Stallard, Esther Irene (Holloway)

1937-2021

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Esther Irene Stallard

Esther Irene Stallard went to be with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2021, in Decatur.

Funeral is 10 a.m. Friday at Hawkins Funeral Home in Decatur with burial at Oaklawn Cemetery. Family will receive friends 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. The Stallard family will officiate. Pallbearers include Austin Stallard, Ethan Stallard, Cole Stallard, Carlos Gutierrez, Jose Barragan, Ben Stallard, Ryan Stallard and Mike Ohanesian.

Esther was born Nov. 13, 1937, to Irvin and Verna Holloway in Wendell, Idaho, and was the oldest of three children. She spent her early years in Idaho and then, as a teenager, her family moved to Coachella, Calif. She graduated from Coachella Valley High School in 1956. She met Warren at a post office in the tiny little town of Thermal, Calif., while on an errand for work. Esther and Warren were married on Aug. 2, 1957, in Thermal and were married 64 years. They had four children: Anita, Bob, Paul and Frank.

Esther was a stay-at-home mom for many years, raising her children before she eventually went to work in the purchasing department at Desert Sands Unified School District. She worked for 23 years and retired in 1998. Esther was very artistic and pursued many avenues of creativity. She enjoyed sketching, painting and many forms of needle art. Esther loved to sew and sewed many dresses for her granddaughters. While she loved to quilt, she was known for her extensive hunts for just the right fabric for each project.

Esther will be remembered for the love of her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. With 10 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren, she had many opportunities to shower her love upon them. At every family gathering you could always find her holding one of the babies.

Esther was a blessing to everyone she met. She was quick with a warm smile and a gracious heart, always making those she met feel welcome and included. She loved without condition and was free with her warm hugs. She will be greatly missed.

Esther was a member of First Baptist Church, Palm Desert, Calif., and Immanuel Baptist Church of Decatur. She and Warren were very active in church throughout their lives and loved the Lord and served Him faithfully. Esther was preceded in death by her beloved son, Frank; her parents, Irvin and Verna Holloway; and her siblings, Don Holloway and Beverly May.

She leaves behind her husband, Warren Stallard; her daughter, Anita Bower and husband, Bruce, of Bermuda Dunes, Calif.; and sons Robert (Bob) Stallard and wife, Della, and Paul Stallard and wife, Naomi, all of Decatur. She's also survived by grandchildren Aimee Bower, Amber Ohanesian and husband, Mike, Ashley Goodman and husband, Jay, Alyssa Barragan and husband, Jose, Austin Stallard, Emily Gutierrez and husband, Carlos, Ethan Stallard and wife, Chelsey, Cole Stallard and wife, Hope, Ben Stallard and wife, Erin, Ryan Stallard and wife, Rebekah; and her 18 great-grandchildren.