



## Jean A. Williford

December 19, 2013

Jean Alice Parman Williford, 95, died peacefully at her home in Huntsville, TX, Friday, Dec. 13, 2013, of complications from pulmonary fibrosis. Jean was born in Cleveland, Ohio Sept. 9, 1918, to Clarence and Catherine Parman. They had five daughters: Jean, Sister Rene, Doris, Mary and Joan. She graduated from West Technical High School in Cleveland, Ohio June 16, 1939. By Dec. 1942, Jean had become a registered nurse graduating from St. Alexis School of Nursing. Jean's love for her country, desire for adventure and an opportunity to see the world led her to join the United States Army in Feb. of 1943. During her years in the US Army, she served as 1st Lieutenant at the 118th General Hospital. Her only deployment was to New Guinea, Southern Philippines. She was there for exactly two years. She was the charge nurse, supervising the nurses in her unit and performing general nursing duties for the wounded and the sick. During her service in the army, she met her husband, Jasper M. Williford, a 1st Lieutenant in the Infantry. They married shortly after they were discharged on June 1, 1946. They had three children, Pat, Janis and Mike. They moved to Pittsburgh PA in 1954, and in 1963 moved to Houston, TX. Jean continued her education in Houston and in June of 1972 graduated from San Jacinto College as a Nursing Home Administrator. She was the Regional Manager for ARA Living Centers from 1976 until 1984 and received numerous awards for her performance, including Most Profitable Administrator. After her retirement she continued to do contract work for local nursing homes and worked as a marketing agent for

Girling Home Health Care until the late 90's. Jean loved her precious Maltese dogs, Katy and Jody. She lived near the Memorial City Mall and spent some of her retirement walking the mall with her husband and finding bargains. She was an avid reader, and reports in one of her memory books, to have checked out six to eight books a week from the public library during grade school. Her love for reading continued until her eyesight would no longer allow it. Jean loved her grandchildren and would take them bargain hunting with her when they would visit on the weekends. She was very generous to them and gave them gentle but powerful advice as they grew up. Jean and Jasper moved to Huntsville in July of 2002. They loved their home on Fairway, spending hours on the back porch watching the deer and other wildlife. After Jean's husband died in 2006, God sent five special angels to be her friends and helpers. Cathy Utecht, Diane Fuller, Evelyn Cox, Terry Seaton, and Barbara Riley went above and beyond as neighbors. They visited Jean, fed her, and gave her rides to church and to the doctor's office. They are true servants of the Lord and very special friends. They will tell you that Jean was a beautiful, fun-loving, straight-forward friend who didn't mince words. She was extremely strong and exceptionally strong willed. She had immaculate taste in clothing, jewelry, furniture and home decorating. She was smart and articulate and could spell any word you gave her. She turned out to be a pretty good public speaker and comedian, holding the attention of a room full of people at the Military Officers Banquet, keeping the laughs coming for over an hour at the age of 94. (YouTube: WWII Army Nurse, 94 years old! Part 1, also see Part2 and Part3) She was a special lady, as strong as they come. Jean is survived by her sons Patrick K. Williford of Houston, and Mike Williford, his wife Lisa, and Jean's four grandsons, Adam Williford of College Station, Eric Williford, Nicholas Williford and Cole Williford, all of Huntsville. Her four sisters, Sister Rene Parman, Doris Horrocks, Mary Kilbane, and Joan Todd, also survive her. Her husband, Jasper M. Williford and her daughter Janis Mary Williford precede Jean in death. A memorial mass will be held at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Huntsville Dec.19, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. The family will receive friends

and extended family in a reception at the church hall following the mass. Jean's desire was to be cremated and her remains will be interred at Houston National Cemetery where she will be placed to rest beside her loving husband. If your heart leads you to make a donation in Jean's memory, please consider The Wounded Warrior Project: Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675. Flowers may also be sent to Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at [www.shmfh.com](http://www.shmfh.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jean A. Williford*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Jean was a great lady. We had the privilege of living next door to her for 2 1/2 years on Fairway Drive. We have so many memories. She is with us all of the time. She touched a lot of people.*

**martinez family** - April 24, 2014 at 05:16 PM



“ *Mike ~ I'm so sorry for the loss of your precious mother. I know how much she meant to you. One of my most prized positions is the beautiful necklace she gave me years ago. Special prayers for you and your family.*

**Elaine Meadors** - December 27, 2013 at 10:10 AM



“ *Mike,*

*So sorry for your loss. I know you will miss her very much. I felt as if I almost knew her as you shared her life recently. Just know you and your family are in my prayers.-Phyllis*

**Phyllis Morrison** - December 19, 2013 at 10:08 AM

DF

“ Dear Michael,

*I am truly sorry for the loss of your Mother and my loss of a very good neighbor and friend. She was the shining star in our neighborhood and I truly enjoyed my talks with her. A very strong person for 95 years of age, but her joy of life and of her friends was very evident on how she looked at each day. As my granddaughter said to me, God has a new angel! God Bless you and your family during these times of sorrow and please feel free to call upon me at anytime if you need anything.*

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**Dianne Fuller** - December 17, 2013 at 08:46 AM

KU

“ Dear Michael and Lisa,

*Your family has lost a very precious loved one. I have lost a very precious friend and neighbor. Jean's grace, style, sense of humor, and passion for life is evidenced by her will to live 95 strong years. As important was her will to live all of those 95 strong years in the service to others. Her friendship, loyalty, and love will be missed.*

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**Kathy Utecht** - December 15, 2013 at 06:06 PM