



Mary Helen Wilson

January 25, 1924 - November 4, 2012

Mary Helen (Presnall) Wilson was born January 25, 1924, in Woods County, Oklahoma, to Maude (Muncie) and Howard Presnall and died November 4, 2012, in Alva, Oklahoma.

She graduated from Carmen High School and attended NWOSU, receiving her B.A. and Master of Teaching degrees there. She pursued additional graduate study at the University of Colorado, North Texas State University, and a summer institute in Athens, Greece.

On January 5, 1945, she was married to Ensign Harold W. Wilson at Carmen, Oklahoma. To this union two children were born—a daughter, Judy, and a son, Robert.

Mrs. Wilson taught English at NWOSU for thirty-two years, retiring in 1987.

She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, member and past President of Chapter C-PEO, Holly Club, and Delta Zeta Sorority. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church and a charter member of the Fidelis Sunday School Class, in recent years having been the class teacher.

A special interest for the past ten years was her participation in Friends of the Alva Library and its related book discussion groups.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, three brothers, Dale, Bob, and Max, a sister, Virginia Kelley, and her daughter-in-law, Marlene Wilson.

She is survived by her daughter, Judy Kirk of Enid, Oklahoma; her son, Bob Wilson of Garden City, Kansas; three grandchildren, Melissa Wilson of San

Francisco, California, Scott Wilson of Seattle, Washington, and Jill Kirk of Tulsa, Oklahoma; one sister, Polly Baker of Leesville, South Carolina; and four sisters-in-law, Jean Schwerdtfeger of Capron, Oklahoma, Audrey Presnall of Alva, Oklahoma, Vera Wilson of Escondido, California, and Elsie Nixon of California.

Memorial contributions may be made through the funeral home to First United Methodist Church.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Helen Wilson*

January 30, 2023 at 03:38 AM



“ *Dear Pam and Priss and Others:*

Pam, I remember how close we were as young cousins. I adored you...do you remember Grammy converting the big diningroom to a sleeping area for our pajama parties together! Your memorial touched me deeply. My niece Melissa reminds me so much of you. Priss, my mom and your daddy DID share that same quick wit. Yes, our loss was great. It&s still not real to either Bob or me.

Thanks to Pastor Martindale for the personal tribute to my mom--he "really" knew her; thanks to all who spoke so eloquently in church today. The service today was a blessing.

Thanks to my best friend Gwen for sending a lovely spray to the service; thanks to my former employer, Mitchell & DeClerck, for the lovely Peace Lily arrangement and to my former boss, whom I admire so greatly for his intellect and professionalism, and to his wife for the enormous Peace Lily arrangement they sent. Both are now proudly on display in my home.

Thanks to my dear friend Jenny for surprising me by driving from Enid to attend the service today. Sweet Jenny.

Thanks to the sweet ladies at the church for the scrumptious luncheon for the family following the service; thanks to my Aunt Vera who traveled all the way from Escondido, CA, to attend mom&s memorial service.

Thanks to Marshall Funeral Home for their absolute professionalism. Thanks to the people who posted here, to the Fidelis Class, to PEO, and to all for the lovely flowers. It means so much. And thanks to my brother and his children...I adore them.

Judy Kirk, Mary Helen&s Daughter

Judy Kirk - November 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ Dear Judy, Bob, Aunt Audrey & Nancy, Reading Aunt Mary&s obituary helped me reflect on so many sweet memories of our childhood...the Christmases at Grammy & G-pops, the big, brick house w/front steps, Dee & Polly&s Thunderbird, the laughter and great food. It&s all so real yet so distant. My heart will be with all of you - the Presnall girls would have loved to be there to celebrate Aunt Mary.

Pam "Presnall" Wilson - November 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ My heart and deepest sympathy are with you. My Aunt Mary was such a special person and I am so sad to not be there with family to help cherish her life and grieve her passing. She was gracious, kind, intelligent, and shared that same great sense of humor as my daddy. I am very lucky to have had an aunt with whom I felt so connected. Her life mattered and her influence and friendship were blessings for so many. Judy, Bob....your loss is great and I wish you comfort and peace.

Priss Presnall Haltiner - November 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

VW

“ Our deepest sympathy is with the family. Mary Helen was such a sweet person. I read what her granddaughter Jill wrote. I can see her doing all those fun things. May her many loving memories bring comfort to all of you. God bless you.

Virgil and Lavon Wiersig - November 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ My grandma was a wonderful, witty, intelligent woman. I have many good memories of her that I will cherish always. I remember she used to read me the cutest bedtime stories, and she would do the character voices too. ;). She also used to scratch my back until I fell asleep. She is also the reason I&m a total grammar nazi! She is back with my papa now, and I know she is happy. Love you Grandma!

Jill Kirk - November 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Mary Helen was truly a class act. She was one of my favorite college professors, and after 25 years of my own teaching experience, I still remember things that she taught or said that have helped me. What an incredible, genteel woman. I know she will be missed. Robin Hogsett Sweeney NWOSU &86

Robin Sweeney - November 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ My deepest sympathies and prayers are with Judy, Bob, and their families in the loss of such a sweet lady. She obviously touched the hearts of many as an educator, and was very involved in many functions in Alva during her lifetime. I know she will be missed by many.

Gwen Grandell Tulsa, Oklahoma

Gwen Grandell - November 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ Judy and Bob
Please accept my sincere condolences on the loss of your mother. I will always remember her and Harold as pleasant and friendly persons.

Paul Woodson - November 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Judy, Bobby & family.. My deepest sympathy on the loss of your mother. I like many others had her as a teacher in college and thoroughly enjoyed being in her class. She was a wonderful lady an a wonderful teacher. My thoughts and prayers are with you... Kathy

Kathy Walters Racette - November 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Mary Helen was a wonderful Lady! I truely enjoyed our visits as I did the housework for her. I will miss her! My Prayers are with her family. From Lisa Schiffner

Lisa Schiffner - November 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

IE

“ Her family & friends are grieving the loss of a wonderful lady, in all senses of the word. She was an excellent English teacher, on the college level, and a true friend. May God be with us as we mourn her passing.

Ida Evans - November 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ MAY GOD BE WITH HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS--SHE WAS A WONDERFUL SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER WHOM I HIGHLY ADMIRED

JUDY MARTIN - November 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM