



Hartense Rodgers

July 22, 1940 - January 3, 2015

Celebration of life services for Hartense Rodgers, 74 of Austin are scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Saturday, January 10, 2015 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Rockdale. Burial will follow in the Lexington Cemetery in Lexington, Texas. Minister Paul White of Cedar Park Church of Christ and Elder Gary Jackson of Murray Street Church of Christ in Rockdale will officiate. Visitation is 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Friday, January 9th, at the funeral home.

Hartense was born to Annie (Bell) and Henry B. Ellison in Riesel, Texas. Both parents preceded her in death, also, a beloved brother, Henry Dean Ellison and two brothers-in-law, Benton Speer and Lenton Speer.

Hartense is survived by her beloved husband of 54 years, Leslie Rodgers of Austin, one daughter, Tonya Rodgers of Lexington and one son, Brett Rodgers of Hutto. Also, two sisters, Irene Speer of Marquez, Texas and Billie Speer of Marquez, Texas. One brother, Hugo Ellison and wife Pansy of Marquez, Texas and sister-in-law, Mamilyn Ellison of La Grange, Texas.

Two weeks after Leslie was discharged for the Army, he saw Hartense at a Rockdale football game and began inquiring as to who she was. The following week, they had their first date and almost two years later they were married on July 1, 1960 at the Rockdale Church of Christ.

The Rodgers' enjoyed traveling and enjoyed several trips to Europe, Scandinavia, United Kingdom, Alaska, Canada and Central America. Today, they still correspond with friends made on those trips. Hartense loved animals, especially little German Schnauzers. She also loved to shop for antiques.

God blessed Hartense with a loving and caring vivacious spirit that enabled her to spend a lifetime providing joy and happiness to so many people, always doing for others and putting them ahead of herself. It also made her a wonderful wife, mother, friend and excellent example of Christian living.

To cheer fellow Christians, she loved to share her home-baked goodies (often time she was referred to as the "Cookie Lady".) She loved to cook and bake and was known for her pecan pies and dewberry jelly. She was a gracious hostess and a good cook. Decorating a table for guests was her expertise.

She was a long-time member of the Church of Christ and was a faithful member of the Cedar Park Church of Christ at the time of her death. It was her strong faith and convictions that kept her going courageously, with determination and dignity, through this difficult period as she battled pancreatic cancer.

Pallbearers are; Shane Ellison, Brad Ellison, Todd Ellison, Bruce Ellison, Tim Speer, Mike Speer, Rick Morris and Roger Willis.

Honorary pallbearers; Loyd Hemphill, Charlie Townsend, Henry Kalmbach, Louis Knipstein and Jody Kalmbach.

The family would like to express their appreciation to Dr. Jerry Fain, Dr. Demetrius Lukus, Dr. Gauri Varadhechary and to Thomas (a nurse) at MD Anderson Hospital who were so attentive to her needs.

Only one life will soon be past....

Only what is done for Christ will last.

Cemetery Details

Lexington Cemetery

5900 County Road 326
Lexington, TX 78947

Previous Events

Public Visitation

JAN **9**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 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/>

Chapel Service

JAN **10**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Rockdale
1041 West Highway 79
Rockdale, TX 76567
(512) 446-5454
phillips_luckey@yahoo.com
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Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Hartense Rodgers*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - January 09, 2015 at 11:07 AM

BR

So sorry for your loss. Sending Prayers Brett and Robyn. She is such a Beautiful person.

Betty Richey Rhame - January 10, 2015 at 09:57 AM

BR

So sorry to hear of Hartense's death, she will be missed by all that knew her. She had such a wonderful smile and was such a lovely christian. Prayers for all her family

brenda rae - January 12, 2015 at 12:24 PM

JS

“ *My memories of the Rodger's family date back to when they lived on West 36th St. here in Austin. I will always remember how Hartense was always impeccably dressed and coifed. She always dressed as a "lady". She was a devout Christian who lived by example. My condolences to Leslie, Tonya and Brett during this difficult time.*

Jimmy Simmons

Jimmy Simmons - January 12, 2015 at 01:50 PM

BH

“ I met Mrs. Rodgers at a ladies' event with my mother-in-law. I immediately connected with her and was so delighted when we developed a friendship. I loved how she encouraged me as a homemaker, stay at home mother of two boys, and the wife of a busy husband. I feel so honored to have known her. I attended a wedding with her and we had such a wonderful time...we could not have guessed we had a 26 years age difference!

~Belinda Hammock

Belinda Hammock - January 11, 2015 at 04:35 PM

MH

“ Leslie, Brett and Tonya we are so sorry to hear of your loss. You will be in our thoughts and prayers. Love to all from Jeff and Melody Hooper ,Andrew and Misti.

Melody & Jeff Hooper - January 11, 2015 at 12:37 PM

JS

“ Leslie, Tonya and Brett,
We are so sorry for your loss. Sending special prayers to you and your family. The life tribute video is beautiful! The Ellison family has lost a very special family member.

Joyce and David Stone (granddaughter of Clara Ellison Merryman)

Joyce Stone - January 10, 2015 at 08:09 PM

ST

“ Leslie
Jane and I are so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in our prayers.
Steve Thompson

steve thompson - January 09, 2015 at 02:16 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Hartense Rodgers.*



January 08, 2015 at 06:43 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Hartense Rodgers.*



January 08, 2015 at 12:36 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Hartense Rodgers.*



January 08, 2015 at 10:48 AM



“ *Leslie, Tonya and Brett, I know how empty you feel at this time . Hartense was such a special lady (always a true lady!) and holds a special place in my heart , too. I have so many good memories of times spent with her and enjoying her hospitality and her love for crafting and cooking. I had some of dewberry jelly for breakfast this morning! My prayers are with you all as you grieve and adjust to life without her. God bless you with comforting!*

Judy Johnson - January 06, 2015 at 07:35 PM



“ *Quiet Expressions was purchased for the family of Hartense Rodgers.*



January 06, 2015 at 03:09 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Hartense Rodgers.*



January 06, 2015 at 01:16 PM



“ *Heaven has truly gained an amazing angel!*

What a wonderful God we have-He is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of every mercy, and the one who so wonderfully comforts and strengthens us in our hardships and trials. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

My prayers are with you all.

Linda Oldroyd

Linda Oldroyd - January 06, 2015 at 12:42 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Hartense Rodgers.



January 06, 2015 at 12:23 PM



“ Our thoughts & prayers are with you Leslie, Tonya & Brett, Hartense was the sweetest, the kindness, a real Lady and dear friend, she always made us feel special but she was the special one. We will truly miss her but will always have her in our hearts.
Love you all, Margaret & Gilbert Rangel

Margaret Rangel - January 06, 2015 at 08:48 AM



“ Monty Beyer lit a candle in memory of Hartense Rodgers



monty beyer - January 06, 2015 at 12:05 AM



“ My deepest sympathies to Hartense's husband and children. Her kindness, sense of humor and love will live forever through you.



Michelle Chrisner - January 05, 2015 at 08:41 PM

GJ

“ Our deepest sympathies to the family. She was a wonderful, caring woman & will be truly missed.

Gina & Ewaldt Knobloch, Jr.

Gina & Ewaldt Knobloch, Jr. - January 05, 2015 at 06:27 PM