



Mrs. Helen Louise Thomas Blackstone

October 16, 1929 - October 7, 2014

BLACKSTONE- Mrs. Helen Louise Thomas Blackstone, age 84 of Loganville, GA passed away on Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at her home in Loganville from complications of Parkinson's Disease. There will be no services at this time. Instead, the family will spread her ashes in Jacksonville, Florida at the place where her mother and all her maternal grandmothers of years ago will welcome her with open arms and she will be joined by her infant son who preceded her in death many years ago. Helen was born in Jacksonville, Florida on October 16, 1929 to Henry F. Thomas and Josephine R. Thomas. Helen was the loving sister to her two big brothers who always looked after her; Henry F. Thomas and James L. Thomas, both of Jacksonville, FL and is preceded in death by her little brother, John W. Thomas. Helen met her husband of 65 years at the lunch counter in Walgreen's in Jacksonville, FL and married the love of her life a year later on July 22, 1949. She is survived by her husband, Kenneth W. Blackstone, Sr., with whom she shared a fun, loving and fascinating life. Together they raised three happy children, Joanna B. White and her husband, Howard (who has always affectionately called her The Old Bat), Nancy Blackstone Blair, and Kenneth W. Blackstone, Jr. and his wife Lyndi. Helen and Kenn have five grandchildren, Kevin N. Blair and his wife Nikki, Kenneth W. Blackstone III and his wife Melissa, Nathan E. Blair, Chrystopher A. Blackstone and his wife Shannon, Katherine B. Colling and her husband Joel, and Marissa Blackstone. Helen and Kenn have four wonderful great-grandchildren who have provided them with endless

happiness and wonder, Kenneth W. Blackstone, IV (K#4) and his little sister Isabella Rose Blackstone and Chandler J. Blair and his little brother Cayden B. Blair. Helen is also remembered by her nieces, Carol McNaughton of Ventura, CA and Mary Moore of Jacksonville FL, her step-granddaughter, Teri Blair of Panama City, FL and Helen's dear neighbor-daughter, Susie Bare of Jacksonville, FL. Mrs. Blackstone purposely misstated her age so she could work for Western Union as a teletype operator. She quickly became a wiz on the new machine and toured the country training other teletype operators at the ripe old age of 16. After raising her children, Mrs. Blackstone received her GED and went back to school at age 44 where she graduated Summa Cum Laude from Georgia State University and became an elementary school teacher in McDonough, GA. She was talented and creative with her hands and her mind. After her teaching career, she devoted a lot of years to creating puzzles for Dell Puzzle Magazine. Helen also created the most unique and fun Halloween Costumes from Cousin Itt to George and Martha Washington. With Mr. Blackstone, Sr. at her side, she would always insist on full attendance at the supper table where the food might not be so great, but the conversation was always lively. Mrs. Blackstone enjoyed bowling in women's leagues throughout Atlanta and was greatly saddened when illness took her out of the alley a few years ago. She has missed her mornings with the bowling ladies. Mrs. Blackstone will be remembered for singing to the supper crowd at the Roosevelt Hotel in Jacksonville, FL when she was 12. She tirelessly devoted herself to transporting her children to extracurricular activities, taking charge as room mother and transforming herself into a carnival barker when needed. Mrs. Blackstone knew the words to every song ever written and would burst out in song at the drop of a hat when one word in the conversation would prompt her to sing. She certainly knew how to embarrass a teenager, but now her family all have a craving to sing. Mrs. Blackstone took pride in her Four Kenneths and made sure all her children and grandchildren knew how to play poker and a musical instrument. The memories of Mrs. Blackstone as a loving, laughing and caring wife, mother and friend will be with us forever.

Arrangements by Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 670 Tom Brewer Rd. Loganville, Georgia 30052. 770-466-1544. Please sign the online guest registry at www.stewartfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Helen Louise Thomas Blackstone*

October 08, 2022 at 11:31 AM



“ *Oh sweet Helen I will miss you so much. Known you for a very long time 55 years to be exact and will miss you singing If You Knew Susie every time I saw you. We had some good times and good laughs together. I loved all the storie's you used to share about the old neighborhood and really glad you and Nancy and me and mom got to go to Cherokee together. That was fun. Mom was so excited to go to Reno with you . She talked about it forever. I loved the love you and Ken always showed each other and to everyone you met. Enjoyed the visit's you and Ken made every year at Christmas time over at Granny Thomas' house and mom's house it was always good to see you and Ken. Will always love you and miss you. Love You Susie*



