



Ramona Joyce McPhail

August 16, 1938 - July 23, 2009

Ramona Joyce Sampson McPhail, cherished wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend, passed away peacefully on July 23, 2009 after a valiant battle with leukemia. Visitation will be held Sunday from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. with the family receiving visitors from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, July 26, 2009 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings, Texas. Funeral services are set for 9:00 a.m. on Monday, July 27, 2009 at Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Giddings. Ramona was born August 16, 1938, in Prescott, Arkansas, to Ruby Effie Whitten and Raymond James Sampson. She is the oldest of five children and cherished her childhood. Growing up, she loved sewing and cooking, especially cookies or anything with chocolate, and attending services at the Nazarene church. After graduation from Arlington High School, Ramona enrolled at Arlington State College (now the University of Texas at Arlington). It was in a chemistry class at Arlington State where Ramona would meet a tall, handsome man named Harrison McPhail. They fell in love and married August 30, 1958. Ramona and Harry went away to school together to The University of Texas at Austin where she graduated with a Bachelor's in home economics with a teaching certificate in 1962. After graduation, she and Harry made their home in Giddings with their two children, Gloria and Paul. Harry taught math, and Ramona taught Home Economics at Giddings High School for 30 years. Her goal was to help her students build a better lifestyle for today and tomorrow. Ramona's love of travel, deep faith, sense of humor, and community involvement, along with her

ever-cheerful disposition and total devotion to her family were the foundations of her life. She spent 13 years traveling throughout Texas taking pictures of county courthouses, which she shared with different organizations as an invited guest speaker. Her greatest joy in life, however, was her granddaughter, Serenna. Ramona was an active member of the Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Giddings where she sang in the choir and was a member of the Quilting Circle, as well as various other committees. She was the Capitol District President for the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs, and served in other capacities throughout her 23 year membership. Ramona particularly enjoyed reading and was active in the Women's Club's Study Club. She was a member of the Giddings Lions Club, Lee County Extension Education, and supported and volunteered with many other local organizations. Ramona will be remembered for her deep abiding faith in God, determination, and strength of character, which were balanced beautifully by her warm and generous personality. Ramona was preceded in death by her husband, Harrison McPhail and her parents, Raymond and Effie Sampson. Survivors include her daughter, Gloria McPhail of Austin; her son and daughter-in-law, Paul McPhail and Donna Jarrett of Austin; granddaughter, Serenna McPhail of Austin; sisters and brothers-in-law, Mary and Bob Babers of Arlington, Betty and Glen Atchley of Bullard, Emily and Jon Whatley of Arlington; brother and sister-in-law, Jim and Cynde Sampson of College Station; many beloved nieces and nephews; and very special friend, Vernon Simpson of Giddings. The family extends heartfelt thanks to those who loved and laughed with our mother and brought joy to her life. Memorial contributions may be made to the Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Giddings or the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Tribute Wall

- AI** “ *Ramona Joyce McPhail* ”

Alicia Ingram - July 28, 2009 at 02:41 PM
- SS** “ *Ramona Joyce McPhail* ”

Sherwin & Jane Siegmund - July 28, 2009 at 11:37 AM
- FB** “ *Ramona Joyce McPhail* ”

Frances & Wilard Burgdorf - July 27, 2009 at 09:14 AM
- DS** “ *Ramona Joyce McPhail* ”

Diana Schulze - July 25, 2009 at 03:31 PM
- MK** “ *Ramona Joyce McPhail* ”

Mary Helen Kipp - July 24, 2009 at 09:47 AM
- CC** “ *Ramona Joyce McPhail* ”

Crystal (Sherfy) Collier - July 23, 2009 at 08:17 PM