



Gladys Hightower

December 4, 1915 - January 30, 2007

Gladys Oneda (Scheffer) Hightower Gladys Oneda (Scheffer) Hightower, was taken by her Holy Father to eternal life on Saturday, January 27, 2007, to join her beloved husband of 40 years, Alfred "Dolly" Hightower. She was born on December 4, 1915, to Dave Oscar and Lonnie Monroe Scheffer, in Dacus, Montgomery County, Texas. She married Dolly Hightower, who was a descendant of a pioneer Walker County family, in 1931. Huntsville became her new home where they resided and reared their 8 children on "Possum Walk Road". She was preceded in death by one daughter, Mary Ellen Chron. Mrs. Hightower will be deeply missed by her 7 surviving children, daughter, Mona Minter, son, Don "Buck" and wife Mary Frances, daughter, Dolly Ann Koenning, daughter, Peggy Jean Kroesche and husband Milton, son, Clarence A. "Butch" and wife, Susan, daughter, Betty Clara Schatz and husband, Lyndon and son, Gerald Edward. She had 20 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, and 1 great, great grandchild, who knew her as "Ma". She was preceded in death by 2 of her grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild. She was a longtime member of the Second Baptist Church of Huntsville. Mrs. Hightower managed the snack bar at the old Huntsville Memorial Hospital until it closed. She then became a volunteer at the new hospital, where she was a member of the Huntsville Memorial Auxiliary, operating the gift shop until she was hospitalized. The family is very grateful to the staff at Ella Smither Geriatric Center who lovingly cared for her. Visitation is Monday, January 29, from 5 to 8 pm. Funeral services will be held Tuesday, January 30, at 2pm in

the chapel of Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home. Gary Garrison, Pastor of the Second Baptist Church will officiate. Interment will follow at the Addicks Addition of the Oakwood Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Second Baptist Church Building Fund. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.shmfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ Gladys Hightower

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ I am blessed to have known your mother and father, and all of you, too. Mrs. Hightower was definitely a "high tower" of virtue and grace. She carried out the Lord's last commandment to love one another so well. She also gave me my first lesson ironing handkerchiefs in that living room on Stubblefield Lake Rd 50 years ago!

Debbie Chandler Pool - January 31, 2007 at 06:21 PM



“ Dearest All,
We all are going to miss our Ma. I just want to thank everyone for planning such a dignified service for her. I'm sure she is really proud of her service and of all of yall. I am so glad that we are such a close family, even though we don't always see each other often . Also, thanks for being there for us. We love you all.
You all are in our thoughts and prayers.
Kim, Glen & Chrissy

Glen, Kim & Chrissy Gillis - January 31, 2007 at 11:43 AM



“ Mr. Buck and other family members, don't know whether you remember me or not, I was the SHSU Alumni Director from 1977 til 1992. So sorry about your Mom. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Norma Dell and Jerry D. Jones of Lovelady.

Norma Dell & Jerry D. Jones - January 31, 2007 at 08:29 AM

RT

“ i knew her as ma. she always had a big smile on her face. she always talked about how she loved her family dearly. she will be loved, missed, and never forgot by us the Taylor family. on behalf of being a member of Second Baptist I had the pleasure of knowing ma. I was filled with sorrow for my adopted aunt Stephanie.

renee taylor - January 30, 2007 at 08:59 PM

HH

“ **TO THE FAMILY OF ONE GREAT LADY!**
My thoughts and prayers, are with each of you. Mrs Hightower was always very special to me. I would always get my hug and the smile she had always at Second Baptist Church when she was able to be there. She was special in so many ways, may it bring you gentle comfort to know that others care. May it help you to remember that friends are always there. May the love and strength of family help you face tomorrow, and with time, may quiet memories help ease your sorrow. With Deepest Sympathy. Helen Harding

Helen Harding - January 30, 2007 at 08:37 PM

LL

“ We offer our sincere condolences to the Hightower Family. You all are in our thoughts and prayers through this difficult time.

Larry and Becky Leslie and family.

Larry and Becky Leslie - January 30, 2007 at 12:06 PM

JH

“ Peggy,
I was so sorry to hear about your mother. I always enjoyed working with her at the hospital -she will be sorely missed by all who knew her. She had such a gentle, sweet way with her and I can't remember seeing her out-of-sorts. You are indeed blessed to have had her as your Mother. All who knew her where richly blessed. May God richly bless you and give you comfort in this trying time.

Jimmie Haravey - January 30, 2007 at 10:27 AM

JL

“ *To the Hightower Family...Mrs. Hightower was a great person to know and feel I am a better person for knowing her. She will be missed and we will always remember her great smile. Your family will be in our thoughts and prayers.*
JJ & Leanne

JJ & Leanne Leslie - January 30, 2007 at 08:20 AM

DM

“ *My daughter Jodie Fullwood had the pleasure of being a pen pal with Mrs. Hightower since she was in the 4th grade. She's now 25 years old. Their relationship was unique and throughout the years that special love between the 2 of them was evident in many conversations. I appreciate the love Mrs. Hightower displayed to my daughter. As a nurse at HMH I witnessed her never ending compassion and love for MANY people. She was full of life, love and dedication to the people of Walker County. She will forever be remembered in our hearts. Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you.*

Donna Moore - January 29, 2007 at 07:26 PM

DU

“ *Our thoughts, love and prayers are with your family.*

Danny & Pam Upchurch - January 29, 2007 at 06:35 PM

JF

“ To the Hightower family....

Mrs. Gladys Hightower was an amazing woman. I had the honor of becoming her pen pal when I was in 4th grade...Roughly 16 years ago. I was in Mrs. Lynette Vogt's class and she had a project where her students picked pen pals from the Grandperson's Center and we wrote to them once a week. We also visited the Grandperson's Center a few times...I remember spending our Valentine's and Easter party with them. I started out with 3 pen pals. By the end of the school year, I had lost contact with the other 2. Over the next 8 years, our conversations became less often, but i still visited as regularly as I could and Gladys NEVER missed a birthday or holiday. I would always get a card and a little gift from her. Those gifts meant more to me than anything else. My senior year in High school, I ran into Mrs. Vogt again and we started talking about Gladys. I told her we were still partners and she called the Item. They ended up doing a front page story on the special friendship that Gladys and I developed. We continued to keep in touch over the years. The last time I saw Gladys was probably a year and a half ago. It's when she was at Green Acres. I transported a patient there (I'm a paramedic now) and when we walked in she was sitting in her wheelchair by the nurse's station. She never missed beat...it was her infamous "Well, I'll be! Jodie Fullwood!" We talked for a few minutes and I had to leave. I made it back to visit her shortly after that. I was thinking about her the other day, but at that point didn't know where to find her...I just want you all to know how much she touched my life. I considered her another grandmother. I didn't mean for this to be so long, but I wanted to share some of my fondest memories of such a special lady. She is in a better place now. God was ready to call His angel home. My condolences to the family. She will truly be missed. Jodie Fullwood

Jodie Fullwood - January 29, 2007 at 02:16 PM

RS

“ To Mona, Buck, Dolly Ann, Peggy, Clarence, Betty and Gerald...

I had the pleasure of knowing your Mother from the time I was a young girl on. As a young girl , I worked at the soda fountain of Addison Baker Drug. On Saturday, she would come to town with the family and spend many hours passing away the time, setting at the soda fountain eating peanut logs and visiting. I was also privileged to know several of you, I remember when Peggy met and fell in love with Milton, Oh Dear!!!

As years passed I would occasionally see Mrs. Hightower, she remained the same sweet person I had know as a young girl . She was a great person and raised a wonderful family..

My thoughts and prayers will be with all of you during this time of sorrow.

Ruth Greer Laskie Samuell

Ruth Greer Laskie Samuell - January 29, 2007 at 01:38 PM

BN

“Peggy, So sorry to read about your Mother. She was a very sweet lady and I have some good memories from high school. Sharese wants to send her condolences along with mine since she has not been at work since Thursday.

Betty, It has been a long time since I have seen you, but still my thoughts are with you during your time of loss. We are never ready to let our love ones leave us. You know she is in a wonderful place.

Buck, Please accept my sincere sympathy on the loss of your Mom. I wish she had been able to be here for the stories of the Second Baptist 50th celebration.

My prayers and thoughts are with the entire Hightower family.

Beverly Conner Niederhofer - January 29, 2007 at 01:12 PM

EH

“ Mrs. Gladys Hightower and I have been friends for almost 30 years. I met her when I started as a volunteer in the snackbar in the old hospital. Later, we both worked in the gift shop in the new hospital. I worked Tuesday mornings and she Tuesday afternoons. She always came early so we could "visit".

Mrs. Hightower was always interested in my travels, especially my trips to visit my family in Norway, and she was always willing to take my shift also when I had to be gone. She loved working in the gift shop and knew all the names of the hospital workers who came in our gift shop. I am so sorry that she became ill and was not able to see our new gift shop.

