

Spindle, Verna Ruth (Pharr) | 1925-2017

Published Saturday, August 5, 2017



Verna Spindle

Verna Ruth Spindle, 92, died Thursday, Aug. 3, 2017, in Gainesville.

Funeral is 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 5, at First Baptist Church of Valley View. Burial will follow at Valley View Cemetery. Coker Funeral Home in Sanger is handling arrangements.

Ruth was born Jan. 10, 1925, in Pickton to Edd and Dora Ethel Alford Pharr. The family moved to Valley View, where she met Clifton Horace Spindle. He became her soul mate, best friend and the love of her life. They married Nov. 16, 1940, and their union lasted 70 years.

Though she spent most of her life devoted to raising her children and helping on the farm, she had one stint in her later years working in the justice of the peace office in Valley View where she spoiled the highway patrolmen of Cooke County with her infamous cream pies.

Ruth loved spending time at their cabin on Lake Texoma and at their winter home in Port Isabel. She also loved traveling with Clifton in their RV. They were equally avid fishermen and dropped a hook every chance they got. Ruth was always at the ready for wicked games of dominos and Skip-Bo. She also enjoyed sewing, knitting, crocheting and painting. Her favorite pastime, though, was family gatherings and spoiling her many grandchildren. Ruth was a kind and gentle soul. She had a loving and generous heart and always opened her arms to others. She had a quick wit, a devilish smile and an infectious giggle. She will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

Ruth was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; grandson David McFarlin; granddaughters Ashli Spindle and Courtney Smith; son-in-law Teddy Barclay; grandson-in-law Roman Juarez; and granddaughter-in-law Beth Straubmueller.

She is survived by her daughters, Jeanette Doty of Denton, Sue Luthi and husband, Dick, of Gainesville, Annette Straubmueller and husband, Mort, of Corinth, Kay Barclay of Valley View and Joye Williams and husband, Mack, of Sanger; son Cliff Spindle and wife, Trina, of Valley View; 38 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; and 15 great-great-grandchildren.

Other survivors include brother-in-law Floyd Spindle; sisters-in-law Joann Belz and Frances Helton; special nephew Howard Ashcraft and wife, Frieda; and lifelong special friend (little sister), Evelyn Anne Calhoun.

Memorial donations may be made to the ALS Association (alsa.org) or to a charity of choice.