



## Bettye Jo Phillips

August 24, 1927 - October 23, 2024

Bettye Jo Phillips, née Duncan, 97, passed away peacefully on October 23, 2024 at her home in Hattiesburg, Mississippi with her son by her side. She was born in Duke, Oklahoma on August 24, 1927. A graduate of Hardin Simmons University and East Texas State University, she was a long-time resident of Commerce, Texas where she and her husband, Thomas Robert Phillips, Jr., were the proprietors of Phillips Food Store. She also served for many years as the pianist and organist at First Baptist Church of Commerce, and was active in various local community and business organizations.

Bettye is survived by her son, Casey Phillips, five grandchildren: Tiffany Watts, Jarrod Phillips, Keaton Squires, Cydney Myers, and Kylar Squires, and three great-grandchildren: Maxwell, Sagan, and Severin.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph Duncan and Elvie Mae (Leverett) Duncan, her husband, T.R. Phillips, Jr., her daughter Anna Gayl (Phillips) Squires, three brothers: Buell

Duncan, Herman Duncan, and Otis Duncan, and one sister Opal Duncan.  
A memorial graveside service will be held for Bettye on Tuesday, November  
19, 2024 at 10:00  
a.m. at Rosemound Cemetery in Commerce.

# Tribute Wall

TB

“ Going to miss all the uplifting photos of her, looking soo snazzy, having breakfast or Mexican. Know she will be missed. Cowboys have an Angel. ❤️

Theresa Bennett - November 14, 2024 at 05:14 PM

LT

“ Love, Kristen Thayer purchased the A Full Life for the family of Bettye Jo Phillips.



Love, Kristen Thayer - November 13, 2024 at 10:59 PM

JP

“ Best piano teacher I ever had. Took lessons from Bettye for six years from the first grade through the sixth grade. Such kindness and patience for a young boy who liked baseball better than piano. She brought out the best in me and never had anything but kind words for me. She told me how proud she was of me when I became police chief in Commerce and was always telling me to be careful. I will miss her smile and her grace.

Jim Peek - November 11, 2024 at 07:49 PM

RF

“ Always enjoyed seeing Ms. Bettye when I was in High School, and was very happy to see that she remembered me 30 some years later as an adult. Such a happy person.



Ric Fahle - November 11, 2024 at 02:01 PM