



Frances Mitchell

January 12, 1931 - September 5, 2006

Frances Robinson Mitchell was born January 12, 1931 in Walker County. Her ancestry traces back to William Robinson who arrived in Texas in December, 1929. Frances died in Huntsville on September 2, 2006 at the age of 75 year. She worked with several very well known wardens of TDCJ for 45 years. She was known as the secretary and person to be “straight-forward”, “to the point”, and a trusting of those she loved. Every one had their individual jobs and she was eager to give the instructions. Her very special love was for Dalmatian dogs. Funeral Services for Frances will be Tuesday, September 5, 2006 at 2PM in the Chapel of Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home. Interment will follow in Cline’s Prairie Cemetery. Rev. Reagan Cooksey will officiate the funeral Services & interment. Frances was preceded in death by her husband C.D. Mitchell and survived by her brother and his wife, Louis & Lura Robinson, a niece, Lisa G. Farinella, a nephew, Linn Robinson and many much cherished friends and former work associates. The family wishes to share a very special “Thanks” to Bonnie Singleton and her daughters for their love and continued care of Frances. The family asks that Memorials be made to Pine Prairie Free Will Baptist Church, 77 Phil Wood Rd., Huntsville, Texas 77320

Tribute Wall



“ *Frances Mitchell*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM

DM

“ They say there are two sides to every story. Frances already put in her side about Mrs. M watching us out the kitchen window. What she did not put was that most of the time Mrs. M was watching because she knew me well enough to know she needed to keep a close eye on me... AND she did! I don't know how the weeping willow tree back there survived with all the branches she pulled off... I wasn't always alone in my escapades, usually Jack was there too. Of course to punish us fairly Jack would be locked in his pen and I inside the house. As much time as he and I spent digging up Mrs. M's flowerbeds you would think I would be better at growing things. For all of you really old timers here's one more good memory. Do you know who I thought was in charge whenever there was "one on the ground?" Mrs. M and my mother. The main reason was that I can remember them, on more than one occasion, sitting in the front yard, with a tea jug making between their lawn chairs, and different guards would ride up on horseback or in vehicles. I don't know that I ever knew what they talked to them about but I watched them talk to Mrs. M and my mother and just knew THEY were telling the guards what to do. Mrs. Mitchell probably was! You just don't know what a kid is thinking...

Then of course there is the 'fear factor' that I think all the Gooberville kids had of Mrs. M. It took close to 20 years before I realized that she was actually a nice person and not someone to truly be afraid of. Remember, I was just a kid she raised and did not work for her so for some of you there may have been greater reason to fear. When I got older Mrs. M and I actually had several good discussions about pretty much everything. In the last few years I got to discuss and share a passion with her that many may not know she had. Mrs. Mitchell liked to embroider and cross stitch. Picture it, Mrs. Mitchell sitting at the dining room table with a sharp needle in one hand and very sharp scissors nearby. And she laughed and had a good time while she sat there. My childhood memories of Mrs. Mitchell are countless but those few days sitting cross stitching are much more precious because I meet Mrs. Mitchell at that table and grew to like her as much as I already loved her and valued her. Growing up I equated the saying 'nothing to fear

but fear itself' with Mrs. M but know realize a more appropriate comparsion was 'don't judge a book by its cover.' If you think you knew Mrs. Mitchell ask others about her and you'll find out something you never knew.

As Francy's girls have grown up knowing Mrs. M it has been neat to watch them be towards her like Frank and I were as kids. The two Frances' always got along great and I don't remember a time when my sister seemed to fear Mrs. M like I did. I thought as I got older that it was because they both were in charge of it all. Fran's two girls were like us in that the oldest lost her fear of Mrs. M some time back and say the real Mrs. Mitchell whereas the youngest still isn't too sure. It is sad that she won't ever get to sit and visit and enjoy Mrs. M. So much has been lost. Ah, but to count it joy to know that I shall see her again.

To all of her family my prayers are that God will bless you not just with comfort but with joy that you will know Him as Mrs. M did. Some of our talks were really good. :)

Debbie Mims - September 07, 2006 at 10:25 PM

FG

“ *I cannot think of Mrs. Mitchell without remembering her watching my sister and I through her kitchen window while we played in the backyard (at Gooberville, of course). Mom didn't have to worry about us misbehaving, because Mrs. Mitchell was watching and WOULD TELL IT! She was truly straight forward and outspoken. She was, also, a true and dear friend to our family, and to those she counted as friends, and will be missed. I just know she is up above looking down over us all and taking note of those things we do of which she disapproves! May God bless and keep her family during this time of loss.*

Frances Mims Gattis - September 05, 2006 at 07:09 PM

KB

“ *Frances Mitchell*

kbaker - September 03, 2006 at 06:25 PM

DC

“ *Mrs. Mitchell was TDCJ. She ran a tight ship, she was the Warden behind the Warden. She gave anyone who asked advice and guidance. She didn't sugar coat it, always talked straight. She was a lady to be respected. RIP...*

Doyal & Kathy Caldwell - September 03, 2006 at 04:18 PM

RF

“ *I was on assigned to Eastham on Nov. 1st 1968. I became acquainted with Ms. Mitchell real quick and did not hang out around the front any longer than I had to. Later when we were assigned a house in Gooberville I got to know her and Mitch as neighbors She was a super lady and will be missed by all,RIP Frances.*

Ray and Kathi Forrester

Ray Forrester - September 03, 2006 at 12:34 PM