



Clara Bennett

June 1, 1928 - April 8, 2020

Clara Louise Jordan Bennett of Albany, Georgia, died Wednesday, April 8, 2020, from COVID-19. She was 91 years old.

She is survived by three sons, Jay, Jon, and Joe of Indian Harbour Beach, Florida; Chattanooga, Tennessee; and Sammamish, Washington, respectively; her beloved sister, Katie Sue Gunnels, of Albany, Georgia; a particularly close cousin Drucilla Fox of Jackson, Georgia; nine grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews—all of whom affectionally know her as “Grammy.” She is the sister-in-law of Barbara Bennett Pippin, James Frank Bennett, and Bruce Gunnels (all of Albany) and Wyolene Bennett Walker of Tifton.

Mrs. Bennett was born on June 1, 1928, in Miami, Florida, to Mr. Clarence H. Jordan and Mrs. Lizzie Lou Drew Jordan, known generally as “Mimi.” Shortly thereafter, her family moved to Georgia where she grew up in Ellaville and Americus. She moved to Albany in her junior year of high school where she met her future husband, Jay Donald Bennett. They both were graduated from Albany High School in 1945. She was fond of school, President of her Senior Class, a cheerleader, and a member of the Beta Club.

Mrs. Bennett attended Bessie Tift College in Forsyth, Georgia, but only for one year. Showing her true nature, upon her father’s death she abandoned her

own college career to return home to support her mother and younger sister by taking a job at Southern Bell. She would work there for 33 years in Albany and in Chattanooga before her retirement.

On September 17, 1950, Mrs. Bennett and J. Donald Bennett were married at the First Baptist Church in Albany. They remained married for 53 years until Mr. Bennett's death in 2003. For most of that time (44 years) the family lived in or near Chattanooga, Tennessee, close to where Mr. Bennett practiced law in north Georgia. Upon her husband's death, Mrs. Bennett moved back to Albany to be close to her sister and other friends and relatives.

Mrs. Bennett's devotion to family and commitment to education remained lifelong traits. She personally sacrificed so that all three of her sons would have the opportunity to attend the McCallie School in Chattanooga and go on to excellent colleges. Later in life, she would call her grandchildren on their first day of class each year to sing them a song about school. She freely shared her joy of learning and passion for life with those she met.

Mrs. Bennett was steadfast in her faith and a member of the First Baptist Church in Chattanooga and later the Central Baptist Church in Albany. An honest and benevolent woman, known for her good-natured persuasion and admired for her sunny disposition, Mrs. Bennett wrote poems for important occasions. Her verse, characterized by a playful and folksy lilt, will remain an enduring legacy among all who knew her. Everyone's birthday and phone number she kept in her head; she was crazy about Elvis and the color red.

She was kind and friendly to everyone. She was compassionate and generous. She had great insight about people. She died lamented as she lived esteemed.

Her family expresses its gratitude and thankfulness for Ms. Kwajalein Guest of

Albany who has been for the last two years an exceptionally loving and skillful caretaker for Mrs. Bennett. Her family also wishes to thank the devoted staff at Wynfield Park Health and Rehabilitation for their kind and professional care of Mrs. Bennett and their consideration of her family during the last two years of her life on Earth.

Because of the coronavirus, the small graveside burial service will be private. A memorial service and celebration of her life will be announced later.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that those who are so inclined donate to the Phoebe Foundation coronavirus relief fund, which is providing vital support to the residents of Mrs. Bennett's hometown in their hour of need.

https://www.supportphoebe.org/phoebe-foundation/areas-to-support/programs/coronavirus_relief

Tribute Wall



“ *Clara Bennett*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Clara Bennett*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Clara Bennett*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *When I saw Aunt Clara last year, she was such an inspiration to me. All that she had been through and she was just as joyful as I had always remembered her being. She had a smile on her face and sweetness in her words that I will not forget. Yes, she was a great woman... And will be missed by many! So thankful she is in a place with no more suffering.*

Leah - April 15, 2020 at 08:13 PM

JC

“ Clara has always been a special favorite of mine and that's true even though it's been way too many years since I've seen or talked with her.

Here is a nice memory.

Once as a young boy over visiting Katie, I heard her invite me to come back and visit.

Mimi said something to the effect that I should wait but Clara insisted. When I went back she quickly made me forget my embarrassment at her breast feeding her baby - might have been Jon but can't remember - she was so very proud of her baby and the act of feeding I learned a great lesson and have always smiled at that memory when noticing 'feeding time'.

Rest well Clara - hope to see you later!

Jon Crawford

Jon Crawford - April 14, 2020 at 12:38 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Gladys Russell - April 11, 2020 at 01:43 PM

JB

That's a good one Heathen! Thanks!

Jon Bennett - April 12, 2020 at 12:27 AM

JB

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Jay Bennett - April 11, 2020 at 01:00 PM

PK

So beautiful!

paige korb - May 16, 2020 at 02:01 PM

JB

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Jay Bennett - April 11, 2020 at 11:22 AM

JS

“ *So sorry to hear of the passing of Clara. I worked with her at the phone co. in Chattanooga until she retired and we all missed her so much. The thing I remember about Clara was when anyone retired she always wrote a poem about that person which was great and most of the time they both serious and funny! Everyone looked forward to the reading of those! She will definitely be missed. Had not seen her since she moved but I will never forget her. Prayers for the family.*

Jo Ann white Shoemake - April 10, 2020 at 11:31 PM

JM

“Where do I even start? Clara and family moved next door to my family when I was 5 years old. I remember going to her house and seeing the calendar in the kitchen covered in birthdays. She loved talking about her sons and as they married and had children, would happily talk about each new grandchild. They all loved going to Grammy and Nots.

When I was inducted into Who's Who Among American High School Students, I shared with Clara first and then my Mom.

So many memories of this great woman with the warm smile and heart bigger than others. Rest in Peace.

Jamie Alder Mofsky - April 10, 2020 at 08:04 PM