



Ruth Irene Herron Betts

September 6, 1936 - December 27, 2023

Ruth Irene Herron Betts, age 87, was surrounded by her children when she passed from this life to the next on December 27, 2023, at Memorial Hermann Hospital, The Woodlands, Texas. Ruth was born on September 6, 1936, to Ralph Hanley Herron, Sr. and Lora Gay Hamilton in Detroit, Michigan. She grew up the youngest of four children at Briarstone, the family's beloved house on their farm outside of Detroit, moved to Tucson, Arizona while in junior high, then to St. Louis, Missouri where she graduated from Fairview High School.

Ruth attended Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, Missouri, graduating with an Associates in Secretarial Sciences. While there, she met and later married Bruce Betts, eventually settling in Rolla, Missouri with their four children, Brian Betts, Debra Betts Neighbors, Darrel Betts and Norm Betts. Ruth was employed by the University of Missouri, Rolla for many years and her family was very active at First Baptist Church, Rolla.

In 1980, the family moved to Bartlesville, Oklahoma and Ruth began a 34-year career at Phillips Petroleum Company. She was known for her warm personality and sense of humor and was selected as the Substance Abuse Testing Coordinator when a new program was instituted in 1990. She loved getting to know everyone in the company and never missed an opportunity to brag about her children and grandchildren to all who were called to her office.

After a brief attempt at retirement, she happily returned to her position and ultimately retired in 2014 at the age of 78.

In May of 2023, Ruth's children finally succeeded in moving her and her beloved cat, Snazzi, to The Woodlands, Texas to be near Debra's and Darrel's families. Sadly, the time she had with them was to be short, but so precious. She suffered an unexpected illness from which she was recovering, when a complication occurred from which she unfortunately could not recover.

Ruth is survived by her former husband, Bruce Betts (Tulsa, OK); son Brian and daughter-in-law Kelly (Navarre, FL); daughter Debra (The Woodlands, TX) and former son-in-law Chris (Pearland, TX); son Darrel and daughter-in-law Tammy (The Woodlands, TX); son Norm (Pasadena, CA); her grandchildren Sarah, Michael, Logan and Hannah; and many, many nieces, nephews and friends.

Ruth was preceded in death by her father (1972), mother (1992), sister Lora Jean Davis (2008), sister Leah Pagel (2015) and brother Ralph Herron, Jr. (2018).

Ruth's greatest joys in life were her children and grandchildren. She was their unending defender and cheerleader, sacrificing and giving and loving beyond measure.

Visitation will be held on Friday, March 22nd from 10-11:30 a.m. Her celebration of life service will also be held at 11:30 a.m. Friday, March 22, 2024, in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and Saturday, March 23, 2024, in Rolla, Missouri, after which her ashes will be laid to rest with her family in St. James, Missouri.

Services are under the direction of Carter Davis and Davis Family Funeral

Home – Walker Brown Chapel, 4201 Nowata Rd., Bartlesville, OK 74006
(918) 333-7665. Online condolences and remembrances may be shared at www.DavisFamilyFuneralHome.com

The family wishes to thank the amazing Neuro ICU staff at Memorial Hermann Hospital, The Woodlands, for their competent and compassionate care of Ruth and her children during both her stays there. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the USO at <https://www.uso.org> in Ruth's name to continue her support of this organization.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Davis Family Funeral Home & Crematory - Walker Brown Chapel
4201 Nowata Rd
Bartlesville, OK 74006
(918) 333-7665
davisfamilyfuneralhome@gmail.com

Memorial Service

MAR **22**. 11:30 AM (CT)

Davis Family Funeral Home & Crematory - Walker Brown Chapel
4201 Nowata Rd
Bartlesville, OK 74006
(918) 333-7665
davisfamilyfuneralhome@gmail.com

Tribute Wall

KD

“ *My condolences to Ruth's family. She and I both worked at Phillips and had a number of heartfelt conversations. She was the kindest woman. I was thinking of her and Googled her name and saw she had passed. I know she is now with our Heavenly Father...*

Kathleen Davidson - November 03, 2024 at 11:59 PM

CD

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Carter Davis - March 22, 2024 at 03:58 PM

YF

“ *Your CPE Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth Irene Herron Betts.*

Your CPE Family - March 18, 2024 at 11:14 AM

YF

“ *Your CPE Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ruth Irene Herron Betts.*



Your CPE Family - March 18, 2024 at 11:14 AM

SX

“ Steve and barbara Smith xo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth Irene Herron Betts.

Steve and barbara Smith xo - March 18, 2024 at 11:06 AM

SX

“ Steve and barbara Smith xo purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Ruth Irene Herron Betts.



Steve and barbara Smith xo - March 18, 2024 at 11:06 AM

PN

“ Kids we are so sorry for your loss. Your Mom was always part of our family and she and my husband, Jim, loved to kid each other. They both had the same personality. We will miss her.

Pat Neighbors - February 07, 2024 at 08:28 PM

LF

“ So sorry to hear of Ruth's passing. I enjoyed working with her at ConocoPhillips!

Lynette Fleck - February 05, 2024 at 01:58 PM

KS

“ Debra, I am so sorry. Prayers for comfort!

Kim Foust Scherman - February 01, 2024 at 05:02 PM