



Mrs. Anita Morris Dent

October 22, 1921 - July 15, 2015

A celebration of the life of Mrs. Anita Morris Dent, 93, of Tyler, formerly of Henderson, will be held at 3 pm on Monday, July 27, 2015 at Marvin United Methodist Church in Tyler with Rev. Gerry Giles officiating under the direction of Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 4-6 pm on Sunday, July 26, 2015 at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home in Henderson.

Mrs. Dent passed from this life on July 15, 2015 at Prestige Estates in Tyler. Anita was born on October 22, 1921 in Henderson, the fourth of nine children born to James Allister and Lottie Lee Morris. She attended grade school at the Bethel Community School and graduated from Henderson High School. She then attended Kilgore College and completed her Bachelor's degree at Texas Woman's University. During the war, Mrs. Dent lived in Dallas with her Uncle David, her mother's brother, and worked at the Fondren Library on the SMU campus. Later in life she received a Master's degree in Library Science from Sam Houston State University. Anita had expert library skills and a penchant for accumulating and cataloging sources of media and she established and maintained a church library for First United Methodist Church Pasadena and a book library for Clarewood Retirement Home in the Sharpstown area of Houston as well as serving as a librarian in the Pasadena ISD for over 20 years and San Jacinto College.

Anita and George Frank Dent were childhood friends and schoolmates, even though he was older by five years, and were later sweethearts. On February 7, 1943, George had been drafted, and they chose to marry before he shipped out. So, on that Sunday, immediately after worship, before the congregation left, they said their vows and were married for 57 years until his death in 2000. George and Anita established residences in Henderson and later Pasadena and Houston where they lived for 48 years. She moved to Tyler in 2006 and was a member of Marvin United Methodist Church.

Anita loved to sing in choral ensembles and particularly enjoyed the sound of classical piano. She was devoted to George's singing and carefully followed her son Karl's professional singing career. She loved her grandchildren immeasurably and the music they made as a part of the Centenary College Choir and during holidays, other family gatherings, and reunions.

She was preceded in death by: her husband George Dent; parents, J. Al and Lottie Morris; son, David Dent; and siblings, Don Morris, Wendall Morris, and Carolyn Morris Cooper.

Survivors include: her daughter, Donna Dent Dahms and husband Michael of Tyler; son, Karl Dent and wife Robin of Lubbock; daughter-in-law, Camille Dent Thrasher of Henderson; brothers, Dale Morris of Sugarland, Ned Morris and wife Cathy of Kingsville, and Kenny Morris of Henderson; sister, Josephine Thrasher of Henderson; grandchildren, Jennifer Dent Hill and husband Dr. Stephen Hill, Candace Dent Chaney and husband Jack, Karen Dent Degenhart and husband Will, Jonathan Dent and wife Amber, Leah Dahms Perez and husband Milton, Ryan Dahms and wife Melissa, Sarah Dent Smither and husband Jonathan, and Lauren Dent; great-grandchildren, Cavett Hill, Kendrick Hill, Anna Grace Chaney, Zeke Chaney, Asher Chaney, William Degenhart, Alex Degenhart, Jackson Degenhart, David Dent, Caleb Smither, and Claire Smither.

Honorary pallbearers will be Dale Morris, Ned Morris, Kenny Morris, Dr. Guston Browning, Dr. David Nichols, and Buck Thrasher.

Memorials, in lieu of flowers, may be made to the Marvin United Methodist Church Library Fund at 300 W. Erwin St., Tyler, TX 75702.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at www.crawfordacrim.com.

Cemetery Details

Bethel Cemetery

CR 314
Henderson, TX 75654

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 26. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home
1414 South Main Street
Henderson, TX 75654

Service

JUL 27. 3:00 PM (CT)

Marvin United Methodist Church
300 W. Erwin St.
Tyler, TX 75702

Tribute Wall



“ *Crawford A.Crim Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Anita Morris Dent*



Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home - July 25, 2015 at 04:57 PM

SW

“ *My Dad has fond memories of the years he knew George at Park Place Methodist. Also, Dad says my brother, Rusty Wailes was in boy scouts with one of the boys. Dad, Joe Wailes had many church music friends all over Houston for 60 years and has fond memories of your family, Donna. What a joy for me to meet your Mom in Sunday School class at Marvin.*



Anita, rest in peace in the arms of the Lord.

Sandy Wilson and Joe Wailes

Sandy Wilson - July 27, 2015 at 11:06 AM

PP

“ Pud Patterson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Anita Morris Dent



Pud Patterson - July 27, 2015 at 08:34 AM

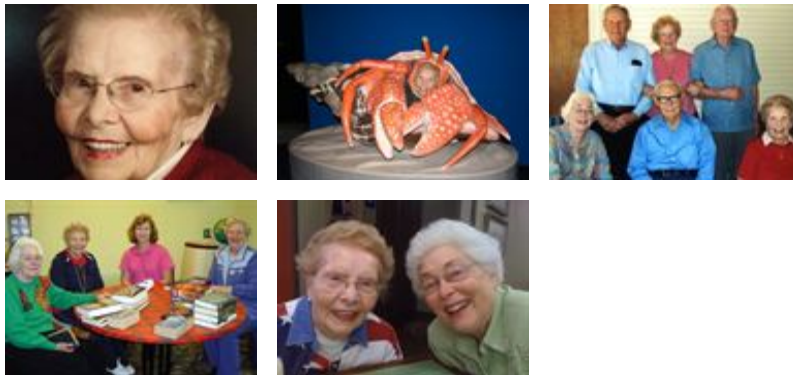
PH

“ Anita and George had a role in Dick (Hinson) and me getting married. We were in a singles Sunday School Class at Park Place Methodist Church, and George was determined we were going to fall in love, marry and be members of his church--which we did. We married in 1959, and we stayed close friends (eating out at Luby's) until George died. They were two of our best friends, and we love all you kids. Now George, Nita and Dick are waiting for me to join them in the big Luby's In The Sky. Sweet, sweet memories of all you!!!
Love you, Patty Hinson

Patty Hinson - July 26, 2015 at 02:30 PM



“ 278 files added to the album LifeTributes



Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home - July 25, 2015 at 04:24 PM

RD

“ Anita, Memaw, Aunt Nita, and Mom are the names I remember hearing her called. She wore many hats, but none fit better than the hat she wore as our comforter. She was always in tune everyone's needs- that explained our meals. She would always have everyone's favorite food- cheese toast, BURNT toast, Little Debbie Zebra cakes, macaroni and cheese, peas and cornbread, fresh tomatoes, and even a bowl of Lucky Charms for Jonny! She would swing the grandchildren, rock the babies, bandage the boo-boos and keep the bathroom warm, warm, warm. She bathed the little ones, giving adults some peace, made onion dip for our evening snack, and she always recorded our evening sing-alongs and theatrical presentations. Her "dress up closet" was the best, and every theatrical presentation was filmed as though each child was the star. To her, each child WAS the star. Memaw, you are our shining star!

Robin Dent - July 23, 2015 at 01:56 PM

LR

“ My condolences to the entire beautiful family and especially to my college suite-mate Donna Dent Dahms. Anita was an intelligent and very sweet woman who adored her family tremendously. That is why she lived such a prosperous and joyous life. I remember staying at her house in Pasadena with Donna and she and her husband Rev. George always made me feel like part of the family. The Lord has a special place for her in heaven!

Linda Rodriguez - July 22, 2015 at 09:54 PM