



Eddie Fitzgerald

April 26, 1925 - April 17, 2011

Eddie Ruth Loyd Fitzgerald passed away peacefully and surrounded by loving family members on April 17, 2011, at the Hospice of East Texas in Tyler. She was born on April 26, 1925 and grew up in Wood County, the eldest child of Edward McKinley Loyd and Ava Gilbreath Loyd. After graduating from Yantis High School, she married in 1948 and moved to Tyler in 1955. Her husband, Truman D. "Blue" Fitzgerald, an East Texas oil drilling contractor and rancher, preceded her in death in 2006. She is survived by three children, Randall (Randy) Fitzgerald of Northern California, Jerry (Gerald) Fitzgerald of Dallas, and Jonna Fitzgerald of Tyler. Survivors also include a brother, Loye Loyd of Midland, two sisters, Rue Nell Meaders of Yantis and Dorothy Weir of Yantis; sisters-in-law, Peggy Jo Fitzgerald and Joyce Ashley, both of Tyler; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family. Everyone who knew Eddie Ruth spoke fondly of her as a gentle, thoughtful, and kind spirit. She took great joy in fishing, caring for the family pets, nurturing her beautiful rose bushes, embroidery, playing the piano and organ, collecting, and creating artwork in various mediums. Eddie Ruth was lovingly devoted to her three children. When each child was in kindergarten or grade school, she enrolled them in art, dance, or music lessons to develop their creativity. She proudly watched each of her children embrace an artistic pursuit later in life. Randy became a journalist and book author, Jerry a stage actor and playwright, and Jonna a violinist, television news anchor, winner of the Miss Texas Pageant, and runner up to the title of Miss America. The family would

like to extend heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated staff members of Atria Copeland, the Hospice of East Texas, and Mother Frances Hospital. A public viewing will be at the Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy in Tyler on Tuesday evening, April 19, from 6:00-8:00 PM. Services will be Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 2:00 PM in the Chapel at Stewart Family Funeral Home with Rev. David Dykes officiating. Pallbearers will be Garrett Boersma, Eric Artmire, Byron Meads, Timothy Meads, Anthony Meads, Felton Baxter, Curtis Johnson and Mike Hampton. Honorary Pallbearers will be the Therapet Animal Assisted Therapy Volunteers. Donations in her honor may be made to the Hospice of East Texas Foundation, 4111 University Blvd. Tyler, 75701 or Therapet Foundation, PO Box 305, Troup, Texas 75789.

Tribute Wall

RM

“ *We will miss you. Our love and prayers are with all of you.*

Rebecca Meads - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ *She was a great lady and will be missed. Our prayers are with your family at this time. Love, Sue & Ted*

Sue and Ted Lowes - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HB

“ *Jonna, Let me again express my condolences to you and your brothers in the loss of your mother. She was such a delight when I got to visit with her. I tried to see her several times but she was sleeping and I did not want to disturb her. When I did see her she was so alert and during the visit we had a therapist come in. It was fun to watch her love that dog. She loved her family, she loved life, she loved the Lord and she loved all his creatures. She just had a glow that day and I was so glad I got to see her. I wish I could have caught her awake again. The wonderful thing is that she now is in the arms of our Lord and sees Him face to face and is reunited with all the family that has gone on before. She led a full and fulfilled life here but she is just beginning to really live. You and your brothers have precious memories until we too transition. We love you and will keep you in our prayers. Herb and Clara Bryant*

Herb Bryant - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ *Your in my thoughts and prayers, may the lord wrap his loving arms around you and your family during this time of sorrow.*

Dianna Nassimbeni - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TA

“ *What a wonderful woman and incredible example of giving, loving, and caring Ruth was! I feel so honored to have known her. Our prayers are with your family and we wish you God's comfort.*

*Tricia Crumley Adams & Jesse Boudria
Pat Crumley
Doug Conn*

Tricia Crumley Adams - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *Jonna and Family,
I am so sorry to hear of the death of your mother. I know you rejoice that she is in Heaven and is no longer in pain.
I will be praying for you for strength and comfort as you face the days ahead.*

Jan Barton - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ *Im So sorry you have lost your loved one.*

Pat Crumley - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ *Jonna,
You are in my thoughts and prayers. Your Mom and Dad are walking hand in hand across Heaven.
All My Love,
Mitzie*

Mitzie Avera - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ *Jonna - so sorry to hear of your mom's passing. I never had the honor of meeting her, but if she was anything like you - the God has a very special angel now. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. God keep us in peace until all are united*

Sharon Mayville - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *I know you will miss her dearly, but know how blessed you were to have a loving heart in your life all these years - and know she is reunited with your daddy, now. The lasting memories you have created will be with you the rest of your life - the walk will not be easy, but with the help of the Lord and your friends, it will be endurable.*

You are loved so very much by so many.

Hugs & Prayers,

Mary Gammell

Mary Gammell - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *Jonna,*

Jasilyn and I are sorry for the loss of your mother. She must have been a great lady. You and your family are in our prayers.

Sincerely,

Matt Schaefer

Matt & Jasilyn Schaefer - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ *My Aunt Ruth was always good about sending me birthday and holiday cards (with pictures of her pets) as well as recipes for really good cakes and pies. I'll miss her.*

Eddie Loyd Meaders - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GT

“ *Dear Jonna and family,
I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your lovely mother. Know that you are in my prayers.
God Bless,
Gay Tyra*

gay tyra - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ *Jonna and family -- I am so sorry about your loss of such a precious woman. My mother respected her so much. It has been a lot of years since I saw her, but her gently spirit still stand out to me.*

*Praying for your family
Kris Smalling*

Kris Fanning Smalling - April 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM