



Fannie Belle Fleming

April 10, 1932 - June 15, 2015

Fannie Belle Fleming, 83, of Wilsondale, passed away June 15, 2015 at her home. She was born April 10, 1932 in Wilsondale, WV the daughter of Goodlow and Lora Evans Fleming. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers Benny Fleming and Ray Fleming of Wilsondale, WV and her brother Sherman, who died in infancy, and sister Faye Tatro of Gibsonton, FL.

She is survived by her brother John P. (Patricia) Fleming of Wilsondale, WV, and sisters Judy (Richard) Maynard of Avon, OH, Berta Gail Browning of Wilsondale, WV, Mary Jane (Donnie) Davis of Yulee, FL, Debbie Fleming Euler and Robert of Sykesville, MD, and Betty June Shrader of Lineboro, MD.

She became a burlesque icon, under the stage name Blaze Starr, in the company of such stars as Tempest Storm and Gypsy Rose Lee, achieving such accolades as being named "Queen of Burlesque" and achieving a spot in Playboy's "100 Most Desirable Women in America." She rose to national fame after the release of the 1989 movie "Blaze", which chronicled her life from New Ground Branch in Wayne county, where she attended 8 years of school in a one room schoolhouse, a two mile walk across a mountain in Turkey Creek. She was a supporter of veterans returning from the Vietnam War. She often visited wounded soldiers at the Walter Reed Army Hospital, and on several occasions opened both her club, the 2 O'Clock Club, and even her own home to host parties for them. She also took a special interest in the children of the St. Vincent's Orphanage of Townson, MD. She would often visit the children, generally bearing gifts, and again would open her home to them for holiday dinners. She received several awards for her work with various charitable organizations, and was often unable to allow any personal hardships she became aware of to go unaddressed.

Later in life, she would design and sell her own line of jewelry, "Showgirl Creations", which has been sold both locally and through an online store front managed by her brother and business partner Benny. She would also come to take in several animals, going to great lengths to ensure their well-being and happiness.

Visitation will be held at the Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home in Warfield, KY, on June 17, beginning at 6:00 pm for the public. Funeral services will be held the following day, June 18, beginning at 2:00 pm, with the burial following at the family cemetery in

Wilsondale, WV. Robbie May officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of the Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home, Inez, Kentucky.

*NO PHOTOGRAPHY SHALL BE PERMITTED INSIDE THE FUNERAL HOME.

Events

JUN **Visitation** 06:00PM - 09:00PM

17

Callaham Funeral Home, Warfield Location
51 Riverfront Rd., Warfield, KY, US, 41267

JUN **Service** 02:00PM

18

Callaham Funeral Home, Warfield Location
51 Riverfront Rd., Warfield, KY, US, 41267

Comments



“ My sincere condolences to the family. Ms Fleming was a true superstar in every sense. She contributed greatly to American culture and art. She will forever be remembered in the hearts of so many...

Al Faber

Al Faber - December 23, 2016 at 07:47 PM



“ Mallory Davis-Sammons lit a candle in memory of Fannie Belle Fleming



Mallory Davis-Sammons - February 26, 2016 at 07:11 AM



“ i just want to start by saying i am saddened by hearing about the passing of mrs fleming. i would have liked to met her in person, i know she stayed to herself. i own a autograph picture of her which i always will cherish and never sell. i also have a couple more items also.i have not mentioned i am a little younger 54, but i still like anyone from showbusiness.i also live in wv also not to far in huntington.i will close by saying you done real well for yourself and your family should be very proud.rest in peace. sincere chris

chris burdette - November 11, 2015 at 05:33 AM



“ Our condolences to the Fleming family, from "Juanita and Drew" , We just learned of Blaze's death today, (Aug.5th). We met Blaze, Debbie, and Faye in 1960, in Baltimore. (my husband and I worked as a team) with Blaze at the two O'Clock Club, And Sol Goodman was our manager also. Also worked at Carrolls "Club Diamond". We lost contact with everyone many years ago, but we would like to get in touch with her sister Debby, we were friends with Debbie and Faye also. We stayed at the house on Queen Anne Rd. many times, . We worked with Blaze at the 2 O'Clock, and also we went with her to Canada, and "Junior" drove the 3 of us there in Blaze's car. We worked at the "Lux" Theatre in Toronto.
To the family; Please accept our deepest sympathy, we were the best of friends, and we loved her as a sister also. Sincerely, Juanita and Drew

