



Kitty Elkins

July 15, 1931 - January 26, 2018

Kitty went home to be with her Lord and Savior early morning of Friday, January 26, 2018 with her loving family by her side. Kitty was born on July 15, 1931 in Levelland, Texas to Warren and Maudie McCollum. She was the last of eight children.

Kitty grew up in Tulsa, Oklahoma where in her senior year of high school, Wilson (Moose) saw her in a diner with five of her friends and he said to himself "that girl is for me!" After offering to give them all a ride home, he made sure he took Kitty home last to find out everything about her. After graduating high school, Kitty went to college in Kansas. While Kitty was away at college, Moose took her mother out for a root beer float every Thursday evening. When Kitty came home for Christmas break, her mother told her she should marry that good country boy. Kitty and Moose were married on January 20, 1951 and celebrated 67 years of marriage on January 20th of this year. Kitty was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend.

Kitty went with Moose overseas to Maracaibo, Venezuela, Islamabad, Pakistan, and Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. in the petroleum industry. After retirement, they moved to Conroe, Texas where Kitty wanted to try her hand at owning a restaurant. Kitty and Moose were very successful owners of the Garden Cafe in Conroe for over 26 years. Everyone loved the Garden Cafe as "Miss Kitty" made you feel like family! The Men's Breakfast Club met there every morning.

She was preceded in death by her son, Tim Elkins, parents Warren McCollum, Maudie McCollum, siblings: Iradell, Hazel, twins Herbert and Joe, Neva, Darwin, and Orwin (Bud).

Survivors include her daughters, Jann Elkins, Leesa Thompson (Woody), Kelly Jaafar (Ali), granddaughter Nadia Jaafar, grandson James Thompson IV, grandson Eric Thompson (Mariela), grandson Andrew Elkins, granddaughter Katie Yarbrough (Jamie), twin great-grandsons Ethan and Caleb Thompson, great-granddaughter Elise Thompson, and great-grandson Gabriel Yarbrough. Daughter-in-law (Andrew's mother) Linda Giddens (Mike), and numerous nieces and nephews, many other family and friends. Kitty will be greatly missed.

Contributions may be made to the Church or Charity of your choice in her honor.

Arrangements are entrusted to Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home.

A graveside service honoring the life of Kitty Elkins was held on Sunday, January 28, 2018 at the New Montgomery Cemetery with Biff Johnson officiating.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JAN 28. 2:00 PM (CT)

New Montgomery Cemetery
Old Plantersville Road & 105 West
Montgomery, TX 77356

Tribute Wall



“ *Kitty Elkins*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM

“ My grandmother Kitty: Terse, Tough, Short, and Beautiful

Terse: My grandmother held little back, she'd let you know if you needed a haircut, a tucked shirt, or just plainly if you needed to learn to smile a bit. You see, she was in the people pleasing business and she was the best at it. And if you weren't, well, you just weren't going to be a part of her team. She let all those that worked for her, and those that were related to her know that. Trust me. Family or employee, you either played by Kitty's rules or you went elsewhere. Terse.

Tough: She never asked anyone to do anything she wasn't willing to do herself. And she'd make sure you knew it if you chose to challenge her on it. She'd walk circles around you in a kitchen, an office, a dinner table full of guests, or simply cleaning silverware. She knew the way to do it, and if you didn't, tough. She was. Tough.

Short: My grandmother was short in stature but huge in life. I've never known a hug and smile that can be so warming, and inviting, and genuine. Those moments of pure love, I'll forever cherish, followed by, "now take out this garbage bag would ya". That made me chuckle so much, and I'd think of what I could do next before it was asked of me. Funny, the little things you miss. How I wish I could do one more chore. I'd do one more chore grandmother. You were anything but. Short.

Beautiful: My grandmother Kitty was the most beautiful "older" lady I knew growing up. I thought the world of my mother, and thought she was second to none. That is until my grandmother started spoiling me. I remember vividly thinking, why isn't my mother as keen to what I want to do as my grandmother was. She'd let me go do it, so why won't you? I laugh at that now, as I'm sure my grandmother did then. It was her turn to "let them loose", and run with that freedom we did. She enjoyed that I think. Watching her grandchildren run free into the woods and get lost, probably envying every moment, wishing she could go back and do the same. However, she never

stopped anyone from doing so. Running free as a child with every consequence that was sure to follow it, but she'd let you go, and learn. I learned so much from that grandma Kitty. Beautiful. You were Beautiful.

