



Willie Fitzgerald

July 29, 1914 - January 3, 2007

Willie Evelyn Archer Fitzgerald (Mimi) beloved wife, mother, sister, grandmother, aunt and friend joined her Lord in Heaven on Sunday, December 31, 2006. Willie was born July 29, 1914 in Oletha, Texas to Spencer and Bessie Mae Sadler Archer. They moved to Riverside, Texas when she was very young where her parents operated a general mercantile store for many years. In 1935 she received her BA from Sam Houston State Teacher's College and began her teaching career in Walker County. On August 18, 1940 she wed LV Fitzgerald and in 1946, they moved to Baytown. She continued her education and in 1954 received her Master's Degree in Education from the University of Houston. She taught at Travis Elementary until 1972, when, after LV's retirement, they would return to his family land in Riverside. She continued to teach at Stewart Elementary in Huntsville until her retirement in 1975. She touched the lives of countless students during her 33 years as an Educator. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, LV and her sister, Elna Mae Jenkins and brother-in-law, Douglas Jenkins. With her as she passed peacefully from this world were her son, Larry V. Fitzgerald from Riverside, and daughter, Sharon Spencer Rhatigan from The Woodlands, Texas. They were shortly joined by Brother Jim Newton, her pastor at Riverside Baptist Church, who proclaimed to Heaven the arrival of this remarkable woman and a true believer in the Word of God. In addition to her children, she is survived by two loving grandchildren, Sarah Spencer Rhatigan of New York City and Sean Courtleigh Rhatigan of Boulder,

Colorado; son-in-law, Steven Courtleigh Rhatigan, The Woodlands; niece, Montyne Clayton and husband, Patrick of Houston. She also will be missed by a large number of other relatives from the Fitzgerald, Archer and Sadler families along with numerous friends, such as her companion Fannie Lewis, who assisted her with daily life during these last years; Bernie Rhodes, a longtime Baytown friend and fellow teacher; and Linda O'Banion, a friend for many years. Pall Bearers will be Pat Clayton, Bill Wilson Fitzgerald, John Earl Turner, Bill Fitzgerald III, Bill Turner, Sidney "Trig" Cowart, Bill Dawson, Turner O'Banion, Joe Sadler, Bill Sadler and David Sadler. Honorary Pall Bearers are Orys Gunstream, Delton Stokes, Jack Haney, Fredrick Weinzierl, Harold Clancy, Gus Bowden and Robert Warren. She was a life long member of Riverside Baptist Church; Delta Kappa Gamma/Epsilon Psi Chapter, Baytown; and an active member of the Walker County Retired Teacher's Association. Funeral Services will be held at 11:00 am on Wednesday January 3, 2007 at the Riverside Baptist Church Riverside, Texas. The Family will receive friends on Tuesday January 2, 2007 from 6-8 pm at the Chapel of Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home 1700 Normal Park. Internment to follow at Pioneer cemetery in Riverside, TX. Contributions may be made in Willie's honor to: Riverside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 9 Riverside TX 77367; or American Heart Association, 10060 Buffalo Speedway Houston TX 77054: or the charity of your choice. Condolences may also be made at www.shmfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Willie Fitzgerald*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *To the Fitzgerald Family: I remember Mrs. Fitzgerald from Stewart Elem where I was the secretary for the front office. She gave me a glass apple one time and told me to always remember that "children grow up to be what we mold them into". That was 32 yrs ago & I still remember that beautiful lady. She will be missed.*

Katrina Thomson - January 09, 2007 at 01:32 PM



“ *Dear Sharon & family - I remember your mother as a lovely lady. I am sure that you have wonderful memories of her and will miss her deeply. You are in my prayers.*

Carla Jackson Start

Carla Jackson Start - January 03, 2007 at 09:13 PM

WM

“ To the family of Willie Fitzgerald:
I taught with your mom and grandmother at Travis Elementary in Baytown for several years. I came to Travis in 1968 as a first-year teacher, and was immediately impressed by "Mrs. Fitzgerald" as I always called her. I was in awe of her and Mrs. Rhodes as well. They always were so nice to me and, even though they taught in the upper grades, they found time to encourage me and the other new teachers. She will be missed by all who knew her.

*With sincere sympathy,
Wynona Montgomery*

Wynona Montgomery - January 02, 2007 at 11:03 PM

SL

“ *Larry and Sharon: Your mother was one of the nicest people I've ever met. I cherish the picture of her taken at her 90th birthday party, which she sent me. The world was a much better place because she was here with us. She will be remembered as a dear friend. Love, Mae Sue Davis Leslie*

Sue Davis Leslie - January 02, 2007 at 04:52 PM

ES

“ *Larry and Sharon our prayers are with you. Your Mother was kind and caring. You were blessed to have her with you for so long. God bless all your family.*

Vernon&Elizabeth Cowart Smith

elizabeth cowart smith - January 02, 2007 at 11:18 AM



“ *Larry, sorry about the loss in your family. Take care. Norma Dell Jones of Lovelady, TX*

Norma Dell & Jerry D. Jones - January 01, 2007 at 04:49 PM



“ *Willie Fitzgerald*

December 31, 2006 at 05:10 PM