



## Mary Etta Yates

February 19, 1935 - June 28, 2015

Mary Etta Yates was called home to her Lord and Savior June 28, 2015. She was born to Lawrence and Lillie Mae Fletcher on February 19, 1935 in Sparta, Tennessee. Mary Etta was raised in the mountains of White County Tennessee until her teenage years when her family moved to Charleston, South Carolina. There in Charleston in 1952, at a five& dime store, she met her marine and husband, Robert Augusta Yates, Jr. He brought her back to Texas with him where they began their life together.

Mary Etta was an exceptional wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, and friend to so many. She gave selflessly of herself to her family, and she dedicated most of her life to helping the people of Walker County working at Huntsville Memorial Hospital for over 25 years. She also worked at the Walker County Courthouse where she served the commissioners. Her most gratifying work was through Ella Smither where she was very loved and touched so many lives of patients and their families. Mary Etta also served on the board for the Walker County Housing Authority for many years, and she loved to play 42 at the Senior Citizen Center. She was also a cherished member of Cook Springs Baptist Church and had foremost love for her Lord. Mary Etta loved planting flowers, reading, and she loved to travel and shop. She had a great love for her family and was very involved in the lives of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was truly a blessing to those around her and will be forever missed by her loved ones.

Mary Etta is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Debbie and Mike Skidmore; sons, Robert Yates; son and daughter-in-law, Steve and BJ Yates; granddaughter and husband, Sandy and David Newman; grandson and wife, Joe and Katy Tyler; grandson, Cody Yates; granddaughter, Mandy Yates; grandson and significant other, Cliff Yates and Holly Amick; great-grandchildren Morgan, Gus, Blake, Savannah, Ty, Tori, Colby, Gracie and Leighton; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Don and Mary Yates; sister-in-laws, Norma Hardy and Martha Fletcher; many other nieces, nephews, family members and friends. She is preceded in death by her husband, Robert Augusta Yates, Jr.; father, Lawrence Fletcher; mother, Lillie Mae Dodson Fletcher; brother, Carrol Fletcher; father-in-law, Robert Augusta Yates, Sr.; mother-in-law, Jane Alice Yates; and special friend, Roy McWhorter.

The family would like to give special recognition and thanks to her friend and caregiver, Jill Jones.

The family will received friends from 5:30 PM till 7:30 PM on Tuesday, June 30, 2015 at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville, Texas. A funeral service will be held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, July 1, 2015 at Cook Springs Baptist Church in Huntsville, Texas. Interment will at McAdams Cemetery in Huntsville, Texas.

Memorial donations may be made to Cook Springs Baptist Church in Huntsville, Texas.

Memorial condolence may be made to the family at [www.shmfh.com](http://www.shmfh.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 30. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville  
1700 Normal Park Dr.  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
(936) 291-7300  
belinda@shmfh.com

## Service

JUL 1. 10:00 AM (CT)

Cook Springs Baptist Church  
1936 State Highway 75 N  
Crabbs Prairie, TX

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Etta Yates*



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**Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home** - June 30, 2015 at 08:20 AM



“ *Mary Etta Yates*

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November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Such a special woman and an honor to have known and worked with her at Ella Smithers.*



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**Sue (McCarty) White** - August 09, 2015 at 06:38 AM



“ *I just read this on the SHMFH website or I would have been there for her service. I met Mary through Roy McWhorter. His daughter, Sherry, and I have been friends for years and years. He and his family thought the world of Mary. The last time I...*



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**Mellicent Wiley** - July 02, 2015 at 01:41 AM

JM

“ *Debbie and boys,  
Some of my fondest memories are of working with your mom at  
HMH! Quick witted, funny, tactful, compassionate. . . a devoted  
mom to her kids. Even years later when I bumped into her she  
remembered to ask about my husband, Don.  
I didn't learn of her passing until minutes ago or I would have come  
to her service.  
Please know I am so sorry for your loss.  
Janet McMillan*

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**Janet McMillan** - July 01, 2015 at 12:49 PM

JT

“ *My beautiful memaw....you an I had a relationship very few  
grandsons have an opportunity to experience....you were and will  
always be one of my best friends....my heart has broken and I will  
miss you so dearly...but I know you'll never be further than a  
whisper away....I love you....your little Joe T*

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**Joe Tyler** - July 01, 2015 at 12:12 AM

EF

“ *Deepest condolences to the Yates family at  
this sad time.*



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**Eastman Family** - June 30, 2015 at 10:27 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Etta Yates.*



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June 30, 2015 at 04:48 PM



“ *Mary Etta was like a second mother to me. She was the most beautiful person I've ever known, inside and out. She will be missed. My prayers for the family, may you find peace and comfort in the days ahead. Debbie, Robert and Steve I loved your Mom.*

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**Lee Ann (Shelly) Victory** - June 30, 2015 at 03:58 PM



“ *Lee Ann (Shelly) Victory lit a candle in memory of Mary Etta Yates*



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**Lee Ann (Shelly) Victory** - June 30, 2015 at 03:55 PM



“ *Martha Grisham lit a candle in memory of Mary Etta Yates*



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**Martha Grisham** - June 30, 2015 at 11:45 AM

MG

“ *Debbie, Robert, Steve and family, Larry and I are so sorry to hear about Mary. She was such a wonderful person and we both loved her very much. She will be greatly missed.  
Much love to all of you.*

