



## Ethel Lea (Woods) Minyard

April 6, 1935 - January 2, 2013

Ethel Lea (Woods) Minyard

Ethel Lea (Woods) Minyard, 77, of Huntsville, Texas, passed away at home on January 2, 2013, after a lengthy struggle with cancer. Ethel Lea was born on April 6, 1935, in Jasper, Texas. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ruel Woods and Cloie Day Woods.

Ethel Lea was the Salutatorian of the class of 1953 at Jasper High School. While in high school she was editor of the Bulldog Yearbook, Kiwanis Sweetheart and Duchess at the Dogwood Festival. She obtained her bachelor's degree in Business from East Texas Baptist College in 1957. While at East Texas Baptist College, Ethel Lea was a member of the Sigma Iota Chi Sorority and Social Chairman of the Junior Class of 1956. At the time of her death, she was a member of the "Golden Blazers" Outstanding Alumni Organization.

On June 14, 1958, Ethel Lea married the love of her life, Herbert Thomas Minyard in Jasper, Texas. She was an administrative assistant in public schools in Alief and Conroe, Texas and Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Ethel Lea loved attending her children and grandchildren's sporting events. She was active in teaching and directing Sunday school classes in the various towns and cities in which she lived. She also was a member of many clubs,

Aggie Moms, Christian Women's Club and was a past President of the Newcomer's Club in Huntsville, Texas.

She has been a lifelong Baptist and faithfully raised her family in a Christian home. Ethel Lea was reverent in serving the Lord and helping with missions. She was vivacious and brought joy when fellowshipping with others.

Ethel Lea is survived by her husband of 54 years, Herbert Thomas Minyard; children, Colonel Michael Thomas Minyard and wife Cheryl of Platte City, Missouri, Herbert Ruel Minyard and wife Darlene of Baytown, Texas; grandchildren, Thomas Minyard of Baytown, Texas, Courtney Minyard of College Station, Texas, Cody and Blake Minyard of Platte City, Missouri; sister, Sandra Whiteker of Conroe, Texas; niece, Leah Whiteker of Minneapolis, Minnesota; nephews, Justin Whiteker of San Antonio, Texas, Andrew Harrison of Houston, Texas, Booker Harrison of Austin, Texas; aunt, Agatha Mullins of Bryan, Texas; and numerous cousins and friends.

The family would like to give a special thank you to Odyssey Hospice and Sojourners Sunday School Department for their support.

Funeral services will be held for Mrs. Minyard on Monday, January 7, 2013, 10:00 a.m., at University Heights Baptist Church, Huntsville, Texas with Dr. Richard Rogers and Marion Fonville officiating. Interment will be held Monday, January 7, 2013, 3:00 p.m., at Evergreen Cemetery, Jasper, Texas. Family will receive friends on Sunday, January 6, 2013, from 4:00-6:00 p.m., at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville, Texas.

Memorial donations may be made to: University Heights Baptist Church "Go Mission Fund", 2400 Sycamore Avenue, Huntsville, Texas 77340.

Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at ww

[w.shmfh.com](http://w.shmfh.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ethel Lea (Woods) Minyard*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Herb,  
Please accept my sincere condolences on the passing of your wife.  
I am so sorry to hear about your loss.  
Although I never met your wife, I know how much she meant to you  
and your family.*

**Ted Schumann (UTP)** - January 16, 2013 at 07:22 PM



“ *I was saddened to hear of Ethel Lea's death. We had not been in touch for years but I thought of her often. She was my "little sister" at ETBC and a bridesmaid in my wedding so many years ago. She was always a good, loving friend to David and me and I have precious memories. I know we can never truly know the heart of another, but I do understand a bit of your loss since David went to be with the Lord a few years ago. Peggy Melton Bookout*

**Peggy Melton Bookout** - January 12, 2013 at 12:15 PM

HH

“ *Herb and Family,  
May God continue to grant you strength and courage for each day -  
He is so faithful! The fact God placed Ethel and me in the same  
Sunday School Class in Tallowood is one of His blessings in my life.  
In addition we were able to serve the Lord in Christian Women's  
Club - I remember several years ago when she invited me to your  
home after one of those luncheons. What a treat!  
She loved the Lord and others in such a humble way! We are  
poorer with her absence but heaven is richer.*

