

Here is some information from findagrave.com
Linda

Birth: 3 Jan 1869, Elk Creek, Grayson County, Virginia
Death: 7 Oct 1958, Salem, Marion County, Oregon

The Register-Guard newspaper
Eugene, Lane County, Oregon
Thursday, October 9, 1958
Vital Statistics; Page 1B

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DEATHS

GILHAM - William L. Gilham, 89, of 361 E. 3rd Ave., Eugene, died Oct. 7.
Funeral arrangements will be announced later by Simon-Lounsbury Mortuary.
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The Register-Guard newspaper  
Eugene, Lane County, Oregon  
Thursday, October 9, 1958  
Death Notices; Page 7D

GILHAM - William L. Gilham of 361 E. 3rd Street died October. 7, 1958. He was born January 3, 1869 in Virginia and had resided in this community for the past 70 years. He is survived by his wife, Minda and several nieces and nephews. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Simon-Lounsbury Mortuary. ~~~END~~~

### Note:

Bill Gilham died from bronchopneumonia. His death was due to pneumothorax (collapsed lung). He died at the Oregon State Hospital in Salem, where he had been a patient for six months.

Bill Gilham was the son of George W. & Lydia J. (Dixon) Gilham. In about 1902, he was married to Mildred M. Gilham. She died 21 Apr 1923 in Portland, Oregon. They had no children.

Widower Bill Gilham married widow Minda (Gillespie) Dixon about 1930. They had no children.

Gilham Road in the area where he farmed in Eugene is named for Bill Gilham. Gilham Elementary School is named for the road that bears his name. This farmland was originally that of Mindy Gilham's parents, Marcellus and Damaris Gillespie and she inherited it from them. When the Gilhams retired, they sold their farmland and moved into town.

## Historical Note:

Up until 1960's, there were deed restrictions on houses in Eugene, that in effect, barred Negroes from obtaining decent housing. Incredibly before 1965, African Americans were not allowed to live within the city limits of Eugene and real estate agents who catered to the housing needs of these families could lose their licenses. Since Blacks were forced to live outside the city boundaries, most of them lived in one of three areas: near Ferry Street Bridge, Glenwood, and West 11th. The shanty town that sprang up near the north bank of the Willamette River was called "Tent City" near the Ferry Street Bridge. Tent City lasted until 1949 as a collection of Army tents, and wooden houses built in what is now Alton Baker Park at the north end of the Ferry Street Bridge. It often flooded and the sanitation was atrocious. Then the Ferry Street Bridge was refurbished and Tent City was bulldozed in 1948-49. Not all Eugenians held the sentiments reflected in the deed restrictions. In 1948, when Leo and Pearl Washington, a black couple, moved from Tent City to East 2nd Avenue, neighbors circulated a petition to encourage their departure. At that time, William and Minda Gilham lived directly behind the couple and refused to sign. Instead, they talked to other residents and ultimately convinced them to drop the petition.

## Spouse:

Minda (Gillespie) Dixon Gilham (1874-1965)

## Burial:

Gillespie Cemetery  
Eugene  
Lane County  
Oregon, USA

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Linda Ague  
541-484-1240