



Betty Lou Carroll

December 16, 1926 - January 3, 2019

Betty Lou Carroll

December 16, 1926 – January 3, 2019

Betty Carroll was a gentle soul with a quiet, dignified strength. She was always fashionable and classy and even at 92, wore hoop earrings and had her nails beautifully polished. Her hands and wrists held her signature rings and gold bracelets elegantly, never gaudy or overdone. She wore her gold Africa pendant over her heart every day, a visible allegiance to a place she deeply loved, where she gave much of her life. She had dark, wavy hair and a small space between her two front teeth that spoke to uniqueness – more interesting than perfection -- and was something she did not worry over. While she was warm and open, she was not effusive but deeply private and reserved. It seemed there was a wisdom and wealth of story and life experience under the surface that we just might not get to completely know. She had a quiet way of deeply endearing herself to others.

She was born Betty Lou Wilt to parents of German origin, James Reason Wilt and Ida Jane Schock. Originally from Ohio, they moved to Lakeland, Florida where they lived out their lives. As members of an Old Order German Baptist faith community (Dunkards), they were pacifists, non-evangelical, non-missionary, wore Amish-looking “plain clothes” and practiced a simple, even austere life-style with an emphasis on prayer and contemplation. Though respected in their community they were not wealthy and according to Betty,

lived on the lower end of the economic scale. They were described as quiet, reserved, soft spoken, serious, hard-working, deeply spiritual, dignified and upright. As the youngest of six children, with 12 years between she and her next oldest sibling, Betty was often cared for by her older sisters.

At the age of 11, her older sister Annie began taking her to a Southern Baptist church. Betty's father died when she was 14 years of age and her mother remained single for eighteen years before marrying Jesse Clear. By 16 years of age, Betty Lou completed her high school education and began working as a secretary to the editor of the local newspaper, who later paid her college tuition.

Betty met Webster Carroll at Carson Newman College in 1944 where she majored in English and minored in Bible. After graduating in June, 1948, they were married and moved to South Western Seminary in Fort Worth TX where Betty completed her MRE and Webster his MDiv.

Following completion of seminary and three years in a local church pastorate in Itasca, TX, they were appointed by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in 1956 and assigned to Tanzania, then called Tanganyika. They moved to Uganda in 1963 where they remained as missionaries until 1998.

Betty was a member at First Baptist Church, Lakeland, FL for years and then at First Baptist Church, Bluefield, WV. After Web's death, she became an integral part of a home church fellowship in the home of Bill and Karen Rich of Bluefield.

Betty is preceeded in death by her husband, Webster Carroll; she is survived and cherished by Tim Carroll, married to Jennifer; daughter, Melody Harrell, married to Sam; six grandchildren; Allison Falcione, Brittany Zellhoefer, Morganne Dry, Corwin Harrell, Christopher Harrell, Carter Harrell; and six great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends at Mercer Funeral Home, Bluefield, WV, Saturday, Jan 12, from 10:30 a.m., followed by a service of remembrance at 11:00 a.m. and graveside gathering at Grandview Memory Gardens, Bluefield,

VA.

Cemetery Details

Grandview Memory Gardens

Bluefield, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 12. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Mercer Funeral Home Chapel
1231 West Cumberland Road
Bluefield, WV 24701

Funeral Service

JAN 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mercer Funeral Home Chapel
1231 West Cumberland Road
Bluefield, WV 24701

Tribute Wall



“ *Betty Lou Carroll*

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *We knew Web and Betty from going to Uganda on short term mission trips. We visited Web and Betty in their home in Bluefield, WV, and Web came to South Dakota a couple of times, once to share about his dream of a project in Bukelebe, Uganda, which ultimately came to fruition after they had to retire and leave Uganda. I flew to Uganda to be a part of Web and Betty's retirement celebration. Web also came hunting pheasants with us in South Dakota one year. They were godly people, courageous and gave their lives for the Lord. We are so blessed to have known them. Web related the story of Tim shooting a very large lion in Africa. Rita and I had not known of Betty's death until we searched for her on the internet tonight 12-20-20. God bless the family of Web and Betty Carroll, and it would be great to be able to connect with them.*

Bob and Rita Fischer, 1802 West Main, Rapid City, SD 57702. 605-348-5100

Robert Keith Fischer - December 20, 2020 at 09:35 PM



“ *Marsha McKinley purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Betty Lou Carroll.*



Marsha McKinley - January 10, 2019 at 08:18 PM

LG

“ Love Cindy and John Griffin purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Betty Lou Carroll.



Love Cindy and John Griffin - January 10, 2019 at 05:48 PM

YF

“ Your Battlefield Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Betty Lou Carroll.



Your Battlefield Family - January 09, 2019 at 03:12 PM

HB

“ Hugh & Becky purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Betty Lou Carroll.



Hugh & Becky - January 09, 2019 at 11:25 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Betty Lou Carroll.



January 07, 2019 at 10:30 PM

DM

“ My condolences to the Carroll family. I had the pleasure of getting to know Betty by doing her hair for several years . There are some clients that you get to know that become so special and Betty was one of them. What a life well lived and such an inspiration to all that knew her. Prayers for all of you during this time of loss.

Debbie Mariotti - January 07, 2019 at 08:55 PM