Susan Bare - June 12, 2015 at 09:36 AM

VW

“Helen was an amazing woman, so talented and incredibly wise. She was so loved not only by her family and friends but also by all her students. I have many happy memories with Helen. Some as early as playing “Categories” at Alexandria, going to see plays Downtown, bowling, playing instruments in her loft on Christmas Eve and eating her famous “Glop”. She gave me the recipe several years ago but it never tasted as good as when she made it. I will never forget the trip with her down to Jacksonville to see Granny. She asked me to turn on the air because it was hot. I pressed the button on the car console that read “Cool Off”. I thought “cool off” meant to turn ON the air. She laughed so hard at me that she almost wrecked the car that day. I remember how excited and thrilled she was when my son, Kenneth III was born in 1980 and then 27 years later, how we screamed with joy together in the hospital hallway when we heard my grandson, Kenny IV crying for the very first time. We knew he had arrived into this world. Our sweet Izzy being born in 2012 was awesome. I remember Helen telling me that Isabella is the first Blackstone girl born since Nancy. Helen was beaming that day.

Thank you, Helen for all the wonderful memories and for always being there. You will live on in all of our hearts forever. Every time I look down at my watch, I will think of You.

With Heartfelt Sympathy,

Victoria Woodall

Victoria Woodall - October 08, 2014 at 05:46 PM



“ *My dear Grandmere. I miss you so. I know you're in a much better place, free of pain and suffering. Words cannot express the love I have in my heart for you now and always. You'll always be my Grandmere, and you'll always be singing in my heart.*

I cannot put a finger on my fondest memory of you, Grandmere. There are so many wonderful memories that I will cherish all of my days.

I suppose the most important memory is how you and Granddaddy helped raise me as an infant, toddler, child, young lady, and adult. There has not been one waking second of my life that you were not there for me. Teaching me preschool, helping me with homework, cooking meals for me, playing games with me...you were such a wonderful grandmother to a little girl who is so appreciative for it.

The funniest memory I have with you was when I was 7 or 8 in the old beautiful house that we both loved so much. You made a delicious dinner that I would gobble up in a heartbeat now; but back then, you called it a casserole. Filled with ham, cheese, and pasta, I know it just had to have been delicious! But at that age, I didn't want any part of it. I was so mad. I went to your beautiful long polished wood dinner table that seated 12, and I carved into it. Thinking I'd get away with it, I carved my brother Nathan's name into it. I didn't get away with it at all...you knew it was me! It made for a great laugh later in life, but I sure am sorry I did that to your table!

The happiest memory I have with you was at your 50th wedding anniversary in Jacksonville, FL. I watched you gleam with happiness...so healthy, so vibrant. You sang and danced wearing the cutest blue bonnet. I love looking at pictures of you in that little blue bonnet. Great Uncle John played his trumpet in his band...and I know you two are together again, playing, singing, and dancing.

The memory that makes me smile the most...There are 3 that I cannot choose between. First, I loved going upstairs after I got off

the school bus to be your piano student. That big loft upstairs in the old house is such a treasured memory of mine. We'd sit side by side on the piano bench. You taught me the basics, and then my musical abilities blossomed from there. You'd be downstairs watching TV or cooking dinner, and I'd play a wrong note. You'd yell, "Nope, not it!" I'd replay it until I got it right. My second favorite memory that makes me smile is playing cards with you at the breakfast table as a child. Granddaddy had built you a beautiful wall of diamond mirrors that sat just behind you...and your cards. Man, I would cheat! Especially during our favorite game, Crazy 8's. My third and probably most beloved memory of you that makes me smile was just 2 1/2 short months ago. It was your 65th wedding anniversary, and you allowed me to marry my prince charming on your day at our request. It was after the ceremony, and after dinner. Joel and I spoke on the microphone to our 120 guests who listened intently to the legacy of Kenn and Helen Blackstone's 65 years together. Afterward, you and your husband received a standing ovation at my wedding. In my gloomiest of days, that memory truly puts the brightest of smiles on my face. I promise to continue your legacy of such a beautiful marriage on until the end of my days.

The memories that make me the saddest are coming to visit you in the hospital several times these past 5 years or so. I'd come visit you almost everyday, before or after work, or before or after school. I was so scared of losing you all of those times, but you always pulled through and came back home to Granddaddy who missed you so. I'd then come and visit you every week but noticed your health was fading more and more. These last couple months have been so tough. I hated seeing you in pain. I hated seeing you sad because you couldn't formulate your thoughts clearly. I especially hated seeing you suffering to breathe in your final hours. Although these are my saddest memories, they are coupled with the happiness that you are now pain free in Heaven.

God welcomed you with open

Katie Colling - October 08, 2014 at 11:51 AM