



Bernice Thompson

December 4, 1915 - December 3, 2014

Bernice Groves Thompson was born in Oklahoma on December 4th, 1915. She passed from this life on December 3, 2014 in Santa Ana, California. She traveled with her family as a young child in a covered wagon pulling their “milk cow” to Hot Springs. At 11 years of age, Bernice was the first in her family to accept Christ as her Savior, bringing her family to church soon after.

She married Madison J. Groves in 1934 and they were married for 47 years until Madison’s death in 1981.

They always made church a priority for their family. Not only were they strong supporters in their local Assemblies of God Church, Gideons International, but they were also active and well respected in the community of Hot Springs.

One evening at home, Madison and Bernice made the piano bench their altar and prayed that God would supply the financing to open a home for orphaned children, which was the dream of Gladys Hinson. God did answer their prayer and directed them to help establish Hillcrest Children’s Home where they faithfully served this ministry over 65 years.

In 1988 Bernice married Reverend Raymond A. Thompson who became a wonderful companion to her for 11 years. During their time together, they ministered in many churches throughout Arkansas. After Raymond’s death,

Bernice moved to California and made it her home for 15 years.

She is survived by four children and their spouses, Jeanette (Reverend Ben) Sapp, Carolyn (Jon) Silvester, M. Jerry (Marlene) Groves, J. Robert (SherriKay) Groves, 20 Grandchildren (w/8 spouses), 19 Great-Grandchildren (w/3 spouses) and 2 Great-Great Grandchildren. Three stepsons and spouses, Jerry (deceased) & Karen Thompson, Bill & Louise Thompson, Reverend Glen and Linda Thompson.

Friends and family members are invited to a visitation at Hot Springs Funeral Home, January 10th from 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. followed by the Graveside service at 11:30 A.M. at Godwin Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in honor of Bernice Groves Thompson and sent to: Hillcrest Children's Home, 2325 Malvern Ave., Hot Springs, Arkansas 71901.

Tribute Wall

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“ Jeanette, Carolyn, Jerry & Rob - I'm so glad that I was able to visit with each of you on Saturday at your mom's memorial. She is absolutely unforgettable, as was your father. Their Christian legacy is strong in their 4 children, grandchildren and the generations to come; and the impact they made on friends and others may never be known on this side of heaven. God bless you all. Much love,
Janet Henderson Phelps

Janet K Phelps - January 12, 2015 at 03:31 PM