



Mary Helen Bewley

November 7, 1920 - March 27, 2009

Mary Helen Miller Bewley was born November 7, 1920, on the family farm in Melissa, Texas, to Lawrence and Lillie (Dixon) Miller. Her journey toward death from Alzheimer's Disease began on that same farm in 2004 to 2005 and she died at the age of 88 on Friday, March 27, 2009, in McKinney, Texas on Friday, March 27th, at the age of 88. After attending grade school in Melissa, Mary Helen graduated from McKinney High School in 1938. She married Jim Bewley of Frisco later that year and together they raised 2 daughters, Jean and Margaret. During World War II, Mary Helen and a group of her friends from the Melissa and McKinney area were inspired by the "Rosie the Riveter" war effort campaign to form a car pool to work at a Firestone Tire and Rubber plant in Dallas making tires for military jeeps. She later continued her participation in the war effort by working as a secretary in the administrative offices of Ashburn VA hospital in McKinney. From the opening of her husband Jim's business in Arlington in 1955 until Jim's health forced him to close Jim Bewley's Welding on Smith Street in McKinney many years later Mary Helen was an integral part of running her husband's business. She also continued her employment in the public service sector, working for the Texas Department of Human Services from which she retired. Mary Helen was a member of the Melissa Christian Church. She was also a member and former Worthy Matron (1992-93) of the Order of the Eastern Star, McKinney Chapter No. 518. For many years Mary Helen served on the Board of Directors of The Melissa Cemetery Association as cemetery secretary and during which time she was very proud to be a part of the Melissa Cemetery's recognition with a Texas Historical Marker. Mary Helen was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Jim; an infant grandson; granddaughter, Sarah Marihelen Staples; sister, Oleta Miller Airhart; brothers, Glen Miller and Bob Miller; brothers- and sisters-in-law: Fay Bewley, Jessie Bewley, Bessie Bewley Wilhelm, Ruth Bewley Copeland, Hoyt Copeland, L.G. Smith, Carl Wilhelm, Don Craft, and Wallis Airhart. Mary Helen is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Jean Bewley Boyd and Sam Boyd of Melissa, Texas; Margaret Bewley and Charles Staples of University Park (Dallas), Texas; grandson and wife, Marcus Boyd and Atorina Gevergiz of San Jose, California; sister, Mattie Lee Craft of Melissa, Texas; sisters-in-law, Louise Miller and Diane Miller, both of Melissa; and Catherine Bewley Smith of Bee Cave, Texas; brother- and sister-in-law, Richard (Dick) and Bud Bewley of Deer Park, Texas. She is also survived by a large extended family including numerous nieces and nephews. Funeral service will be held at 3:00pm with visitation one hour prior to the service on Sunday, March 29th, at Melissa Christian Church, 1708 W. Harrison Street, Melissa, Texas; with burial at Melissa Cemetery. In lieu of flowers,

Memorials

My thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time. Mary Helen had the greatest smile and was the sweetest person. God Bless.

PAT BRADSHAW, APRIL 8, 2009

I am very sorry to hear about Mary Helen. She was such a sweet lady. I worked in activities at Provident so I got to know her well. My thoughts and prayers are with your family. God Bless.

TRACI SHIRAH, APRIL 8, 2009

We were out of town when we received the news of our neighbor, Mary Helen's passing. We always think of Jim and Mary Helen while driving past their family homestead. Our condolences to all the family; we love to honor the families that did so much to give Melissa her wonderful history. God Bless and Comfort You All

BILL & PAT DANIEL, APRIL 7, 2009

Sorry to hear about your mother passing. She was a real jewel of a person. She will be greatly missed.

KATHY AND FRANK KERBY, APRIL 2, 2009

Margaret-my deepest sympathy to you and your family on the loss of your mother. Cherish the many loving memories and she will live forever in your hearts.

JULIA ODLE, APRIL 2, 2009

Mary Helen and Jim were just great neighbors for alot of years and are very missed. She always had so many stories of Melissa history. Both will be very missed.

BOBBI HOENIGMAN, MARCH 31, 2009

I am so sorry to hear about Mary Helen. I worked in activites @ Provident and she always made me laugh. God Bless the Bewley family.

VEDA BABB, MARCH 30, 2009

We are sorry to hear about your loss. Jason, Robin, Jayme, Miller, & Jaysa

ROBIN MILLER SMITH, MARCH 29, 2009

For Margaret, Charles, Jean and Sam, My sympathy to you all on Mary Helen's passing. Today, before I got this sad news, I was listening to the radio and heard Leadbelly singing "Midnight Special." Fond thoughts of Mrs. Bewley flooded my memory. What a sport! I spent many happy weekends over at the Bewley's during my teen years. Mrs. Bewley would stay up with Margaret and me to watch a late-night movie program of the era, dubbed the "Midnight Special." The movies were certainly nothing special, but the company was, and always accompanied by fresh popcorn and Dad's root beer, a flavor combination I still love and always associate with Mary Helen. And in the mornings, Mrs. Bewley could stir (and I do mean stir) up some Quik chocolate milk like no other! So smart, so down to earth, so fun loving! In later years, I made sure to visit the Bewleys in Melissa with my own children so they could also know these special folks. It was my great privilege to have known both Jim and Mary Helen, and they will always have a special place in my heart.

SARAH WINNIFORD ABRAHAM, MARCH 29, 2009

Sending love to the Bewley Family from "The Minnie Roberson & Ray Sterling Family". Our mother, Minnie Sterling (who will be 99 years old next month) has been friends with the Bewley Family since her school days. Thank you so much for this friendship! Thelma Griffin

THELMA (STERLING) GRIFFIN, MARCH 28, 2009

Margaret, I am so sorry for your loss. Your mother was a precious lady. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.

DENICE BURNSIDE WEBB, MARCH 28, 2009

Family Owned Since 1945

Turrentine-Jackson-Morrow is the premier provider of funeral services in North Texas, with funeral homes located throughout the area, three beautiful memorial parks, an on-site crematory, and two highly respected floral shops. We are a locally owned family business that has served North Texas for over 70 years. Families who visit us receive the highest quality of professionalism and service, with compassion and care that are unsurpassed.

Turrentine-Jackson-Morrow. The choice for generations—past, present and future.

TJMMcKinney / Allen / Plano TFSC#: 193

TJMCelina TFSC#: 2448

TJMFrisco TFSC#: 2449

TJMLeonard TFSC#: 3457

TJMGunter TFSC#: 3490

TJMWhitewright TFSC#: 3707

Hurst's Fielder-Baker TFSC#: 4107

Mullican-Little TFSC#: 4388

RW Owens & Son TFSC#: 4453

Meador Whitesboro TFSC#: 4456

Meador Gainesville TFSC#: 4457