



Dr. Villard Stuart Griffin Jr.

May 19, 1937 - April 30, 2017

Born in 1937, in Birmingham, AL, married to his beloved wife Raija T. Griffin in 1966. He was educated at George Washington High School in Alexandria, VA. His higher education was marked by graduations from the University of Virginia with a B.A. and M.S. degrees, and receipt of the Ph.D. from Michigan State University.

From there he began his academic career at Clemson University, where he became a Professor of Geology, serving over 30 years until retirement in 1994, when he became Professor Emeritus. He served as Acting Department Head of the Earth Science Department.

He carried out geologic research in the Inner Piedmont Belt of South Carolina under three N.S.F. grants with continued support of the S.C. Geological Survey, and additional support from others. He published and lectured widely on his research, and spent seven months at the Geological Survey of Finland, near Helsinki as a "Visiting Researcher," supported by Clemson University. While there, he lectured on mountain building in Oslo, Norway, Stockholm, Uppsala, Sweden, and in Finland at Helsinki and Turku Universities. His biography is listed in Marquis Who's Who in America from 1984-2001.

The family he leaves behind are four loved daughters: Victoria Griffin, Elizabeth Ross, Kristina Williams and Ester Griffin-Devita, four cherished

sons-in-law; and six much loved grandchildren: Edric, Nathanael, Elijah, Evey, Simon, and Joseph.

He and his wife were among the founding members of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church in Anderson and Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church (LC-MS) in Seneca. As an elder of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, he worked with founders to grow the Seneca mission. He served as head elder at the beginning of the new LC-MS church, and has been involved with the ministry over the years. To the Eternal Father, Son, and Holy Spirit he has surrendered his spirit, looking forward to joy forever in their presence.

A memorial service will be held at 10:00 AM, Friday, May 19, 2017, at Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church with a reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church in support of missions and other Spirit directed efforts, 220 Carson Road, Seneca, SC 29678; or to Hospice of the Upstate, Rainey Hospice House, 1835 Rogers Road, Anderson 29621

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY **19**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church
220 Carson Road
Seneca, SC 29678
(864) 882-3209
office@eternalshepherd.org
<http://www.eternalshepherd.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Villard Stuart Griffin Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 01:03 PM



“ *Dear Pop,
It's hard to believe that it's almost been a month now since you left us. We've muddled through somehow, but miss your smile, your silly jokes, and those amazing hugs of yours. You gave this world so much, Dad. You were an brilliant scientist, a talented artist and musician, and an incredible writer...but the greatest gift you ever gave, Pop, was the love you had for your family. When other names fade from scientific memory, and collections gather dust in displays and museums, your legacy will live on. Because you always felt that your family was the priority in your life, our lives were better for it...and our children and their children will carry forward the love you gave each of us and change the world for the better.
Sure miss you, though. Always will.*

Ester

Ester Griffin-DeVita - May 24, 2017 at 01:06 AM



“ *Hadn't seen Villard in years, but worked with him for nearly twenty years in the geology program at Clemson. Villard was a great mentor to me as I started out in the geology program. I also enjoyed working with him at University Lutheran Church when he was involved in our Sunday School programs. The expression is probably over-used, but Villard was truly a 'gentleman and a scholar.' He will be missed.
John Wagner*

John Wagner - May 04, 2017 at 02:57 PM

NI

“ *Nicole lit a candle in memory of Dr. Villard Stuart Griffin Jr.*



Nicole - May 03, 2017 at 12:18 AM

NI

I admired Villard for his intelligence , his commitment to science , his faith , and most of all , for his dedication to his family . Sending my love and condolences to you all in this very difficult time

Nicole - May 03, 2017 at 12:21 AM

RM

“ *Ester - I am so sorry to her about your Dad. Praying for you and your family during this time.*

Rhonda Morgan - May 02, 2017 at 10:57 AM

VG

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Victoria Griffin - May 02, 2017 at 08:32 AM

VG

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Victoria Griffin - May 02, 2017 at 08:16 AM

VG

“ 2 files added to the album *Photos of Dad over the years*



Victoria Griffin - May 02, 2017 at 08:12 AM

NI

Just great photos . Handsome men

Nicole - May 03, 2017 at 12:17 AM