*Larry & Martha*

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**Martha Grisham** - June 30, 2015 at 11:44 AM

GW

“ *Our deepest sympathy to you at this time of sorrow. Although it's difficult today to see beyond the sorrow, may looking back in memory help comfort you tomorrow. We are praying for your comfort in the days ahead. Our girls Erika & Kaylynne Wright will NEVER forget your mother for the sweet potato casserole she shared with them 17 years ago when Douglas received his Kidney transplant and they were home Sweet potato casserole has been a tradition item on holidays in our family since that day (smile). God bless you and keep you in His tender care and love for all eternity.  
The Wrights ( neighbors) Douglas, Gail , Erika & Kaylynne*

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**Gail Wright** - June 30, 2015 at 11:43 AM

GR

“ *My heartfelt sympathy and prayers go out for the family of Mary Etta. She was a dear friend and one of the sweetest people I've ever known!*

*Geneva Russell*

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**Geneva Russell** - June 30, 2015 at 11:40 AM

CW

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you. She was a very special lady.  
Much Love, The Andy Walker Family*

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**Caroline A Walker** - June 30, 2015 at 11:13 AM

WA

“ *TO;  
Debbie & Family, were so sorry for your lost. Your mother was a  
very sweet person.  
Our thoughts & prayers are with all of you.  
GOD BLESS  
D.C. & Wanda Avritt*

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**wanda avritt** - June 30, 2015 at 09:21 AM

CW

“ *Steve, Robert and Debbie,  
So sorry to hear of your loss. All of you are in my thoughts and  
prayers.  
Cathy Hayman Warren*

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**Cathy Hayman Warren** - June 30, 2015 at 09:06 AM

SU

“ *Debbie and Sandy It was my pleasure to have known this great  
lady. May God Bless and keep you from pain and sorrow in your  
time of loss. Suzanne Thompson*

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**Suzanne** - June 30, 2015 at 08:18 AM

JE

“ Dear Debbie and Family,  
You may not remember me but, your mother and my mother, Barbara, and Claire would get together and play cards all the time. They would travel together from time to time. You and I went to high school together. I will cherish the memories of our loved ones playing cards at Barbara's house and the few trips they took together. Remember when they went to go see "The Oakridge Boys"??? They had such a good time! My mother spoke about it so often (Freddie White). We would laugh so hard at some of the stunts they pulled!  
I know you will miss her terribly. You and your family are in my thoughts. She was such a joy/pleasure to be around. My sisters (Joyce and Millie) send their condolences .  
It blesses my heart to know that Mary, my mother, Claire, and Uncle Morris are together in heaven...playing cards:)



*In Christian Love,  
Jeanette*

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**Jeanette** - June 30, 2015 at 07:40 AM

JM

“ So sorry for your loss. It was a pleasure to have known and worked with Mary. She had a way of making everyone smile. Brings back lots of memories. Sending prayers for the family. Lew & Judy McDonald

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**Judy McDonald** - June 29, 2015 at 11:59 PM



“ *Debbie and family, So sorry for your loss. Mary was an amazing woman that touched every life she came in contact with and had the ability to make everyone smile and feel loved. A beautiful lady all around...my heart is with you all... Terri Bohanon and John-Randall Mauldin*

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**Terri Bohanon** - June 29, 2015 at 11:23 PM

HJ

“ *Mary was my special friend. We enjoyed some travels. She would go to Uvalde, Texas with me to visit my mother, who was her neighbor years ago. She will be missed by all. Special blessings for her children, Debbie, Robert and Steve and grandson, Cody. God Bless  
Luther and Helen Jones*

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**Helen Jones** - June 29, 2015 at 08:08 PM

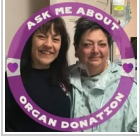
SC

“ *Sherry Carter lit a candle in memory of Mary Etta Yates*



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**Sherry Carter** - June 29, 2015 at 06:50 PM



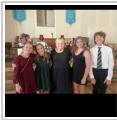
“ I am so very sorry for the loss of your Mother, Robert E. Yates! She was always like a ray of sunshine after a hard rain...so happy & always smiling! i remember her working for the commissioners and she was such a blessing to them and their families! She is so blessed in that she just went to sleep in our Lord Jesus's arms and did not have to suffer in the end!! Sending your family hugs & MUCH LOVE... God Bless!!

Jamie & Don Brinegar



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**Jamie Sue Brinegar** - June 29, 2015 at 06:04 PM



I just read this on the SHMFH website or I would have been there for her service. I met Mary through Roy McWhorter. His daughter, Sherry, and I have been friends for years and years. He and his family thought the world of Mary. The last time I remember seeing her was at Roy's funeral. She was such a sweet and precious lady. I really enjoyed being around her. I am so sorry for your loss. I just stopped to pray for your family.

Mellicent Sikes Wiley  
& Family:  
Bobby II  
Heather & Jason & twins Taylor & Tyler  
Heath  
Justin & Joanna & daughters Tess & Tori

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**Mellicent Wiley** - July 02, 2015 at 01:33 AM

GL

I was so saddened to hear of Mary's passing. I'm sorry I was unable to attend her service. Mary was such a wonderful person! We worked together at HMH in the 70's and I'll never forget how much she helped me when I first moved to Huntsville. I am so sorry for your loss.

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**Georgette Lawson** - July 03, 2015 at 06:06 PM