*Sincerely,  
Henriette Humes*

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**Henriette Humes** - January 07, 2013 at 11:56 AM

CB

“ *Herb, Darlene and family. We are very sorry to hear of your loss.  
Please know that you all are in our thoughts and prayers. Chris and  
Lorri Bonta*

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**Chris Bonta** - January 07, 2013 at 08:39 AM

MW

“ *Ethel Lea was one of the dearest, kindest, most optimistic and sincere women I have ever met. We got to know each other through Newcomers Club of Huntsville when my husband and I moved here in 2005. Ethel Lea was glad to meet me and from that first meeting, she treated me as a dear friend. Her positive attitude while in the battle with cancer was an inspiration to me and to all of us who knew her. We were blessed to have such strong, kind and thoughtful woman in our lives. I will not forget her and feel very honored to have known her. God bless you and your family in this time of grief, Herbert.*

*Marce Welch 1/6/2013*

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**Marce Welch** - January 06, 2013 at 07:53 PM

EM

“ *Dearest Minyard family, we are so happy that our paths crossed at Tallowood Baptist church in Houston, TX. We shared our dear friendship with the Fonvilles, our service together in the Pioneer Mission Assoc., our mutual love of the Aggies, and our love of the Lord. Ethel Lea was a wonderful person and we were blessed because she touched our lives. Blessings on all of you in these difficult times. Love, Roger & Lavonia Duck*

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**Ethel Lea Minyard** - January 06, 2013 at 05:27 PM

MR

“ Dear Herbert Thomas,  
I am so saddened to learn about Ethel Lea.  
While I do not know the perfect words to say or the exact thing to do to comfort you and your family, please know how sorry I am to hear of your great loss.  
My prayers are with you. She was so loved!  
(Glad for the time we had together at Anderson Elem. in Conroe.)

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**Margie P. Rodriguez** - January 06, 2013 at 12:13 PM

JW

“ What a glorious day for Ethel Lea as she stepped into Heaven and saw her Savior and loved ones who had gone on before. And what a sad day for you, Herb, and for your children and grandchildren in her loss here on earth. She was a dear member of our church and SS Department. We have missed you both since you moved, and I have prayed for her during this time of illness. Have not been able to reach you, but my prayers reached the Father, I know. I also know that He will comfort your aching heart as you begin the days without your sweetheart by your side. Our thoughts are with you, and our continued prayers. Jeannie and Howard West

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**Jeannie West** - January 05, 2013 at 08:07 PM

VF

“ My heart was saddened to know of Ethel Lea's home-going, yet I know that she is with the Lord and "free at last"; this is an awesome thought! When I first knew Ethel Lea, in Jasper a long time ago, I knew she was SOMEONE SPECIAL. It has been such a joy to hear from her, and Herbert Thomas in the last few years. May the Lord be exceedingly gracious to her loved ones as they face tomorrow. With Paul, I say Philippians 1:3, "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you."

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**Virginia Fineout** - January 05, 2013 at 04:06 PM

RF

“ *Herb, Darlene, and Family,*  
*We are so sorry to hear about your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of your. Ruth and Gay McKinley and Family*

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**Ruth & Gay McKinley & Family** - January 05, 2013 at 04:00 PM

JW

“ *Ethel Lea was one of the finest people I have ever known. She lived her life with grace, courage, and a good sprinkling of humor. My fondest memories include her care of my immediate family. Our children remember fondly that they went to Ethel Lea when I was out of the office for anything and everything they needed! She loved the Alief language arts specialists and took great pride in providing an excellent education to the district students. Like her family and other friends, we feel the loss of such a dear friend and fine person. Ken and I, along with Bill, Jeff, and Allyson, send our love to all the Minyard family.*

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**Judy Wallis** - January 05, 2013 at 03:57 PM

DJ

“ *What a remarkable gal Ms.Ethel Lea was to all!! The Lord has richly blessed you with a fine lady. May the Lord fill your emptiness with HIS love. We will continue to pray for you and your family.*

*Donnie & Anita Jones*

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**Donnie & Anita Jones** - January 05, 2013 at 03:18 PM

WM

“ *I pray God will comfort and give you strength in the coming days. You are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult and sad time. God bless you and your family.*

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**Wanda Morgan** - January 05, 2013 at 01:51 PM

MH

“ My prayers for strength and encouragement during the passing of a wonderful and loving person. She is a great role model for others to follow.

