



Betty Strickland

September 20, 1922 - June 12, 2011

Services for Betty Jo Strickland, 88, of Valley Center, California will be held on Saturday, June 18 at 11:00 AM at Stewart Family Funeral Home with Don Spivey officiating. Private burial will be at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Beaumont under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Mrs. Strickland passed away on June 12, 2011 in Southern California. She was born on September 20, 1922 in St. Joseph, Missouri. Mrs. Strickland graduated as a Registered Nurse from the Missouri Methodist Hospital School of Nursing in 1943. During World War II she joined the Army Air Corps as a Lieutenant. She attended the School of Aviation Medicine and became one of the original flight nurses. After leaving the Army, Betty and her husband, Tommy, moved to Beaumont where they lived for 53 years. In 1959 she became a school nurse for the South Park School District in Beaumont. After serving for 17 years, she retired in 1976 as the Director of Health Services for the district.

Mrs. Strickland served as President of both the Texas State Teachers Association-School Health Section, and the Texas State School Nurses Association. In 1971 she was instrumental in the creation of a statewide School Nurses Day, an annual recognition of school nurses. She was a volunteer nurse for the Muscular Dystrophy Clinic in Tyler for 8 years and was a docent for the Historic Aviation Memorial Museum in Tyler.

Mrs. Strickland was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Tommy Strickland. She is survived by a loving family including two daughters, Sue Spivey and husband, Don, of Tyler and Judy Black and husband, Don, of California; grandson,

Cordell Parker and wife, Jennifer, of Whitehouse; granddaughter, Anna Roberts of Houston; brothers, Warren Pearce and wife, Esther, of Florida and E.G. Pearce and wife, Dana, of Missouri; and five great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Odyssey/VistaCare Hospice Foundation, c/o Odyssey HealthCare of San Diego, 9444 Balboa Avenue, Suite 290, San Diego, CA 92123 (1-800-299-8245 or online at Odsysseyhealthcare.com).

Tribute Wall

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“ *Your Mother and Daddy sat behind us at Elkins Lake Baptist Church when they lived at Elkins Lake. My husband and I looked forward to visiting with them before churchtime each Sunday morning. They were a lovely genuine interesting unique loving couple. We especially enjoyed Your Mama's stories of her years in the military. One of our favorite dishes is Your Mama's spaghetti recipe, which I cook often, and get a warm feeling seeing the handwritten recipe she brought to me along with the dish. We missed their fellowship when they moved to Brentwood. And we have wondered where Betty moved after Your Daddy's death. I pray that God's peace may be with you, Sue and Judy, in the loss of one of the Lord's finest... Your Mother.*

Sincerely, Wegi Talbert

Wegi Talbert - June 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *We have many fond memories of school days in Bmt. Our love and prayers to all of you. What a special lady!!*

Jack and Elly Hollister - June 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM