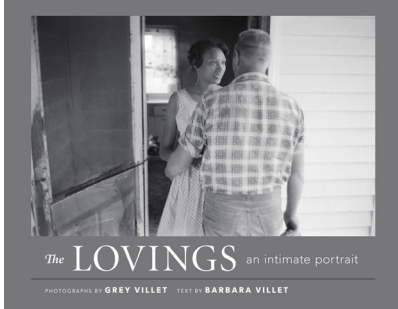




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Press Release



June 12, 2017 is the 50th anniversary of Loving Day, the day the Supreme Court ruled to end the prohibition of interracial marriage in the United States.

The Lovings

An Intimate Portrait

Photographs by Grey Villet, text by Barbara Villet

Foreword by Stephen Crowley

ISBN: 978-1-61689-556-3

10 X 7.75 IN / 112 PP / 84 DUOTONE PHOTOGRAPHS

\$24.95 / HARDCOVER

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In July 1958, Mildred and Richard Loving were arrested for the crime of interracial marriage, prohibited under Virginia state law. Exiled to Washington, DC, they fought to bring their case to the Supreme Court. Knowledge of their struggle spread across the nation, and in the spring of 1965, the *Life* magazine photojournalist Grey Villet spent a few weeks documenting the Lovings and their family and friends as they went about their lives in the midst of their trial. *Loving v. Virginia* was the landmark United States civil rights case that, in an unanimous decision, ultimately ended the then prohibition of interracial marriage on June 12, 1967. This day is known as Loving Day.

The Lovings: An Intimate Portrait (February 2016, \$24.95, Princeton Architectural Press) presents Grey Villet's bold photo-essay in its entirety for the first time. Text by Barbara Villet puts the photographs into context, providing the history of the couple's marriage, their political struggle at the time Grey was with them, and insight into the photojournalist's process. She writes:

As Villet's unobtrusive manner allowed him almost to disappear as he began photographing them, the Lovings were lulled into normalcy. What began to emerge before his lenses was a portrait of them as a quintessentially ordinary couple extraordinarily in love with each other.

In November 2016, Focus Features released Jeff Nichols's feature-length historical drama *Loving*, starring Joel Edgerton and Ruth Negga as Richard and Mildred Loving, and featuring Michael Shannon as Grey Villet.

Grey Villet's duotone photographs reveal with striking intensity and clarity the powerful bond of a couple that helped change history.

For more information, please contact **Susan Hershberg** Susan@papress.com t: 212 995 9620

Praise for *The Lovings*:

“To know Richard and Mildred Loving is to know the photos of Grey Villet. Grey’s photos cut to the core of who I believe Richard and Mildred were, and more importantly, they show in detail how the couple felt about one another. That is a rare quality to find in still images, and it is something Grey imbued in every image he took of the Lovings.”

—Jeff Nichols, writer/director of *Take Shelter*, *Mud*, *Midnight Special*, and *Loving*

“With quiet exacting beauty, this book documents how our most intimate feelings can galvanize vast social change. Mildred Jeter and Richard Loving fought for the right to marry and raise a family amid national struggles for voting rights and educational equality. Their victory was—and is—every bit as monumental and precious.”

—Margo Jefferson, Pulitzer Prize-winning critic and author of *Negroland: A Memoir*

About the Authors

Grey Villet (1927-2000) was a celebrated, award-winning photojournalist for *Life* magazine. Throughout his career, he shot for publications in his native South Africa, England, and the United States, covering breaking news, sports, presidential politics, and entertainment, and documenting the midcentury conflicts of the American South, Cuba, and the Middle East.

Barbara Villet, wife of Grey Villet, is a former reporter and editor for *Life*, where she initiated many major essays for the magazine. She has also written for numerous other publications and authored books including *Blood River*, a study of South Africa during the last days of apartheid, which was a *Time* magazine Notable Book and Book of the Year, and earned a Pulitzer Prize nomination.



Mildred and Richard Loving, photo Grey Villet

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