Drew & J.Snavely - August 05, 2015 at 01:05 PM



“ To Bertie Gail and Crystal,
Where do I start? I first learned about Blaze in 1989 when her movie came out. At that time I was just finishing high school. I thought she was the strongest woman I have ever seen. To have stood up to the men on the block and purchase the first bar she worked in was amazing. Since that time I collected everything that I could on Blaze. As soon as I received a new magazine or article I read it front to back. Just to learn more about her. Then I found the website and met Bennie. He was so protective of Blaze. He did allow me to talk to her on the phone--that was the highlight of my year. After the sad passing of Bennie. Blaze and I became friends. We must have talked at least once per week if not then twice per month. She became Fannie Belle Fleming to me now. She had so many stories. We shared personal photos, stories, gifts and more. I remember the last birthday gift I sent her. The shooting star pin and necklace. I was shocked I found it. She always had an interesting story or antedote to share with me. I am so saddened by her loss and that I did not talk to her the week she died. Then I received the kindest letter in the mail that warmed my heart and realized that I was a "friend" of Fannie Belle Fleming. I am overwhelmed and saddened at the same time. Your Starr will always shine bright in my eyes. Much love to you Blaze/Fannie Bella.
David Mueller
103 Huntington Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14214



David Mueller - July 07, 2015 at 02:39 PM



“ An icon to the world but simply a beloved aunt to my friend, John Buskell. May brighter days find all who loved her. Rest in peace, grand lady.

Lisa Brightwell - June 21, 2015 at 12:03 PM



“ Carol Barker lit a candle in memory of Fannie Belle Fleming



Carol Barker - June 20, 2015 at 03:01 PM



“ Sending you our love and condolences on the loss of a wonderful lady. Melissa (Perry) Ritts, Vickey (Perry) Layton, Jeffrey Perry and Tessa (Perry) Hogan. Mom (Wanda Gail Maynard Perry) sends her love to all of you as well.

Jeff Perry - June 19, 2015 at 02:38 PM



“ Rest in Peace.

With Love,
The Perry Family
Jennings and Barbara

Flo Shepherd - June 19, 2015 at 09:13 AM



“ I grew up hearing stories of her, researched and learned more about her as I grew older. Never did I ever hear anything but good things about this "larger than life" personality who grew up in Wayne County. She was then and continues to be known for the fine and caring person she was to everyone. I know her "light" will continue to blaze strongly in the lives of all she touched. My deepest condolences to her family. May the many memories help to bring you the strength to carry on and may God continue to bless this family. The world is a better place because of the life she led.
Diana Hensley Canterbury



Diana Hensley Canterbury - June 18, 2015 at 10:35 PM



“ Fannie Belle was a distant cousin via the Mullins family. May she rest in peace.
Phyllis & (Everett) Johnson

phyllis Johnson - June 18, 2015 at 09:39 PM



“ Miss Starr will be missed by the modern burlesque community. She was an inspiration and a true legend to us. My heartfelt condolences to her family, friends and fans.

Miss Dirty Martini - June 18, 2015 at 03:02 PM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Fannie Belle Fleming.



June 18, 2015 at 11:17 AM



“ This is Patricia Shrader, June's daughter, Aunt Belle when I was younger I remember so many wonderful memories with you, you are a very kind, sweet aunt, thank you

patrici shrader - June 18, 2015 at 10:29 AM



“ Bradley & Samantha Cox purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Fannie Belle Fleming.



Bradley & Samantha Cox - June 18, 2015 at 10:28 AM



“ To all Fannie Belle's family...So sorry for your loss. I never got to meet her but my dad (Ireland Vance) who is her 2nd cousin knew her. He said she was a really sweet lady.

Malinda Vance Stoneking - June 18, 2015 at 09:07 AM



“ My name is Kathryn and I was married to Angelo Vincent Glorioso (Carroll's brother) youngest son Michael Angelo Glorioso. It saddens me deeply that I never had the chance to meet Belle Glorioso or Carroll Glorioso. Belle & Carroll had long divorced when Michael and I began dating in June of 1978. In fact, Carroll had passed away not too long after I started dating Michael. I went to Carroll's funeral up in Towson Maryland with Michael and I remember seeing the beautiful floral arrangement Belle had sent to Carroll with a loving note attached. I remember my mother in law Francis Monica Glorioso and Angelo telling me stories of when Carroll, Belle and Angelo had their bars at the Baltimore block. My mother in law really admired Belle and told me what a wonderful person she was on many occasions. I remember Angelo taking me for a ride one day through the Baltimore block when I was pregnant with my youngest son Christopher Ryan Glorioso. Angelo showed me where is bar once stood and now stands a Baltimore City Police station. I remember him telling me about how the Baltimore Block use to be one upon a time. It was fun learning about the Glorioso family history especially when I was carrying a next generation of Glorioso.

My sons Michael Angelo Glorioso, Jr. and Christopher Ryan Glorioso both were introduced to Belle at the mall in Eldersburg when she was selling her jewelry there. Michael & Christopher told me many times what a nice lady Belle was. As I said before, I wish I had a chance to meet this wonderful lady who lovingly shared her life with so many people.

Some where there is a star shining brightly for Belle tonight.

Kathryn - June 18, 2015 at 08:44 AM



“ Doris Parsley Workman lit a candle in memory of Fannie Belle Fleming



doris parsley workman - June 18, 2015 at 08:17 AM



“ My condolences to the all of Blaze's family, friends and fans. She was a tremendous influence and inspiration to me and will be remembered fondly and frequently. -Angie Pontani

Angie Pontani - June 18, 2015 at 07:40 AM



“ Glenna Gillman lit a candle in memory of Fannie Belle Fleming



Glenna Gillman - June 18, 2015 at 07:30 AM



“ I met this awesome lady years ago,just so happen I had a magazine called HIT from back in the early years of her dancing, I gave it to her for her collection, she was so sweet and nice,She will be truly will be missed...



Eva Brown - June 18, 2015 at 06:59 AM



“ Vickie Urban lit a candle in memory of Fannie Belle Fleming



vickie urban - June 18, 2015 at 01:31 AM



“ I am looking at a signed copy of her biography in my bookshelf. I have had it since I was in my twenties. It has moved from Baltimore to Wisconsin. I have always admired her ability to rise above! She up there now! God Bless.

Kim Hageman - June 18, 2015 at 12:51 AM



“ My daddy, Emery Kirk, lived just down the road from Blaze. When we would go to the country to the family reunions he would always point out a house where she lived. He always talked so highly of her and their youth. Lost my Daddy this year on January 19th, this year. He was 86. Nice to know he has a beautiful sweet childhood friend to talk to in heaven. BTW, one of his older sisters was Fannie Belle Kirk.
Love and Prayers to the family, my heart goes out to you.
Love Roxanna Sue Kirk Hudnall

Roxanna Hudnall - June 17, 2015 at 11:51 PM



“ Monk Eastman is following this tribute.

Monk Eastman - June 17, 2015 at 09:56 PM



“ My deepest condolences to the Fleming family. Blaze featured for two weeks in San Francisco, and she was one of the most generous, warm-hearted, nicest women I've ever had the joy of working with.



Holiday O'Hara - June 17, 2015 at 09:48 PM



“ Karen Wildberger lit a candle in memory of Fannie Belle Fleming



Karen Wildberger - June 17, 2015 at 08:26 PM



“ Back in the early 80s I worked with Blaze at Pat's Art Mart where she sold her jewelry. My mom was dying of cancer and I was going through my first divorce. We spent many hours talking and she always gave me great advice. I do believe her strength is what kept me from falling over the edge. Blaze was one of the strongest, big hearted women I have ever know, and I appreciate and cherish the time we got to spend together.

My deepest condolences to the Fleming family.

Karen Wildberger - June 17, 2015 at 08:25 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Fannie Belle Fleming.



June 17, 2015 at 06:42 PM



“ My sincere condolences to Fannie Belle's family.

My memory of her goes way back to her days in New Orleans. I was just 20 year old from Des Moines, Iowa who was assigned duty there. It was my first time away from home and I was very depressed and lonely.

After several weeks of staying in my room watching T.V. I decided to go to the French Quarter for something to do. As I strolled along, I came upon a fellow who directed me into a club that had a most beautiful red-haired dancer who was performing on this huge stage, and I, of course, had never seen any dancers scantily clothed except at the Iowa State Fair. I was required to purchase a drink if I wanted to stay and watch the show, and I didn't have much money but I ordered one drink and nursed it as long as I could. The show was over and they were announcing that the next one would start in just a little while, so I continued to sit there, by myself, when this beautiful red-haired lady asked if she could sit with me. I was startled and asked why, and she said she had noticed me and I looked forlorned sitting there alone.

We sat there and talked and she was such a nice person and very positive about things. She gave me an uplift and I worked my way out of my depression after visiting with her on several occasions. I saw her once after that in Baltimore, many many years later, but she never remembered me...but I will always remember her.

God bless her... she was one of the good ones.

James Lang
4260 Berwick Dr.
Des Moines, Iowa 50320

James Lang - June 17, 2015 at 04:07 PM



“ Scott Chamberland lit a candle in memory of Fannie Belle Fleming



Scott Chamberland - June 17, 2015 at 04:01 PM



“ Rest in Peace

Scott Chamberland - June 17, 2015 at 04:00 PM



“ Diane Fleming Mullins lit a candle in memory of Fannie Belle Fleming



Diane Fleming Mullins - June 17, 2015 at 01:50 PM



“ I was fortunate to meet Ms. Starr in the late 90s when she was selling her handmade Jewelry in Eldersburg, Maryland. Knowing that I was a fan, my Mother drove me to the mall to see her. She was the sweetest lady. She talked with us and she took a picture with me and my friend. She also gave me one of her handmade necklaces and signed a book that she wrote. I will always cherish that day and memory. My heart goes out to her family and friends and her fans lot loved her so much. Rest in Peace Sweet Lady.



Kim Rosenthal - June 17, 2015 at 11:53 AM



“ Arlene B Euler purchased the Spring Has Sprung Mixed Basket for the family of Fannie Belle Fleming.



Arlene B Euler - June 17, 2015 at 10:20 AM



“ LaVerne Mullins lit a candle in memory of Fannie Belle Fleming



LaVerne Mullins - June 17, 2015 at 09:45 AM



“ Wish I could have met Fannie Belle in person. Years ago, while doing genealogy research, I discovered our Fleming & Mullins ancestor lines all come down from Robert Fleming of Dublin, Ireland & 'Holly Creek' John Mullins who was the 1st settler of my hometown, Clintwood, Va.

I've always enjoyed reading articles, etc. when I would find them, about Fannie Belle. Such a fascinating life. Such a fascinating lady. And, what beauty. Not only outward, but inward. I have passed her life story & legacy down to my own children & grandchildren in hopes they will do the same to their own. I am glad to say she was in my family lineage.

Rest in peace, Fannie Belle.

LaVerne Mullins - June 17, 2015 at 10:11 AM



“ I am the daughter of Alice May Rogers (Leatherman) - she was the sister in law to Shirley (Rogers) Glorioso, Carroll's sister. As a very young child, I was blessed to call "Belle" Aunt Blaze. She probably never knew what an impact she had on me. For me, she was larger than life. I remember so many wonderful, kind and funny things about her, far to many to mention here. I can tell you that when I reached out to find her several years ago while my mom was ill, I believe one of you had a hand in getting the information to her (thank you so very very much!). And one day my mom called me and said, "you will never believe who I just talked to, Belle Fleming!" She was so so happy to reconnect with her before her passing in 2009. Just one small nugget of her wonderfully kind heart to reach out to her. My mom laughed and laughed and told the funniest stories...I am grateful for having known her. Some people never realize the legacy they leave in the hearts of others. She will live in my heart, as she has ever since I was a little girl as, my larger than life "Aunt Blaze..." May she dance among the "Starrs"... I am keeping all of you in prayer and pray for your peace...God Bless..

Geneane (Leatherman) Adams - June 17, 2015 at 09:31 AM



“ Thanks for all the memories at the cook outs at Ginny Whites on Greenville Rd was a great friend and neighbor may all your dreams come true Rest in Peace Fannie

Gary - June 17, 2015 at 08:52 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. The world loved Ms. Fleming. She was a great showwoman. I think Bernie of Cleveland sold me one of her older costumes. GOD BLESS

MarygracePresley - June 17, 2015 at 08:02 AM



“ I have cherished memories of visits to the home of her parents during my teenage years in the early 60's with my grandparents, Troy & Mabel Maynard. Mrs. Fleming had a trunk with many pictures of her family and proudly displayed them with many stories during our visits. Later, when I worked in Washington, DC, I remember that she wa very popular and well-known there! She was a very generous person and will be missed. Rest in Peace, Blaze.

Carol Barker - June 17, 2015 at 12:48 AM



“ I would have to have met her. I told my mom years and years ago that I wanted to meet. She is my 3rd cousin. Her, my mom and dad use to hang out.They grew up with her and was always her mother's house. My parents have photos of her and her family. Very beautiful, classy, honest, hard working, loving and caring lady. The world has lost a very special person and heaven has gained another great angel.

Melissa Vance-cousin - June 17, 2015 at 10:20 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Fannie Belle Fleming.



June 16, 2015 at 09:57 PM



“ Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Fannie Belle Fleming.



June 16, 2015 at 09:52 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Fannie Belle Fleming.



June 16, 2015 at 08:57 PM



“ I am Sol Goodman's grandson. My pop managed Blaze's career for decades. Blaze was a part of my life since I could walk. My grandmother used to bring us down to the Two O'clock Club to bring pop his dinner. I wasn't allowed in the main club where the strippers worked, so I sat outside in the front bar. Blaze always came out to say hello. We'd drink cherry cokes together. When I was ten I was allowed to ride my bicycle across Liberty Rd. I 'd ride over to the house in Villa Nova, visit with Debbie, Johnny, and Blaze, and swim in the pool. She was the epitome of kindness always. I still have the diamond encrusted Hamilton watch she gave to my pop as a gift. When I was in my early twenties I'd take my friends down to see her show. She always made a big deal about them, pulled them up on stage into the show, and made me feel like a big shot.

She was a true original and the world is a less colorful place without her.

I know that she rests in peace and is singing and playing guitar in a heavenly choir with a big smile on her face.

Sunny Schnitzer

Sunny Schnitzer - June 16, 2015 at 08:05 PM



“ I met Fannie aka Blaze Starr in the 1970s through my job as a marketing rep for the National Brewing Company. She was a down to earth country girl who impressed me as a good businesswoman and a classy lady.

In the 1980s I ran into her again as she had a kiosk in the Carrolltowne Mall in Eldersburg, MD where she made and sold custom jewelry. She was still that delightful lady that was always so friendly and fun to be around.

I will miss her dearly and may her memory be for a blessing.

Steve Tapper

Steven Tapper - June 16, 2015 at 07:03 PM



“ My condolences to the entire family. I knew Blaze and her sister (Debbie) from a long time ago. My memories of those times will stay with me until I pass. Very good memories.

