



Thompson, Erma Dean (Howell)

December 19, 1935 ~ November 18, 2022 (age 86)

Fort Worth~ Erma Dean Thompson, 86, went to be with our Lord on Friday, November 18th, 2022 in Fort Worth,

Texas.

Funeral Service will be 11:00 a.m. Friday, November 25, 2022 at Hawkins Funeral Home Chapel in Bridgeport.

Rev. Fred Raney will officiate.

Erma was born on December 19, 1935 to Charlie Clinton and Mae (Smith) Howell in West Green, Georgia. She was a retired secretary and worked many years for the County Attorney's Office in Jacksonville, Florida. Erma was united in marriage to Thomas Albert Thompson on August 30th, 1955 in Jacksonville and they were together 65 wonderful years until his passing on November 6, 2020. She was a beloved aunt, cousin, and friend who will be missed by all that knew and loved her dearly.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charlie and Mae Howell; and her husband, Thomas Thompson.

Those left behind to cherish her memory are her numerous nieces and nephews, several cousins and a host of friends.

**Remembering Erma Dean Thompson
by her Family**

It was 1935 and the country was still in the middle of the great depression. A cup of coffee cost .01\$ and unemployment was in the process of improving from 21% to 17%. Many were without jobs and life was hard.

It was in this environment on December 19, 1935 that Erma Thompson was born in a small town in Georgia. Like most of the country, she immediately struggled to live. She was the fourth child to parents that had already lost three sons prematurely, so surviving was not a guarantee.

After Erma recovered and grew stronger, her father decided to move Erma and her mother to Florida looking for work. He eventually landed in Jacksonville as a carpenter, where he would earn the respect of other craftsmen and become head of the carpenters union, a prestigious position amongst the peers of his trade.

It was here in Jacksonville that Erma would forge the most enduring relationships of her life. She graduated from Jacksonville High School in 1953. Being an only child, she would remain close to her mother, but the structure of her relationship changed one fateful evening later that year, when she met a spry young sailor Seymour, Texas named Tommie Thompson at the local skating rink. With Tommie's enlistment ending and knowing they couldn't be apart, they both entered a loving, committed relationship that would last the rest of their lives. She was 19 years old and married and living in Texas.

After a short stint in West Texas building roads with his brother, Tommie moved with Erma back to Jacksonville, Florida. Erma's father helped Tommie get started in the carpenter trade, while Erma worked at the county attorney's office. In the evenings both worked to build a small starter house that would become home.

After attending night classes together and earning college degrees, Tommie would become a building inspector for the City of Jacksonville. They would both have long, enduring careers working for the city and county of Jacksonville until they retired with distinction.

When Erma's mother and aunt passed away in Jacksonville, both Tommie and Erma moved to Texas to be closer to Tommie's family. They were residents of Runaway Bay for more than 20 years and enjoyed the lake, golf, friends and family. They were faithful members of the Decatur Church of Christ on Highway 51. After the recent passing of Tommie, Erma's health began to decline until her death on November 18, 2022. She was one month and one day before turning 87.

Hawkins Funeral Home www.hawkinsfuneralhome.com (940) 683-2211

