



Patricia Jeanne Simpkins

March 23, 1934 - January 5, 2018

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Patty was the second child of George Edward and Vivienne Batty. She was born in Denver Colorado. Her father, called Jeb, had been an army airplane pilot, and was a pilot for United Airlines when his plane crashed near Cheyenne Wyoming in late 1935. Patty was one and a half at that time and her sister Barbara was four. Jeb's parents, George Franklin and Edith Batty took over the job of caring for and raising the girls. They had a very happy life, and most of the time lived close enough to their mother, Vivienne, to visit often and spend quality time with her.

Grandpa's job with Western Union moved them to San Mateo CA where Patty enjoyed her grade school days. When grandpa retired they moved to Pasadena where Patty went to school through her sophomore year of high school. That summer, she was blessed to at last go to live with her mother, who had remarried to Walter Simpson and had a three-year old daughter, Judy. Patty started her junior year in school at Fremont High in Sunnyvale, where she met Bill Simpkins, the boy who was to become her husband and life-time companion. They were married in December 1952, and recently celebrated their 65th anniversary.

In their first four years, Bill served in the US Air Force. Then they settled in Santa Clara until Bill accepted an offer to become associate pastor at First Baptist Church in Bakersfield. As Bill later served other churches in the Bay Area, Patty returned to a love of teaching pre-school, where she was known to the children as "Miss Patty." Upon Bill's retirement, they returned to live in retirement in Bakersfield, CA.

They have been active for several years at Valley Baptist Church. Retirement afforded them time to do some world travel; visiting as often as possible with children, grand-children and great-grand-children. They will all miss her deeply.

Patty was preceded in death by her parents Jeb and Vivienne, step-father Walter Simpson and both grandparents. She is survived by sisters Barbara Stoner of San Jose, California and Judy (Stephen) Dardeck of Rutland, Vermont, her husband Bill of Bakersfield, son Bruce (Cathy) of Nampa, Idaho, daughter Brenda Simpkins of San Jose, California, seven grand-children and nine great-grand-children.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00am Saturday, January 27th at Hodel's, 5917 Knudsen Drive, Bakersfield, followed by catered luncheon. Interment will be at the Bakersfield National Cemetery at 10:30am on Monday, January 29th.

In lieu of flowers, the family would encourage a donation to Bakersfield Community Hospice, 3400 Calloway Drive, Bakersfield CA 93312, in memory of Patricia Simpkins.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 27. 11:00 AM (PT)

Hodel"s
5917 Knudsen Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Graveside

JAN 29. 10:45 AM (PT)

Bakersfield National Cemetery
30338 E Bear Mountain Blvd
Arvin, CA 93203
(661) 867-2250