



Betty Whitaker

December 6, 1936 - April 1, 2012

A memorial service celebrating the life of Betty Kelly Whitaker will be held at 2 PM Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at Pollard United Methodist Church located at 3030 Copeland Road, Tyler. The service will be officiated by Rev. Rob Fisher, Rev. Richard Luna and Rev. Stephanie Scott. The family will receive friends at Stewart Family Funeral Home on Tuesday, April 3, 2012 from 5:30-7:00 PM. Betty was born December 6, 1936 to Jeff Lee and Willie Kelly of Ruston, LA and passed away April 1, 2012 after a valiant fight with cancer. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Marge Moore of Tyler. Betty graduated from Louisiana Tech University with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and obtained a Masters degree in Education from the University of Texas at Tyler. She retired from Tyler ISD after a 31 year teaching career at Ramey, Austin and Peete Elementary and Hubbard Middle School. While attending Louisiana Tech, Betty met the love of her life, Larry Whitaker, and they married on January 29, 1956. They embarked on a 56 year adventure filled with love, laughter, family, church, travel and friends. In addition to Larry, three children and their families are left to cherish the memory of their Mom: Kathy Kapka and husband Robert of Whitehouse, Julie McLean and husband Ron of Tyler and Jeffrey Daniel Whitaker and fiancé Natalie Ignacio of Ft. Hood. She was known as BB to the seven grandchildren she adored: Craig McLean, Mark McLean, Taylor Hill, Kevin Kapka, Elliott Hill, Daniel Whitaker, Ali Whitaker and their mother Heather Whitaker. Betty is also survived by nephew John Moore of Shreveport, LA and niece Susan Wescott

of Houston and several cousins. Pollard United Methodist Church was Betty's church home for 45 years. She was an active member of the Builder's Sunday School Class, where she made lifelong friends whom she cherished dearly. Her involvement at Pollard included United Methodist Women, UMCOR mission trips, Bible school teacher, Church office volunteer, Kids' Kaleidoscope board and Pastor/Parish Relations Committee. Betty's other interests included the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary, reading club, mahjong group and bridge club. In lieu of flowers, memorial may be made to Pollard United Methodist Church Memorial Fund or the Hospice of East Texas Foundation.

Tribute Wall

CK

“ bb was the all american girl.she set the wire high in everything she did.bb and ma were maggie fays favorite. be strong larry you must carry on .all of us out east share this lost.

charles g kelly - April 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family knowing in our hearts Mrs. Betty is at peace and and will be sharing a better place with our Creator.

Kyle and Shelly Rutherford - April 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ We didn't get to know Betty as well as we would have liked to. We shared a missionary experience with she and Larry last fall, even though she had been so ill, she thought of others and gave of her time. We know her family will miss her more than words can say, but oh the memories they have to cherish. So glad we knew her, even if for a little while.

Jan and Carter Calongne - April 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Betty was a wonderful Lady, Wife, Mother, Friend and Teacher. She always had something nice to say, and a beautiful smile on her face. She was intelligent, kind, and just a pleasure to be around. (Even when she was mad at me about the dog:.) I consider myself lucky to have known her. My life has definitely been enriched by knowing her and her wonderful family. I am so very sorry for your lost, and will be praying for the Lord to provide you with the Peace the passes understanding that only he can provide. My love and prayers, and that of my family will be with you.

Teresa Stiefvater - April 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ I was deeply saddened to hear of Betty's death. I know she fought a long and difficult battle. My mother LaVern Delony Humble kept in touch with Larry and her after my father died. She was always kind and loving. She will be greatly missed by the Delonys.

Laura Delony Horn - April 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM