



## Marceline Piper

November 22, 1923 - December 30, 2023

There will be a private entombment for Marceline Piper next to her husband in their crypt in Alva at her request.

Marceline Hewes Piper was born to Ezra and Della (Reed) Hewes in the family home near Vesper, Kansas. Her family resided in Kansas as she grew. She left her family on December 30, 2023.

She attended college in Alva at Northwestern. She was to meet her future husband, English Piper, in Chemistry class and they had their first date at a Christmas Party at Vinson Hall in 1942. They married in 1944 and began farming west of Alva. Soon after, English was drafted and Marceline followed him to the west coast. She returned to Oklahoma after his departure for Hawaii. Upon his discharge from the Marines, they moved to Norman and entered OU. Marceline received her BS in Home Economics and almost immediately began teaching. After English finished school a year later they moved to Wichita upon his receipt of a job offer from Boeing.

After welcoming their daughter, Teri, Marceline focused on homemaking and rearing their daughter. She began to volunteer and get involved in causes outside the home including the Presidency of the University of Oklahoma Alumni Club in Wichita. She got involved in Girl Scouts as a leader, and was involved in AAUW. Once daughter Teri was old enough to be home alone after

school, Marceline sought more fulfillment outside of the home. She took classes to enrich her education credentials and one class centered on teaching “Exceptional” children. That class awakened a talent she had for teaching special children. She was employed at the Institute of Logopedics in Wichita.

When English relocated the family to the Houston area, Marceline became active in the community organizations and in politics. She also began taking more classes from the University of Houston to get her teaching certificate for Texas, and ended up teaching special children in Texas City. She grew in both her enthusiasm for the profession and in her expertise as a master of it. She would prepare the family dinner and leave with instructions for Teri to complete after coming home from school. She would then go to her school for a day of teaching—a 25 mile drive—and follow it with a drive of more than 50 miles to the University of Houston for her own classes and then another 25 miles back home where she would reconnect with the family and get ready to do it all the next day. She still found time to be active in her daughter’s school.

When it was time for the family to follow English to his next job in the Philadelphia area, Marceline had just barely unloaded the moving boxes when she made an inquiry to see if the nearby Elwyn Institute—a world famous institution for the education of special children—had openings for teachers. She was asked to come that day for an interview and she was hired on the spot. She continued teaching there for the duration of their time in the area. While there, she also found time to get involved in Teri’s last two years of high school as a leader of the band parents association.

The next significant move for the family was to Seattle, where English and Marceline rapidly decided that they did not like the dreary weather and returned to be nearer to both their mothers and daughter, Teri. This involved a very early retirement from their previous lives to living on the family ranch,

building their dream home and relaxing for the first time in their married lives.

As time went on Marceline would get involved in Republican politics at the local, state, and national level going to conventions and supporting candidates as well as holding nearly every office in both the Woods County and Woods County Women's organizations.

With relatives in the local nursing home, Marceline also became a local and state leader in Hospital Volunteer organizations and began lobbying on behalf of the Hospital Association.

English and Marceline were both good stewards of the land and fought efforts of others to contaminate the land with oilfield waste. They fought tirelessly with many treks to Oklahoma City to hearings before the Corporation Commission to prevent nearby land from being so polluted.

After about 15 years of retirement from engineering, English went back to work in Wichita during the week and came home on weekends, leaving Marceline to run the family ranch. She became interested in the rights of mineral owners in the county and state. She was active in organizing and serving leadership roles in both the Woods County and Oklahoma Mineral Owner's Association. Through her extensive activities at the capital in lobbying the legislature on behalf of these groups, she registered as a lobbyist. Through recognition of her leadership roles, she was appointed and served for many years on the Marginal Well Commission. In her role she worked with oil and gas leaders of the state and nation to protect mineral owner's rights.

English retired for the second time and returned home in 1990. They traveled both domestically and abroad to Europe multiple times, Scandanavia, and

even to Russia. They remained active and were always going somewhere. They had season tickets to OU football games for 37 years.

Marceline had a wide variety of friends over the years. It is her family's wish that each friend will remember her on anniversary dates of their friendship. She also loved animals.

Memorial contributions may be made through the funeral home to Free to Live an Animal Sanctuary.

# Cemetery Details

## **Alva Municipal Cemetery**

Flynn Street  
Alva, OK 73717

# Tribute Wall

DS

“ Teri, My deepest condolences. Your mother was a quite a woman. She mentored me so much regarding politics in my youth. I will be forever grateful that I had the privilege of knowing her and being able to call her a friend. I don't know why I remember this but I do. She had a beagle when she lived in Philadelphia and she had a picture of him wearing a sign “Beagles for Berry.” If I remember correctly it was taken at the convention. I loved it. What a lady.

---

**David Strawn** - January 24, 2024 at 02:19 PM

BB

“ Teri our thoughts are with you.



---

**Bill/Linda Beeler** - January 04, 2024 at 05:18 PM