



Mary Kelly Woodard

November 13, 1935 - April 5, 2019

A memorial service celebrating the life of Mary Kelly Woodard, 83, of Hideaway is scheduled for Sunday, April 7, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. in the Stewart Family Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Dave Martin officiating. Visitation will immediately follow the service. Mary was born on November 13, 1935 and left this life to be with the Lord on April 5, 2019.

Mary Kelly was born and reared in Scranton, Pennsylvania, where she attended the Mercy Hospital College of Nursing, graduating in 1956. In January of 1957 Mary married John Henry Ace of Philadelphia. They married in Stuttgart, Germany, where she was working at the U.S. Army Hospital at Stuttgart Bad-Constatt. As newlyweds, they returned home to Pennsylvania and raised their two kids, Mike and Kathy, in suburban Philadelphia. Mary worked as an Emergency Room Nurse, an ICU Nurse and Charge Nurse at Riddle Memorial Hospital until she left practical nursing in 1970 to work with the United States Health Care Finance Administration. She was promoted and transferred to the Dallas Regional office in 1977. In addition to working a demanding full time job and rising two kids, Mary also continued her formal education (3-6 semester hours at a time over the course of 15 years), eventually earning her Bachelor of Science degree from East Texas State University and her Master of Science degree from The University of Texas at Arlington.

After 23 years of marriage, Mary's husband John died suddenly in 1980. Deeply wounded but not defeated, Mary carried on. Several years later she met William D. "Bill" Woodard and they married in September of 1985. With Bill she had many of the happiest years of her life. They enjoyed tennis, golf and socializing with their many friends at the Brookhaven and Lakewood Country Clubs in Dallas. They were members of the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, where they were actively involved in the Stephen Ministry. Always travelling about, it was easy to see that they truly enjoyed one another's company. Mary and Bill were married 34 years. But they were not just husband and wife – they were best friends.

In 2012 Mary and Bill moved from Dallas to Hideaway to enjoy the remainder of their retirement years. They became actively involved with their new Hideaway friends and joined the First Presbyterian Church in Tyler. Between Hideaway Dance Club, golf, the Hideaway Classic Car Club and various dinner engagements, it soon became very difficult to get on their "dance card" – Mary and Bill usually had prior commitments!

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, Eugene and Catherine Kelly; her sister, Helen Kelly Nealon; and, her (first) husband John Henry Ace. She is survived by her husband of 33 years, Bill Woodard; son and daughter-in-law Mike and Lisa Ace of Tyler; daughter and son-in-law Kathy and Ronnie Young of Durant, OK; and, Bill's daughter Wendy Woodard of Blue Ridge, Texas. Mary's grandchildren are Ashlyn Geer and husband Zach of Forney; Meredith Cochrane and husband Richard of Dallas; and Carly Osborne and husband Kyle of Sherman, Texas. Her great-grandchildren are Macey Geer, Aryn Bolden and Karsyn Osborne. Mary is also survived by her nieces, nephews and their spouses, as well as many other great-nieces and nephews.

Bill and the entire family would like to express their special thanks to Mary's caregiver, Tameka Johnigan. Tameka is an angel sent from heaven and we

deeply appreciate her love and kindness to Miss Mary.

If desired, Mary's family requests memorials to the Hospice of East Texas Foundation, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, Texas, 75701; or, the charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 7. 2:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Visitation and reception after service

APR 7 (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Tribute Wall



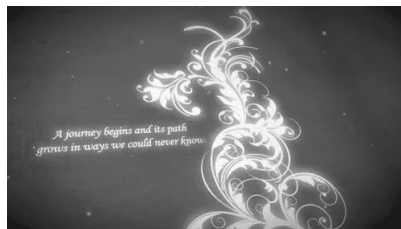
“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mary Kelly Woodard



Stewart Family Funeral Home - April 07, 2019 at 02:59 PM



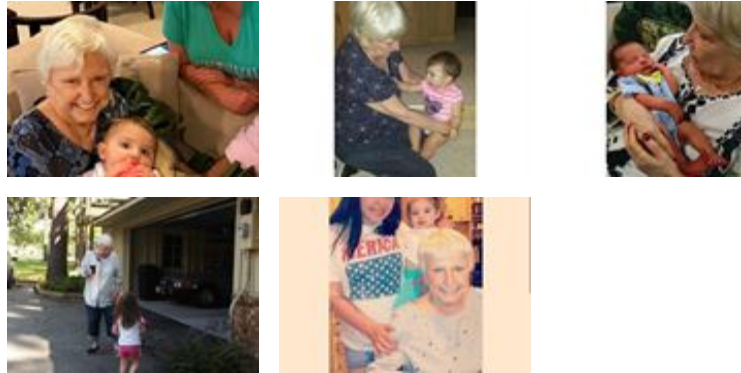
“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Kelly Woodard



Stewart Family Funeral Home - April 07, 2019 at 02:36 PM



“ 10 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - April 07, 2019 at 01:23 PM



“ Share the Health was purchased for the family of Mary Kelly Woodard.



April 06, 2019 at 03:36 PM



“ Choate Family purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Mary Kelly Woodard.



Choate Family - April 06, 2019 at 10:07 AM



“ Mary was a precious friend with whom we shared many happy times. She and her kind heart and beautiful will be so missed.

Jo Bradly - April 05, 2019 at 09:57 PM

JE

“ John & Gwyn Eury purchased the Sweet Solace Spray for the family of Mary Kelly Woodard.



John & Gwyn Eury - April 05, 2019 at 09:04 PM

JE

“ Mary was a true and faithful friend for so many years. Always upbeat, and forever sharing her beautiful smile. We will miss her so much. Our prayers and sympathy for Bill, Mike and family. John & Gwyn Eury

John Eury - April 05, 2019 at 08:05 PM



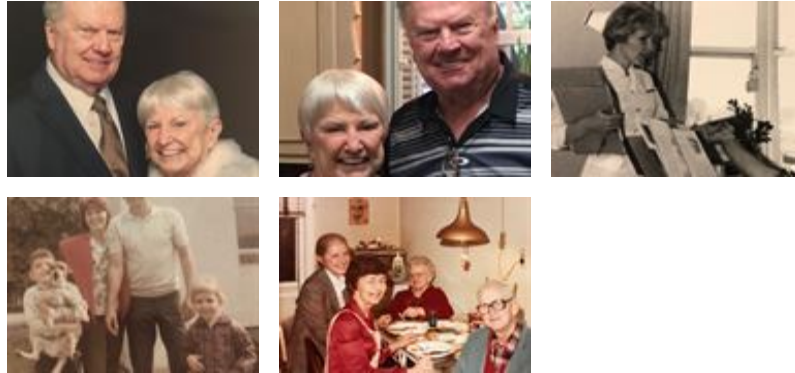
“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Kelly Woodard.



April 05, 2019 at 05:14 PM



“ 43 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Stewart Family Funeral Home - April 05, 2019 at 04:35 PM



“ *Basket of Memories* was purchased for the family of *Mary Kelly Woodard*.



April 05, 2019 at 04:02 PM