



Harriet Elizabeth Fulkerson Howarth

1923-2020

By [Messenger Staff](#) / Published on December 02, 2020

Decatur – Harriet Elizabeth Fulkerson Howarth, 97, cherished wife and mother, passed away peacefully on Friday, Nov. 13, 2020, at her home in Decatur. Service is noon Saturday, Dec. 5, for family only at Greenwood Chapel. Harriet will be laid to rest at Greenwood Memorial Park in Fort Worth.

For memorials, donations to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society are appreciated in lieu of flowers.

Harriet was born Sept. 19, 1923, in Springfield Gardens, N.Y., to Earl and Elsie Fulkerson. A member of Community Church in Decatur, she was a homemaker and also worked in the family office supply business in Dallas for a number of years. Additionally, she showed her talents as a seamstress in her teen years in New York. On May 29, 1942, Harriet married Samuel Charles Howarth. They raised one daughter, Margaret “Maggie” Phelps, and one son, Charles Howarth, while living in the Carolinas, Long Island and Texas.

Harriet had a love for nature and wildlife viewing of all kinds. A lifetime gardener, she had an excellent green thumb for growing vegetables and flowering plants. A

blooming dogwood was well known as one of her very favorite trees.

Harriet was also an excellent seamstress, making baby clothes for her children by hand and had the unique ability to see a dress design in a store and then recreate and customize it for her own clothing.

She traveled to Europe in her early adult years and collected many beautiful pieces of china during her travels. Harriet seamlessly paired a keen eye for decorating and design with skill in the kitchen to always make her house a welcoming home. Her mind stayed ever sharp and her children and grandchildren enjoyed listening to Harriet tell stories of her life and family while growing up in New York.

Harriet was just as comfortable strolling the streets of London and Paris as she was planting bulbs in her yard and awaiting the next season’s blooms. She provides an excellent example of a life well lived; a woman who loved everyone in a greater manner than deserved. She has found peace in the open arms of her Savior, without fear and without pain. Harriet was preceded in death by her parents, Earl and Elsie; siblings Elsie Knoblach, Earl Fulkerson and Winnie Ost; and her husband, Samuel.

Survivors are sister Gail Donohue; two children, Margaret Phelps and husband, Larry and Charles Howarth and wife, Pat; grandchildren Kenny Phelps and wife, Heidi, Sheri Phelps Bickers and husband, Scott, Brian Phelps and wife, Lori Anne and Sara Howarth Reeder and husband, Tim; nine great-grandchildren, Taylor Phelps and wife, Morgan, Trent Phelps and wife, Bailey, Alex Talamantes and husband, Steven, Chase Walter, Andrew Walter, Landon Bickers, Caleb Phelps, Holly Reeder and Hudson Reeder; and two great-great-grandchildren, Aubrey Talamantes and Addie Talamantes.