



## Betty Jane Backhaus

December 2, 1930 - February 7, 2024

Betty Jane Backhaus, 93, of Rockdale, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, February 7, 2024 in Cameron. A funeral service will be held at 1:00 pm on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Rockdale with Pastor Patrick Welton officiating. Burial will follow in I.O.O.F. Cemetery. A visitation will be held 5 pm to 7 pm on Friday at the funeral home. Pallbearers will be Chris Lightsey, Kyle Lightsey, Lance Loewe, Justin Loewe, Brad Gest, Lorenzo Muñoz, Kurt Backhaus, and Darren Backhaus. Honorary pallbearers are Homer Mowdy and Wallace Jones.

Betty was born on December 2, 1930 to C. C. and Mary Viola (Daniels) Gest in Milam County. She graduated from Rockdale High School as salutatorian of the class of 1947. On November 29, 1952, she married Alton Backhaus in Rockdale. They were married for 34 years before his death in 1986. She worked for Rockdale Ford and Coufal Equipment, finally retiring from Pruett Insurance at the age of 80. She was an active member of Peace Lutheran Church in Rockdale, the New Salem E.E Club, receiving Rookie of the Year award in 2005 and Outstanding E.E. Club Member in 2009, 2011 and 2015; a Rockdale Chamber of Commerce Ambassador where she was awarded the Ambassador of the Year in 2017; Texas Women's Bowling Association, serving as their secretary and competing in 44 TWBA tournaments and more than 15 national tournaments; and a member of the Rockdale Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary.

She is preceded in death by her parents, C.C. and Mary Gest; husband, Alton

Backhaus; daughter, Judy Kay Backhaus; sister, Juanita Ward; brother, Billy Gest; daughter-in-law, Kay Backhaus; brothers-in-law Willard Backhaus, Cooper Ward and J.L Lamkin; and sisters-in-law, Agnes Backhaus, Eleanor Lamkin, and Lillian Backhaus.

Betty is survived by her daughter, Janie Sue Lightsey and husband Steve of Fairfield; son, Randy Backhaus and Claudette of Rockdale; grandchildren, Chris Lightsey and wife Erin, Kyle Lightsey and wife Naffie, and Morgan (Backhaus) Muñoz and husband Lorenzo; sister-in-law, Marie Gest; and 6 great-grandchildren: Colin Lightsey, Luke Lightsey, Abigael Lightsey, Lillian Lightsey, Elise Muñoz and Elianna Muñoz.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Peace Lutheran Church, 303 Meadow Drive, Rockdale, TX 76567 or any charity of your choice.

# Cemetery Details

## I.O.O.F. Cemetery

850 N. Main St.  
Rockdale, TX 76567

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **9**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Rockdale  
1041 West Highway 79  
Rockdale, TX 76567  
(512) 446-5454  
phillips\_luckey@yahoo.com  
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

## Funeral Service

FEB **10**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Rockdale  
1041 West Highway 79  
Rockdale, TX 76567  
(512) 446-5454  
phillips\_luckey@yahoo.com  
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

# Tribute Wall

RH

“ *Rita Huser lit a candle in memory of Betty Backhaus*



Rita Huser - February 19, 2024 at 01:22 AM

RS

“ *Sad to hear about Betty Jane, she will be missed. Denise and I moved to Rockdale in 1979 next to her parents CC and Mary Gest. We met her and her other siblings during our time in the neighborhood. She was a great lady.*

Ralph and Denise Sifuentes - February 11, 2024 at 08:55 AM

PB

“ *Peggy Brockenbush lit a candle in memory of Betty Backhaus*



Peggy Brockenbush - February 10, 2024 at 06:21 PM

BW

“ *Barbara Walko lit a candle in memory of Betty Backhaus*



Barbara Walko - February 10, 2024 at 10:57 AM

GB

“ Betty was a beautiful lady inside and out. When I was just a young lady she taught me how to bowl so that I could do league bowling in Rockdale with her. She had insurmountable amount of patience.

Gaye Bland - February 10, 2024 at 10:45 AM

CB

“ Charles/Gaye Bland lit a candle in memory of Betty Backhaus



Charles/Gaye Bland - February 10, 2024 at 10:42 AM

TM

“ Terry Mowdy lit a candle in memory of Betty Backhaus



Terry L Mowdy - February 09, 2024 at 12:44 PM

PK

“ Phil and Debbie Konarik planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Betty Jane Backhaus.

Phil and Debbie Konarik - February 09, 2024 at 11:17 AM

PK

“ Phil and Debbie Konarik purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Betty Jane Backhaus.



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**Phil and Debbie Konarik** - February 09, 2024 at 11:17 AM

AL

“ Mrs. Backhaus was always spoiling us (Morgan and I). She was such a bright, happy person, and always offering the best of hugs. She was one heck of a 42 partner when I was able to go play at the church with the group. Taught me lots about quilt making and much more. She will be greatly and deeply missed. Prayers and thoughts to the whole family.

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**Alisa Luckey** - February 09, 2024 at 10:13 AM

LT

“ Love Jessi and Clay Thornton planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Betty Jane Backhaus.

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**Love Jessi and Clay Thornton** - February 09, 2024 at 09:47 AM

LT

“ Love Jessi and Clay Thornton purchased the Fier y Lily and Rose for the family of Betty Jane Backhaus.



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**Love Jessi and Clay Thornton** - February 09, 2024 at 09:47 AM

PW

“ *What a wonderful and lovely lady.*

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**Patricia and Charlie Watson** - February 09, 2024 at 02:24 AM

AF

“ *Aretha Flores lit a candle in memory of Betty Backhaus*



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**Aretha Flores** - February 08, 2024 at 09:21 PM

BB

“ *Barbara Black planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Betty Jane Backhaus.*

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**Barbara Black** - February 08, 2024 at 08:57 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Betty Jane Backhaus.*



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February 08, 2024 at 08:57 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Betty Jane Backhaus.* ”



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February 08, 2024 at 06:54 PM