and

then went to Turlock, after he obtained a law degree in 1990. In 1991, the IRS wanted Doug to work for them in Los Angeles, so they continued their life in the LA area from 1991 until 2008.

Marie accompanied Doug for every treatment when he had cancer in 2006. Marie liked to get her hair done by Carmelo at the Strand in Chatsworth, CA. Marie even got Doug to get his hair cut when she paid for it. Marie was able to get out of the house for her birthday on October 14 and she and Doug ate at her favorite restaurant, The Lamplighter. She was given a piece of chocolate cake which was too rich.

Marie read the Daily Word and meditated every day. "The life I shared and saw Marie lead for over fifty years was event filled and full of the enjoyment of life." -Doug, her loving husband

A memorial service will be held at Turlock Memorial Park and Funeral Home, 425 N. Soderquist Rd., Saturday, December 22, 2012 at 1:00 P.M. with Reverend Marylee Revels officiating.

A celebration of Marie's life will be held at the VFW Hall in Modesto, following the service.

Donations to St. Labre Indian School, Asland MT 59004, [www.stlabre.org](http://www.stlabre.org), in Marie's honor are welcome.

# Tribute Wall



“ Marie E. Griffin

January 28, 2023 at 09:01 AM



“ Marie Elizabeth (Liz) Here it is June 14 already. I was in Modesto for Memorial Day and our 51st anniv. on May 31st. I placed two small flags around Memorial Day. They had the row of flags. That,s a nice peaceful place where you rest, a few minutes. Was not able to visit much with Sandy and Dale .As Dale was in the hospital with cancer. He is now in rehab. Had a arrangement made to be placed June 5th.After I returned home. I still miss you and love you. But I am thankful I was able to share the journey over 50 years on this Earthly Plane, with you.My Love Forever Doug.

Douglas R. Griffin - June 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM



I did not know Dale was sick until I was invited to the funeral. I was just invited to bother my sister who was fighting with Dale and his son while he was sick. I stayed away. Constantly emotional fighting is not my favored way to express grief. I grieved alone like when my mother died and I was blocked from attending her funeral service by Jolynne and Sue Anne.

David - April 27, 2021 at 12:48 PM

DG

“ My love, here it is April 14, already. Five months have come and I still miss you. We went to the Memorial Park Easter. Then I went a few more times when I was up there. Very peaceful. I did get the taxes done last week for the last time. I still consider myself a lucky man that I was able to share so much of this Earthly Journey with you. My love is there for all the times and memories we shared together. Your loving husband Doug. Rest well my love.

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**Douglas R. Griffin** - April 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ I want to wish my one and only valentine my love on today February 14. Its been three months and I still miss you and love you. I got Maxine a card and put on her pretty dress for today. I also got Woody a card. All my love Doug.c

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**Douglas R. Griffin** - February 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Here it is January 27, 2013 already, and I still miss you. It is difficult not to after so many years together. I still have Maxine and Woody to keep me company, but it's not the same. I still remember when we had the Mitz. (car) and Woody used to travel with us. I am so thankful to God that I was able to spend so many years with you. All my love your husband Doug. PPS: I am taking good care of Maxine.j

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**Douglas R. Griffin** - January 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ I have lost my beautiful Mother because God needed her more. I have a great empty spot in my heart and I know that it will never go away. My mother and I had a very special bond and she was my best friend. I was used to calling Mom everyday at least four times, and now I find myself always looking at my clock to make my call. I now have to remember that she is with God and he is taking care of her and loving her for me. I want to thank you God for giving me the most wonderful mother that anyone could ever have. Mama I love you so very much and you are in my prayers and heart everyday. I love you Mama. Thank you for making me the person I am today and for being such a great Mom. Love always and lots of hugs and kisses Sandy

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**Sandra Horton** - December 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM