



Deborah Gillentine Duff

March 8, 1950 - March 1, 2026

Deborah Gillentine Duff (affectionately known as “DD”), age 75, of Laurel, Mississippi, passed away on Sunday, March 1, 2026. She was born on March 8, 1950, in Tupelo, Mississippi, to Crafton Gillentine and Lottie Carnathan Gillentine.

She attended Mooreville High School and Itawamba Junior College and later attended Ole Miss.

Debbie worked as a legal secretary for the law firm of Gilchrist, Sumrall, Thaxton and Yoder, where she was a valued and dedicated employee.

She married John W. Duff on June 30, 1988, in Laurel, Mississippi. They were married for 31 wonderful years during which time they built their dream home and lived at Lake Heritage in Soso, Mississippi.

Debbie was a loyal member of Life Church of Laurel, Mississippi. Debbie delighted in cooking for her entire family, especially during the holidays, when her home was filled with love and laughter. She loved playing golf at Laurel Country Club for many years and proudly recorded a hole in one. She also cherished spending time at the beach with her husband and was an avid reader.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John, and her brother, Timothy Gillentine.

She is survived by her son, David L. (Dax) Wheeler of Laurel, Mississippi; her stepson, Paul Duff and wife Beth of Canton, Mississippi; grandchild Jason Duff and wife Christina; and great-grandson, Caleb Duff of Madison, Mississippi. She is also survived by her brother, Michael Gillentine of Baldwyn, Mississippi; niece Kimberly Deaton and husband Chris; and great-nephew and great-niece, Brice and Mary Margaret Deaton, all of Pontotoc, Mississippi.

Visitation will be held on Friday, March 6, 2026, from 1:00–2:00 p.m. at Memory Chapel Funeral Home in Laurel with funeral service to follow at 2:00 p.m. Pastor David Hagan will officiate. Interment will follow at Lake Park Hills Cemetery, 2806 Emmy Drive, Laurel, Mississippi 39440.

To view or sign the online guest book, visit www.memorychapellaurel.com.

Cemetery Details

Lake Park Hills Cemetery

2806 Emmy Dr.
Laurel, MS 39440

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 6. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home
3100 Audubon Drive
P. O. Box 674
Laurel, MS 39440
(601) 428-5235
memorychapel@comcast.net
<https://www.memorychapellaurel.com/>

Service

MAR 6. 2:00 PM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home
3100 Audubon Drive
P. O. Box 674
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Tribute Wall



“ *I am so sorry to hear about my Debbie's death. We shared some good times (high school and IJC) and bad times (long car ride from Hattisburg to Fulton in 1969). RIP Cousin!*

Rick M Pearce - March 04 at 03:10 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Deborah Gillentine Duff.*



March 03 at 01:58 PM