



We Will Always Remember -- Virginia Patton Moss

"It's a beautiful day today and I send it to you with a lot of love and affection. I do hope that I've brought a little bit of life and love to your life through this film."

-- Virginia Patton Moss, 2017, Interview by *It's a Wonderful Life Museum*

Virginia Patton Moss played Ruth Dakin Bailey -- Harry Bailey's wife -- in "It's a Wonderful Life." She passed away peacefully on August 18 at the age of 97. There is an exhibit about her and several other autographed items on display in our Museum, along with some of her recollections of making "It's a Wonderful Life."

Jimmy Hawkins ("Tommy Bailey"): "It was a pleasure having Virginia as part of the group at the reunion in Indiana, Pennsylvania in 1993 -- we were all together again after so many years. One night she shared her stories at a special dinner saluting 'It's Wonderful Life' and Jimmy Stewart. She talked about her great respect for Jimmy Stewart, what an honor it was to work with him and what a gentleman he was. I loved her telling about having to wear white gloves to eat butter popcorn. She was unique. Thank you Virginia for always being there. You added so much."

Karolyn Grimes ("Zuzu Bailey"): "A few years ago, I got to visit her home in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Her husband Cruse took me on a tour of the grounds. She was an artist and a history buff. She and her husband had stunning collections of artifacts of history from all over the world. She was always proud that she got to work with Frank Capra."

Virginia Patton Moss: "He was a wonderful man to work for. I was the only gal he hired to work under contract . . . He was a real outgoing, friendly sort of man . . . He was able to have such natural scenes because we all were natural, because that's the way he directed it."

Virginia Patton Moss' presence in Seneca Falls was felt in 2017 through a videotaped message recorded by the It's a Wonderful Life Museum and played for close to 200 participants in a gala dinner that recreated the dinner hosted by Frank Capra in 1946 to preview "It's a Wonderful Life." Virginia attended that dinner more than 70 years ago. In her message, Virginia stated that she was greeting everyone long distance with a lot of love and affection and sending them sunshine from Ann Arbor.

The resounding applause from the audience showed their deep affection for Virginia Patton Moss . . . "Ruth Dakin Bailey, if you don't mind."

Full obituary-- <https://www.mathewsfuneralhome.com/obituaries/virginia-moss>