

## Bowers, Rebecca 'Becky' Mae (Shay)

1924-2021

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Rebecca Mae Bowers

Decatur ~ Rebecca "Becky" Mae (Shay) Bowers, 97, went to be with our Lord Saturday, June 5, 2021.

Becky was born Feb. 11, 1924, to Chris W. and Willie Mae (Wright) Shay in Progresso, N.M. Her parents had migrated from Texas in the early 1920s in a mule-drawn wagon. Becky's schooling began in New Mexico and then continued in Bisbee, Ariz., where her father moved the family so he could work at the Copper Queen Mine. She met her first and second husbands in Bisbee. In addition to Arizona, Becky was a homemaker in Washington, California, Florida and finally Texas, as she accompanied her husbands over the years.

During World War II, she was a rivet bucker in a defense plant in San Diego. Becky was an avid bowler, often competing in mixed leagues with her second husband, John. In later years, she loved to sew, read and play bingo at the senior citizens center in Decatur, where she lived the last 17 years of her life. Becky moved there following the death of her third husband to be closer to her beloved younger sister,

Irene, who preceded her in death in 2008. Becky was a member of the First Baptist Church of Decatur.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Willie Mae and Chris Shay of New Mexico; her three husbands, Lawrence Edward Carter of California, John Alvaro Schreiber of Washington and William James Bowers of Texas; her son, Larry Ronald Carter of Washington State; two sisters, Willie Christine Dominguez of Bisbee, Ariz., and Francis Irene Willbanks of Boyd and her stepson, Mark Bowers of Colorado.

Those left to cherish her memory are her sons, John Shay Schreiber and wife, Polly, of Olympia, Wash., and Donald A. Schreiber and wife, Trish, of Warren; two stepchildren, John Bowers and wife, Debbie, of Virginia and Innis Lusk and husband, Joe, of Colorado; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; numerous loving nieces, nephews and their families, who were active in her support and care in the later years of her life – particularly Susie Butler of Decatur, Danny Willbanks of Rhome, Michael Willbanks of Boyd, and Lisa Herring of Rhome; and a host of friends.

