



Dona Lou Gilliland

April 6, 1925 - May 31, 2020

Dona Lou Gilliland, age 95, of Arab passed away on May 31st, 2020 at Diversicare of Boaz.

Lou was a life long resident of North Alabama, born in Blountsville, Alabama, the daughter of Ben and Bertha Shelton Fant on April 6, 1925. Many remember her fondly as the smiling face and helping hands behind the doll counter at Hammer's in downtown Guntersville. Lou was an active member of the community for most of her life, a member of First Baptist Church Arab and particularly enjoyed the senior ladies Sunday school class. In her younger years, she volunteered with the Girl Scouts; she loved camping with her young family and cooking over an open fire. Lou was also a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Lakeside Quilters club. She was a very talented quilter with a keen eye for color and enjoyed collecting the same varieties of unique dolls she sold at Hammer's. Lou was a talented, creative lady, a loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother who will be dearly missed.

She is survived by her daughter, Bobbie (James) Hasty; and son, Ben (Tonya) Gilliland;
three grandchildren, Adrienne Hasty, Carley (David) Croswell, and Colin (Layna) Gilliland;
and a great granddaughter, Ellison Gilliland.

Lou was preceded in death by her parents, Ben and Bertha Fant, husband, Bob Gilliland, and also by her three siblings: Jim Fant, Alfred Fant, and Sybil Tipton.

The family suggests donations in memoriam be given, in lieu of flowers, to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The children of St. Jude's had a special place in Lou and her sister Sybil's hearts, and they sent many quilts and blankets there as well.

The funeral service will be a private event, grave side only, with the burial at Brookwood Cemetery in Arab, Alabama with Gober Funeral Chapel directing. Finally, the family would like to express thanks to everyone at Diversicare of Boaz, especially to Karen Hill, for caring for Lou so well during her last few years.

Cemetery Details

Brookwood Cemetery

Old Guntersville Rd.
Arab, AL 35016

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUN 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

Brookwood Cemetery
Old Guntersville Rd.
Arab, AL 35016

Tribute Wall



“ *Dona Lou Gilliland*

October 23, 2023 at 12:35 AM



“ *Our family always felt warmly welcomed when we visited Uncle Bob and Aunt Lou. Aunt Lou showed us her dolls and her quilts and the stories surrounding them. She took such pleasure in sharing the stories and we enjoyed hearing them so much.*

Our daughter, Kate, a child at the time would ask us "When are we driving to Alabama again? I want to visit Uncle Bob and Aunt Lou."

To this day we remember our happy visits with Aunt Lou and are so grateful for them.

*Dave and Karen Dorrrough
Marietta, GA*

Karen Dorrrough - June 01, 2020 at 09:58 AM