



## Mr. Ralph Wayne Gilchrist

June 16, 1922 - February 6, 2020

Ralph “Wayne” Gilchrist, 97, passed away Thursday, February 6, 2020, at Cottingham Hospice House.

Wayne was born on June 16, 1922 in Harrisville, Butler County, Pennsylvania. He was the sixth of seven children born to Thomas Ralph and Carrie Ethel Critchlow Gilchrist. Wayne served his country during WWII in the Army on Leyte Island in the South Pacific. He taught and received degrees in Electrical Engineering at Tri-State College in Indiana, the University of Michigan and Michigan State University. With his straight A’s as a student and a PHD in Engineering, specializing in Power Grid Distribution, he retired from teaching and research from Clemson University in 1984. Wayne married Virginia “Jean” Eileen Brock on June 8, 1949 in Angola, Indiana and they raised three children. His wife Jean passed in 1998 but Wayne remained at their home in Seneca, SC, where he had always loved listening to classical music, solving cross word puzzles, fishing and practicing his square dancing. A quiet man with high moral standards and a subtle sense of humor, his was a life well lived.

Mr. Gilchrist is survived by his sons: Jack Eugene Gilchrist and spouse Mary of Shelby Township, MI and Randy Gene Gilchrist and spouse Cheryl of Seneca, SC; his 98 year old twin sisters: Opal Rose Gilchrist McCarl and Olive Ruth Gilchrist Miller; four grandchildren: Sherri Loweke, Kevin Kaplan,

Paul Gilchrist and Jennifer West; and five great-grandchildren: Rachel Loweke, Sarah Loweke, Kylie Kaplan, Lauren Gilchrist and Jessica West.

Funeral services will be conducted on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at 2:00 P.M. at Davenport Funeral Home Chapel. Entombment will take place at Oconee Memorial Park Mausoleum where he will be entombed beside his wife.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. on Monday, February 10, 2020, at Davenport Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to a charity of one's choice.

# Cemetery Details

## Oconee Memorial Park Mausoleum

1923 Blue Ridge Boulevard  
Seneca, SC 29672

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 10. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Davenport Funeral Home  
311 S Highway 11  
West Union, SC 29696  
(864) 638-3611  
davenportfhome@gmail.com  
<https://www.davenportfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

FEB 11. 2:00 PM (ET)

Davenport Funeral Home  
311 S Highway 11  
West Union, SC 29696  
(864) 638-3611  
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# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Ralph Wayne Gilchrist*

January 28, 2023 at 01:03 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this sad time.*



**Patricia Holcombe** - February 10, 2020 at 10:08 PM



*I was so sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Gilchrist. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad time.*

**Sarah Isaac** - February 11, 2020 at 01:28 PM



“ *So sorry to hear about Wayne. Our family so loved Ms Jean and Uncle Wayne. Very fond memories !!! Mama loved you so much. God Bless. Rejoicing our wonderful parents in Heavenly Places watching over us !!*



**Vicki Wilcox Kelley** - February 08, 2020 at 08:49 PM

(F)

“ (Sister). Olive Miller and family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr. Ralph Wayne Gilchrist.



(Sister). Olive Miller and family - February 08, 2020 at 08:29 PM

KA

“ Kathy Addis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ralph Wayne Gilchrist



Kathy addis - February 08, 2020 at 08:18 PM

MW

“ We are so blessed to have ‘Uncle Wayne’ in our life here on Earth. We are sure he is reunited with my family in a much better place. We will offer prayers of gratitude and love for ‘Uncle Wayne’ and his family. We can hear the footsteps of square dancing.

mike wilcox - February 08, 2020 at 04:15 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Ralph Wayne Gilchrist.



February 08, 2020 at 04:08 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Ralph Wayne Gilchrist.*



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February 08, 2020 at 01:12 PM



“ *After meeting Mr. Gilchrest as neighbor to my parents on Lake Keowee Lane, I enjoyed seeing him through the years at University Lutheran, the church where we shared membership. He was always humble and gracious, and I knew that he was at peace with himself, having lived a good and honorable life. -Dwayne Lusk*

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**Dwayne G Lusk** - February 07, 2020 at 09:21 PM



“ *So sorry Randy and Cheryl for your loss. Think of you often. Prayers for the family. Buddy and Earlene Meece, Pickens SC*

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**Earlene Meece** - February 07, 2020 at 07:00 PM