



Mary Louise Poplin Kesler

December 9, 1936 - May 25, 2025

Mary Louise Poplin Kesler, 88, of Salisbury passed away Sunday, May 25, 2025 at Novant Health Glenn Kiser Hospice House.

Mary was born December 9, 1936 to Rowan County, NC to the late Otelia Ethel Barber Poplin and Clyde B. Poplin. She was a Navy wife and worked as an Administrative Assistant in the Department of Defense. Mary was a founding member of the Rowan/Salisbury Quilters Guild. She was an avid animal lover and adopted and fostered many animals.

Mary was a very active member of Milford Hills United Methodist Church where she worked in the Stevens Ministry.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband Gene Paul Kesler on January 7, 2003.

Surviving are her sons, William Paul Kesler (Beth) of Lusby, MD and Thomas Clyde Kesler of Burke, VA; daughters, Patricia Marie Kesler of Salisbury, NC and Cynthia Diane Kesler of Salisbury, NC; grandchildren, Daniel Lambert and wife Kim, Raegan Prest, Gabriel Paul Kesler and husband Max Griffin; great-grandchildren, Cody Lambert, Gavin Lambert, Lucian Lambert, Alexis Baxter, Hunter Prest and Alyssa Prest.

A memorial service will be conducted 11a.m. Saturday, June 7, 2025 at Milford Hills United Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Novant Health Glenn A. Kiser Hospice House, 1229 Statesville Blvd. Salisbury NC 28144, Faith, Hope & Love Animal Rescue NC, P.O. Box 4463, Salisbury, NC 28145 or US Naval

Academy foundation, 301 King George Street, Annapolis, MD 21402.
Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Kesler family. Online condolences
may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Milford Hills United Methodist
1630 Statesville Blvd
Salisbury, NC 28144-2250
(704) 636-0471

Tribute Wall



“ My Dad (Jim Baird) was in the prayer breakfast group with Mary. He enjoyed talking about the Navy with Mary and she shared some great books with him over the years. She was a great lady to talk to - she was so knowledgeable about so many things. May she rest in peace.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Baird-Serpe

Carolyn J. Serpe - June 08, 2025 at 08:48 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Louise Poplin Kesler.

June 06, 2025 at 08:27 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Louise Poplin Kesler.



June 06, 2025 at 08:27 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Louise Poplin Kesler.

June 05, 2025 at 10:48 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Louise Poplin Kesler.*



June 05, 2025 at 10:48 AM



“ *Mary and her best friend Elaine (my Aunt) came up to Long Island for my son Rob's wedding. We had a week of constant fun and laughter with them. Mary will be missed by anyone who ever met her!*

Jinni Putney - June 03, 2025 at 09:56 AM



“ *We will miss you, Mary Louise. Our mothers were sisters, and you were a sister-cousin to me. We shared a lot—love for animals and family, love for the military (we both married military men—Gene and Mac). There was never a kinder or more-loving person than you. I take comfort in knowing you are with Gene and the family and friends that have gone before.*

Susan McCarl - May 31, 2025 at 06:22 PM

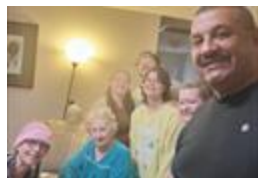


“ *I will greatly miss my dear cousin and friend. Our mothers were sisters, and Mary was my “sister cousin”. Gene and Mary and my husband, Mac, and I had a special military bond also. She was such a wonderful person and friend to all. We shared our love for animals as well. I take comfort in knowing she is with Gene and the rest of our heavenly family.*

Susan McCarl - May 31, 2025 at 06:10 PM

AM

“ I'm giving God praise and thanksgiving for bringing her into our lives. She has been one of the earthly grandmothers that God provided us with for 15 years. I will always cherish our years together and all of the life lessons, good times, prayers, great memories, etc... words can not describe all that she means to me and mine. Forever a big part of our hearts!! Very thankful for every minute of our time together!



Andrea Mohammad - May 26, 2025 at 08:47 PM