In August, 2005, I moved to Oklahoma to be near my daughters but visited with Mrs. Hightower every time I came back to Huntsville. After she moved to Ella Smither Geriatric Center, I used to meet Dorothy Hunter, and we'd spend the lunch hour with Mrs. Hightower. Gladys always remembered my name and was so happy to see me.

I shall miss Mrs. Gladys Hightower very much. She was a dear friend and a beautiful Christian lady.

Peggy and Mona, I loved your mother very much.

Love, Eva Van Hooser

Eva Van Hooser - January 29, 2007 at 12:40 PM

EO

“ *To the Hightower Family;
Our sincere sympathy goes out to you in your time of sorrow. I spent many Wednesday afternoons working with her in the Snack Bar at HMMH. She had a warm loving smile and words of encouragement every time you met her. She was a wonderful lady. I visited with her at the nursing center where she had her same loving smile. She was a Christian who loved the Lord and other people. You are in our prayers and thoughts.*

Edward & Hattye Owens - January 29, 2007 at 11:50 AM

GW

“ *My sincere sympathy to this family. Mrs. Hightower was one of the sweetest ladies I have ever known!! She was truly "the best of the best" in our church. My prayers, Geneva Walling, Second Baptist Church.*

Geneva Walling - January 29, 2007 at 10:04 AM

BI

“ *To all of the Hoghtower Family,
Pat and I were very sorry to hear of your loss.
We know she will be missed by every one who knew her. I know we will miss her and her pleasent Smile. She was as much of a mother to me as my own mother and always made every one feel at home. tell every one hello from us.*

*ALL OUR LOVE
Pat & Bobby Irvin*

Bobby & Pat Irvin - January 29, 2007 at 10:03 AM

SL

“ To all of the Hightower family. What a pleasure it has been to be a big part of the family. The fun we had the laughs, the food. (yum yum). She was the best cook in the whole world. The fishing trips and swimming at stubblefield lake. The summers we (The girls) slept in the breeze way and (the guys) slept on the porch, For Real. With no one standing over to be sure we did the right thing. We were all trusted to do our best and we did for her and Dolly because, we loved and respected them, and wanted to be part of the fun. They will all ways be missed but our memories will last forever. To all, our sincere condolences. Mrs Hightower is truley an angel. How great that she will be watching over us until we met again. We love you. Sid & Ellen

Sid & Ellen Leslie - January 29, 2007 at 09:22 AM

JB

“ To the Hightower Family, Your family is in our thoughts & prayers. Mrs. Hightower was a special lady & lived a long and eventful life. You could not think of the old HMH Snack Bar and not think of Mrs. Hightower. It was part of her happiness there & she liked spreading positive thoughts to those in need. I remember looking forward to going to the hospital with my Mom/Dad & they would let us stay in the snack bar while they visited sick friends/relatives there. We knew that we would get one of Mrs. Hightower's peanut buttter & jelly sandwiches. It must have been the love that she put into them because they were truly the best!S he will be missed but she will still be spreading her sunshine. God Bless You!
Jamie Ellisor Brinegar

Jamie Ellisor Brinegar - January 29, 2007 at 08:26 AM

TK

“ We offer our most sincere condolences to the Hightower family.
From the family of Jim and Ella Hightower
Cora H. Graefe and daughter Tracy
Jimmie Bob H. Brooks and son James

Tracy L Kadlecek - January 28, 2007 at 07:01 PM

K(

“ Buck and Mary Frances, So sorry so to hear about your mother.
She was a gracious lady, I know she will be greatly missed.

Kathryn Thomson McNabb (KT) - January 28, 2007 at 06:14 PM

TB

“ My condolences to your family during this time of grief....I had the
pleasure of working with Mrs. Hightower for years at HMH and will
always remember her smiling face and comforting words. She
touched many lives in the area and brought joy to people when they
were feeling their worst. Thank you for sharing her with us....our
lives are better for knowing and loving her too. Terri

Terri Bohanon - January 28, 2007 at 11:32 AM

NR

“ Ma was the greatest person in the whole wide world. She never had
a bad thing to say about anyone. She taught me to have a very big
heart and to find something good in everyone, regardless. Her love
was not for material things, but a true heartfelt love that was
definitely unconditional. We were all very blessed to have her. We
were taught by the best. Ma will be deeply missed. I am glad she is
not suffering anymore. I know she is laughing and talking with
everyone in Heaven. My heart goes out to my Aunts and Uncles.
May God bless you and soothe your aching hearts. Love, Natalie

Natalie Ruyle - January 27, 2007 at 06:09 PM