



Thelma "T" Mills Joyce

June 17, 1928 - August 21, 2019

Thelma (T) Mills Joyce, age 91, passed from this life on August 21, 2019, surrounded by her loving family. Thelma was born in Marshall County, Alabama. She is survived by her 5 children, Paul P. Joyce Jr. (Joyce) of San Bruno, CA, Karen A. Joyce of Springfield, OR., Ray S. Joyce of Piedmont, AL, Trudy J. Loy (David) of Piedmont, AL. and John T. Joyce of Piedmont, AL. 7 Grandchildren, Thomas P. Joyce (Akeya), Katie A. Joyce, Paul J. Loy (Crystal), Kara L. Flowers (Larry), Allyce M. Loy (Destin Morrison), Jayme L. Otero (Luis) and Shelby Caputo (Bruno), and 3 great-grandchildren. One brother Rudy A. Mills (Elisabeth) of Pensacola, FL and one sister, Joan E. Rogers (Paul), of Spring Garden, AL. Many special cousins, nieces and nephews and Special friend and caregiver Terry Surrett. Mrs. Joyce enlisted in the U.S. Navy on December 2, 1952 at Birmingham AL. she discharged on December 30, 1958 as YN2 due to pregnancy. At that time if you got pregnant you could not continue to serve. Her WAVES company marched in President Eisenhower's first inaugural

parade. She was stationed in San Diego, CA, Astoria OR, Norfolk, VA where she was social secretary to Admiral Gerald Wright; New Orleans, LA, and Pearl Harbor, HA. While on Boot leave, she and her USN Brother Rudy, recruited on the radio and at several schools. After her marriage, she enjoyed several years in Hawaii and the birth of her children. In 1964 she and the children returned home and she married her husband Paul P. Joyce Sr. in 1966 and moved to Norfolk, VA where they lived until they moved to Piedmont, AL in 1984. She was a member of WAVES National, High School Forty Sixers, loved reading, teaching bible classes and attending Pearl Harbor survivor meetings and trips with her husband. She was known by all for her strong Christian Faith.

Mrs. Joyce was preceded in death by her Husband of 46 years, Paul P. Joyce Sr. Her parents John Henry and Nellie Mae Mills (TuTu and PaPa), daughter-in-law Debbie Hess Joyce and grandson James P. Joyce.

In memory of Mrs. Joyce the family requests that donations be made to the Piedmont Rescue Squad or The Piedmont Public Library.

Special thank you to Dr. Ulrich and the wonderful staff at Piedmont Family Practice, Piedmont Rescue Squad and the staff at Piedmont Health and Rehab.

Mrs. Joyce requested no services.

Tribute Wall

SM

“ I will always remember "T" for her heart. She never failed to pray for you when you needed it. Somehow she knew you needed it even if you didn't. I looked forward to her Christmas cards every year. It was always a joyful challenge to decipher her hand writing. (LOL) I enjoyed the trips to Petros with her and the women og UGUMC. I will always love you"T" RIP IN HEAVEN.🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸

Susan Mcginnis - August 25, 2019 at 11:25 AM

PG

“ I meet while visiting her church and she treated me like family! She was so inspiring and I know she will be deeply missed. My thoughts and prayers are with the "T" Joyce family ❤️

Penny Gilmer - August 24, 2019 at 01:24 AM

DR

“ If you missed knowing T Joyce...you missed a pure blessing! I grew to know and love her while working with the Spring Garden Volunteer Fire Dept. There were so many "sides" to her personality, and I loved all of them. My life is much richer for having T Joyce as my friend. There is definitely an empty place in Spring Garden now.
Debby Jones Rosser

DEBBY ROSSER - August 22, 2019 at 01:00 PM

DM

“ My best memories of T, would be the talks she made to the women at our church. You had to laugh, then cry. One of the most interesting, spirit filled speakers ever. So much fun when our group would go out to eat or to other events. Prayed beautiful spirit filled prayers. Always remembered her friends with a beautiful, perfect for the occasion, card. I still have the sweetest cards sent to thank me for some job I had headed up at church or ‘just because’. I always felt that I had accomplished something when I finally deciphered her strange handwriting, and I have been missing this for years. I loved that she tried to keep my Mama straight! Mama would fuss, but she loved her so much! Rode next to her all the way to Atlanta. She talked non-stop all the way. As much as I like to talk, it was very hard to keep my big mouth shut for that long, but oh what a great lesson I learned from T. She loved her God and family, and it showed!

Diane McGinnis - August 21, 2019 at 10:23 PM

AM

“ My thoughts & prayers are with you

Ann Murphy - August 21, 2019 at 10:07 PM

WB

“ T was my cousin and she and Paul took my husband and I under their wings when we moved to Norfolk in 1968. We had such good times with them. T. and my sister Jerry were close growing up and T's sister Joan and I were close. The four of us got together when we could here in Florida or in Piedmont. When I was diagnosed with breast cancer, T sent me a card every week while I was going through chemo. I knew her prayers were heard. I am so glad she is not suffering and know she is rejoicing with the angels, her Paul, her mom and dad and with all her aunts including my mom. Thinking of Trudy, John and Sam.

Wands Barker - August 21, 2019 at 06:54 PM

DS

“ My heart goes out to all of you...because nobody could leave a void in our lives as big as as the one "T" has left. What a treasury of memories you have! I do believe she is the most interesting woman I've ever had the privilege to know personally. The grit, the determination, the wisdom, the humor, the humor, the humor! I started to say she wouldn't want us to cry...but oh, yeah--she wants us to cry buckets and may be keeping tabs! Heaven just got a little more interesting...and I look forward to seeing her again. For now, may God comfort your hearts as only He can do. Much love to you all. Oh--I wonder if she would come back to haunt us if we were to get into her recipe files... (I have two that I treasure.)

Donna Sparks - August 21, 2019 at 06:31 PM

HP

“ I wish I could have seen T one more time, didn't know she was still in the Nursing home. The last time I tried the phone# I had for her, it wasn't working. I will always love her and be thankful for her show of love and respect for me when we attended the same church. She made me feel like "Somebody" when I was around her. She was a Blessing!



Hilda Parris - August 21, 2019 at 03:53 PM

CF

“ Mrs. T. was a sweet & loving woman. So very sorry to hear of her passing. All of you are in my prayers.



Connie Frost - August 21, 2019 at 02:43 PM