I'll miss you grandmother. Rest easy. "we've got it from here".
-James

James - February 09, 2018 at 11:20 AM

KJ

“*My mom was so full of adventure. She wanted to see the world! My dad came home one day and said they offered me a job in Venezuela, I think we need to pray about it. My mom said you pray and I'll pack! She LOVED the beach and we would go often in Venezuela and Abu Dhabi. She loved playing golf in Venezuela and Paskitan and learned to play a great game of tennis with my dad being our teacher. She met Ali first and that's how I found the best guy in the whole world. My mom WAS the party. I love you mom and I know we will rejoice in Heaven one day together.*

Kelly Elkins Jaafar - February 04, 2018 at 12:54 PM

BM

I didn't realize that aunt Kitty had passed away. I have not seen her in a long, long time. I think the last time I seen her was when me and Toby and Jennifer our little girl went to Conroe to visit them.

Brenda Gann McCollum - July 18, 2025 at 06:00 PM

WT

“ I will miss Kitty. When I first met her I didn't leave a very good 1st impression. She thought I was too old for her Daughter. But when Leesa and I got married 5 years later, Kitty welcomed me into her Family and her heart. She wouldn't often say so but I knew she loved me just like the rest of her Family. I have fond memories of spending many Christmases with all her children and grandchildren at her home in April Sound.

I will miss Kitty. But I'm grateful she was blessed with such a long and rewarding life. I'm grateful she was able to celebrate her 67th Wedding Anniversary with Moose. And I'm grateful she was able to do something many people are not able to do- hold her Great Grandchildren in her arms.

Rest in Peace, Kitty.

Love, Woody Thompson

Woody Thompson - January 29, 2018 at 12:08 PM

TP

“ *What a lovely service! I am convinced that "Miss" Kitty would have loved it. The music was perfectly chosen. Andrew's rendition of Amazing Grace was amazing. We cried, but not too much. We laughed, but again, not too much. I think a perfect balance was struck by the beautiful words that Pastor Biff Johnson iterated when he reminded us that it is we who are in the wrong place, not Kitty.*

Kitty enjoyed her time here. She loved to talk to people. She thoroughly enjoyed her time at the Garden Cafe. She enjoyed sharing stories with the customers, and always got them to tell their stories too. Whenever they told her things, she would never forget. She could tell you about everyone who had ever come in the door.

She was always very honest and open. Unfortunately, sometimes she didn't think about how it would sound before she said something. I am thinking specifically of one time in particular. A woman walked in with a beautiful eyelet lace skirt on. After a few minutes of talking with the lady, Miss Kitty said to her, " What a beautiful skirt! It reminds me of a tablecloth." In her mind's eye she was picturing a "special occasion" tablecloth from her youth made of the most beautiful lace. She and I laughed about that many times throughout the years.

Kitty and I sometimes had our differences, but I know in my heart that she loved me as much as I love her. Rest in peace Miss Kitty. You are in my heart, so you are not gone, however, you will be missed!

Tresa Pokorski - January 28, 2018 at 06:54 PM

H?

“ *Hershel And Edna Short ?? lit a candle in memory of Kitty Elkins*



Hershel and Edna Short ?? - January 28, 2018 at 04:06 PM



“ *Celia Cole lit a candle in memory of Kitty Elkins*



Celia Cole - January 28, 2018 at 03:05 PM

TP

“ *Tresa Pokorski lit a candle in memory of Kitty Elkins*



Tresa Pokorski - January 28, 2018 at 09:54 AM



“ *Miss Kitty, you were an inspiration to me! You gave me a chance and taught me a lot. You will be so missed. Go rest high on that mountain! Kelly and family I am here if you need me. Love Celia*

Celia Cole - January 27, 2018 at 10:27 PM