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**M Hyvl** - January 04, 2013 at 11:50 PM

PM

“ My deepest sympathies to all the Minyard family. Know that you are in our thoughts and prayers at this most difficult time. I hope you will be left with many happy memories, peaceful hearts, and gratitude for Ethel Lea's life, as well as for her love for you. I find comfort in the thought that she and our little Peter are in the same happy "orientation class" in heaven this week. peace and hugs to you...

*Patricia and all Darlene's Connecticut Cousins*

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**Patricia McKinley** - January 04, 2013 at 03:06 PM

RS

“ Our hearts are deeply saddened, and know Ethel Lea fought a courageous battle. She rests in glory now and she will truly be missed by all. Our family is blessed that our paths have crossed these many years and we are all better for it. Our heartfelt condolences and prayers to the entire family as the Lord sustains you in the coming days. Bless you all!

*Ray & Susie Schindler*

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**Ray & Susie Schindler** - January 04, 2013 at 01:50 PM

JT

“ What a gracious lady. She was always very kind and sweet to me and would send goodies to my office. I will miss her. My sincere condolences to all of the Minyard family.

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**Jerry Turner** - January 04, 2013 at 08:38 AM

SC

“ *Ethel Lea was a blessing to all! The love of God was evident in her life; never desiring to call attention to herself; always concerned with others and desiring to be of service. Even in sickness she continued to "run the race" in the most godly manner. How we shall miss her! How our hearts ache for Herb and the family! Heaven is surely a bit sweeter with our dear (completely healed) friend Ethel Lea there!*

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**Sharri & Donnie Calvin** - January 04, 2013 at 08:27 AM

SD

“ *Pat, Ross and I are so saddened to hear of Ethel Lea's death. The Woods family has been a part of our lives for as long as we can remember. We didn't know Ethel Lea had been ill and her death came as a shock to us. Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers. We all have fond memories of Ethel Lea and know you will have a missing piece in your lives. May God bless and comfort you in this difficult time. Sandra, thank you for letting me know.*

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**Sue Russell Dismukes** - January 03, 2013 at 11:44 PM

DP

“ *May Godwrap His loving arms around the entire family at this sad time. Herb, Darlene, and the kids and my family were close when they lived and taught in Huntsville. My prayers are with you. May God give you peace, rest, and comfort. Donna (Tyler) Paschall, Cody Phillips, Sara (Phillips) Muskrat, and Christina Tyler*

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**Donna (Tyler) Paschall** - January 03, 2013 at 05:59 PM

BC

“ *Ethel Lea was in our Sunday School class. She and Herb served our church in every possible way. One of the most remarkable was their visitations to the sick, hospital, and home bound. If anyone had surgery they would be in the waiting room with the family for support. Ethel Lea truly loved the Lord and it was evident in the way she lived daily. She was responsible for our prayer list and she continued to stand in front of our class asking for prayer request for others until she was too weak. She was one of the most dedicated, loving, person I have ever met. We will surley miss her.*

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**Bob & Kathy Cox** - January 03, 2013 at 03:29 PM

TC

“ *May your faith carry you in the days ahead. Our deepest condolences to your family.*

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**Tom and Susan Cook** - January 03, 2013 at 03:06 PM

CC

“ *Ethel Lea was my older cousin. I loved her and admired the way she lived her life. My bookshelves still boast the set of Shakespeare from Stratford-upon-Avon that she and Herbert sent me when I graduated from high school fifty years ago. My family photo collection is graced by many beautiful pictures of Ethel Lea. I will miss her. Knowing Ethel Lea was a blessing in my life.*  
*Cousin Carol*

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**Carol Corbin** - January 03, 2013 at 01:35 PM