Mike Hofmeister (x-Baltimore County Cop) email bedford356@gmail.com

Mike Hofmeister - June 16, 2015 at 06:54 PM



“ My father owned the Uptown Deli in Pimlico the Scheffs Deli in Pikesville when I was old enough to drive I would deliver party trays and other things to her home. Blaze was so nice and would offer me a cold drink or food. When her home was flooded I went to help get what was left out for her. She always was so present. I am honored to have met such a wonderful woman. As a Veteran I was always grateful for what she did for Vietnam Vets when others did not care. God Bless her may she rest in peace. And may her family find comfort in knowing what a beautiful person she was both on the outside and inside.

Howard - June 16, 2015 at 07:08 PM



“ I am a second cousin to Blaze but never met her. My mother, Jean Brewer Hill, was her first cousin. We were always so proud of Blaze as not many people were as beautiful and talented as she was. I did write to her and she wrote me back a long hand written note. That was so very nice of her since she didn't really know me at all! I was born in Williamson as my dad was on the railroad there. We moved to Bluefield when I was about 1 year old. So, I don't know any of my cousins there but wanted to let all of you know that I was thinking of you at this sad time.

Brenda Hill Asbury, Columbia, SC

Brenda Asbury - June 16, 2015 at 10:22 PM



“ I first recall seeing Blaze as a youngster in the early 50's when she came to the Perry & Maynard General Store on her visits home from MD. She was the most beautiful woman I had ever seen. Over the years I had occasion to see her a few more times with the last being in the late 90's. A family member and close friend, Bill Parsley, were invited to her home at Wilsondale where we talked about those early years, family, and friends. It was a wonderful walk down memory lane and it was so gracious of her to share her thoughts with us. Blaze was and is a lady in every sense of the word and will be greatly missed.

Gary S Maynard - June 17, 2015 at 09:08 AM



“ I have known Blaze and her family for over 50 years. My Aunt lived next door to her when she lived on Queen Anne Road. I have so many wonderful memories spending the days and nights there. I babysat for John, slept there ate there, swam in the pool. Always felt welcome and knew everyone!! I still remember the go-go boots Blaze got me. They were my second family that's for sure. I will miss you Blaze from the bottom of my heart. My heart felt condolences to Debbie and the entire family!!

robyn wehn - June 17, 2015 at 10:53 AM



“ May god bless and keep you, as you were truly god sent

William M. Chapman - June 17, 2015 at 09:47 PM



“ A beautiful woman inside and out, loved having her come to the shop with Bertie and loved talking with her, consider her a friend even though we only knew each other a short time, I am thinking and praying for you today, Bertie, Ashley, Crystal and Debbie, love you all!!

Glenna Gillman - June 18, 2015 at 07:29 AM



“ I am sending condolences to Berta Gail and family. Blaze will always be a glowing light for you guys. I know you loved her so much and will miss her. Thanks for giving me the opportunity to get to know Miss Blaze Star and her so exciting life story first hand. Love u guys

Connie Murphy - June 18, 2015 at 03:15 PM



“ My deepest condolences to Berta Gail and family.

Alberta Jewkes - June 19, 2015 at 04:54 AM



“ I am Carroll Glorioso's niece. I remember the weekends with Aunt Bell(as I called her) and how much I loved coming to the house on Queen Anne's Rd. there was always laughter and joy in the home and Aunt Bell was at the center of it. She was warm, loving and generous beyond belief. She gave me my first \$100 bill and a bottle of joy perfume for my 16th birthday.

Aunt Bell was bigger than life to me, she was beautiful and striking. She possessed qualities that would never tarnish with age.

If I day dream for a few moments I can see the sunken living room, and even hear her voice with her cute West Virginia twang. I can see her with her beloved poodles , Peaches and Baby standing in front of me and her beautiful and infectious smile. Aunt Bell, you may have left this earth but not the hearts of those you loved.

Debra - June 19, 2015 at 12:25 PM



“ i met Fannie when she came to Fay Marcum store in Breeden she was a very nice and sweet lady rest in peace Fannie{Blaze} Linda Sue {Borders} Marcum

Linda S Marcum - June 19, 2015 at 01:40 PM