



## Esther Mae Underwood

April 21, 1931 - April 1, 2010

Esther Mae McPike Underwood Esther Mae McPike Underwood went to be home with Jesus on March 29, 2010 after a lengthy illness. She died peacefully at home with her loving family by her side. Esther was born on April 21, 1931 in Oakhurst, Texas. She is preceded in death by her parents, Ben and Jane McPike, husband, Walter F. Underwood, granddaughter, Jessica Poffinbarger, and grandson, Walter Lee Little. She was married to the love of her life, Walter Underwood for 57 years. Esther is survived by their four children, Donna Underwood Little, Dan Underwood and wife Melanie, Mary Underwood Poffinbarger, and Patti Underwood Smith. She had eight precious grandchildren: Mandy Little Dyer and husband Doug, Tyler Lee Little, Brandon Underwood and wife Ronda, Kara Underwood Novotny and husband Rob, Autumn Underwood McDonald and husband Wes, Alix Poffinbarger Harper and husband Jackie, Nicholas Smith and wife Ashley, and John Henry Smith, and wife Chelsea. She was blessed by her ten great grandchildren: Kori, Douglas, Dylan, and Bilee Jane Dyer, Zane Underwood, Emry and Keaton Novotny, Ella McDonald, and Braden and Logan Harper. She is also survived by her loving sister and brother, Lilla Grace Dixon of Dodge, Texas and Noble Dean McPike and wife Nancy of Conroe, Texas. She leaves behind many cousins, nieces, nephews, dear friends and especially her Church family at Oakhurst Full Gospel Church. Esther attended Oakhurst High School in Oakhurst, Texas and graduated in 1948 as Salutatorian. She loved school and never tired of learning. After having her four children, she persisted until she

graduated in 1968 from SHSU with honors, being a member of Alpha Chi Honor Society. She taught in Spring ISD as a fourth grade teacher, was a substitute teacher in Willis ISD for many years, and organized and taught Kindergarten at New Waverly First Baptist Church. She was a founding Board member of the New Waverly Public Library. Through the years she worked at Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, the Walker County Tax Office and as secretary for Walker County Judge Walter Cooksey. Many of her favorite pastimes included cooking, sewing, painting and studying the Bible. She taught Sunday school for 50 years at Oakhurst Full Gospel Church. Her first love was to serve Jesus with all her heart and care for her family. She loved to sing and was a member of the choir at New Waverly First Baptist Church for many years. She loved playing the piano and singing at Oakhurst Full Gospel Church. Esther and Walter enjoyed traveling with their dear friends Walter and Louise Cooksey. Following retirement, she continued traveling with her sister Lilla Dixon, her dear and faithful friends, Birdie Jo Blalock, Fanny Jean White, Jane Dixon, Dorothy Dixon, her daughter Donna Little and grandson Tyler. Together they traveled to most every state in the United States. Walter and Esther loved sharing their homes with their many friends in the ministry and with visiting evangelists and Pastors over the years. Esther was always an inspiration of grace and beauty to everyone who knew her. Her family would like to extend their appreciation and thanks to those who lovingly and faithfully cared for her during her lengthy illness. They include: Patience Montgomery with Compassus Hospice, Paulia Ward, Carolyn Hanselman, Onay Williams, and Faye Helmick. A service for Esther will be held Thursday, April 1, 2010, 11:00 a.m. at Oakhurst Full Gospel Church in Oakhurst, Texas with burial following at Hill Cemetery in New Waverly, Texas. Family will receive friends Wednesday, March 31, 2010, 5:00-8:00 p.m. at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville, Texas. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at [www.shmfh.com](http://www.shmfh.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Esther Mae Underwood*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *To the family: So sorry for your loss. May God give you strength. You will be in my prayers.*

**B. Niederhofer** - April 03, 2010 at 10:26 AM



“ *To the Underwood family: We were so sorry to hear the sad news about your loved one. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, and we are asking God to bless all of you during this difficult time.*

**Thomas, Jennie & Caren Hayman** - April 01, 2010 at 06:00 PM



“ *To Jo & Fannie Jean,  
I am so sorry for the loss of our beloved Mrs. Underwood. She was a special lady and will be missed by all that knew her. You are in my thoughts and prayers during this sad time. Love You...Jamie*

**Jamie Ellisor Brinegar** - April 01, 2010 at 10:40 AM



“ *We are so sorry for your loss. As I am sure you have already heard so many times - "she was a very special lady", but nobody had to tell you that because you already knew. Please know that our thoughts and prayers will be with you in the days to come.*

*Joe & Beverly Mayrant*

**Mayrant Family** - March 31, 2010 at 09:21 PM

DP

“ *What a wonderful woman! Not only was she godly, she was so very dedicated to her family and a wonderful homemaker. Remember those beautiful ties she made? And all those wonderful recipes... We all look for her name at the bottom of recipes when looking for something new. She finished well. We love you all.*

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**Debbie Pool** - March 31, 2010 at 03:11 PM

RM

“ *Ms. Mary Underwood-Poffinbarger & Family, I am very sorry to hear about the loss of you all dear loved one. May the blessings of our Lord continue to fall upon you and your many loved one is my prayer. Richard Matlock*

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**Richard Matlock** - March 31, 2010 at 02:44 PM

VD

“ *Dear Underwood Family, Losing a parent is one of the most difficult things we face in this life especially one as kind and sweet as your mother/grandmother. She loved each of you so much and was so proud of all that you have accomplished and for the Christian lives you lead. My memories of her through the many years that I knew her all include her sweet smile and gentle voice. Many of those memories are of her standing by your dad/grandad or singing in the choir during services at First Baptist. I know that you have so many more wonderful memories that will keep her alive in your hearts and minds. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Vergie*

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**Vergie Dotson** - March 31, 2010 at 02:19 PM

JT

“ I know this must be a difficult time for your entire family - what a sweet sweet lady. She is at peace. I will continue to pray for your family during this time.

*Jill Larrison Turner*

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**Jill Larrison Turner** - March 31, 2010 at 11:25 AM

LW

“ Danny & Melanie, please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. May God bless you with peace and comfort during your time of sorrow.

*Rob & Leslie Wright*

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**Leslie Wright** - March 31, 2010 at 10:55 AM

JS

“ You are all in our prayers for your loss. You have so many great memories as any of us blessed enough to have known your Mom.. New Waverly was all the better for her presence.

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**John & Marti Shaver** - March 31, 2010 at 08:39 AM