



Betty Sue Henry Looney

January 3, 1925 - May 3, 2020

Betty Sue Henry Looney, age 95, of Morrilton, passed away Sunday, May 3rd , 2020. On January 3rd, 1925, better known later as “Aunt Betty,” was born in Atkins, AR to Mamie Boggess Henry and Alexander Reese Henry.

Betty finished Atkins High School in 1942. She married Ben Looney, Jr, in 1946, and they made their home in Morrilton. She was a faithful member of First United Methodist Church in Morrilton. In fact, she was a lifelong Methodist. Betty was a charter member of the Group 4 Circle, now known as the Emily Oates Circle. She served in many capacities in Circle. She also taught Sunday School for several years in the Junior Department, and she worked with the Methodist Youth Fellowship. She served on the Kitchen Committee for ten years. Aunt Betty was on the committee that began Mother’s Day Out, served on its board, and worked in the program. Last year, Aunt Betty received a Mission Recognition Award from the First United Methodist Church.

In the summer of 1957, Judy Janes, her niece, came to live with Aunt Betty and Uncle Ben. Judy called their house her home until she married. Aunt Betty was the sponsor of the high school sorority, Tri Gamma, for two years when Judy was in high school.

Betty worked as a secretary for many years. She was the first Administrative Assistant for Sara Gordon when she began the first Conway County Community Service in the Conway County Courthouse. The year that the Morrilton School District started a public kindergarten, Betty worked with Linda

Carruthers, Jeannie Gray, and Charlotte Heidenreich at the Cox house helping the children and teachers. Later, she worked as an Aide at West Side Kindergarten, retiring when she was 70.

Aunt Betty started college at Arkansas Tech part time the same year that her niece, Judy, started at Arkansas State Teachers College (now UCA). Over the years Betty accrued enough hours to be classified as a Sophomore.

In 1980, Betty began teaching a Manners Class every spring on Saturdays for young ladies. Many young women remember these classes and the lessons they learned. One year, she had a class for young men.

Betty was a member of Literary Coterie; V.F.W. Auxiliary, where she served as District President; T.O.P.S. 409; and Oppelo Twilite Homemakers Extension Club. As a young woman, she was a member of Beta Sigma Phi, a service sorority, and was selected as the Girl of the Year.

In 1993, the teachers at Kindergarten encouraged Betty to enter the local Beauties and Beaus Christmas Pageant. As a result, she won her division and was crowned the Senior Citizens Ms. Christmas Queen.

In 2013, Betty received the Arkansas River Valley Region Hall of Fame for Conway County Tourism Award for her work helping to entertain the ladies who came for the annual Car Show on Petit Jean Mountain.

Her husband, Ben, preceded her in death, as did her parents and her sister, Nina Gene Henry Janes, Judy's mother, as well as two infant sisters, Anna Jane (Nina Gene's twin) and Nelda Belle, who was about a year younger than Betty.

Betty is survived by her niece, Judy (Hall) Calhoun of Oppelo; her great-nieces, Lynn (Barb) Calhoun of Alberta, Canada and Leeann (Mickey) Mobley of Oppelo; and the lights of her life, her great-great nephews, Evan and Will Mobley of Oppelo. She is also survived by her sister-in-law, Charlene Looney of Little Rock; nieces, Doyleene Adair of Plumerville and Glay Jones of Benton; nephews, Wynn Looney and Randy Looney of Little Rock; and great-nephew, Steve Adair of Plumerville.

Donations in her memory may be made to First United Methodist Church, 210

S. Chestnut Street, Conway County Community Service, P.O. Box 679,
Conway County Public School Foundation, P.O. Box 318, all in Morrilton, AR
72110 or to a favorite charity.

Because of Covid-19 restrictions, a private graveside service will be held. The family appreciates the staff of Perryville Nursing and Rehab and Kindred Hospice for their care, especially in Aunt Betty's last days.

Tribute Wall



“ *Betty Sue Henry Looney*

January 30, 2023 at 02:08 AM



“ *Lit a candle in memory of Betty Sue Henry Looney*



Ruth Ann Looney - May 12, 2020 at 01:15 PM



“ *Ruth Ann Looney*



Ruth Ann Looney - May 11, 2020 at 02:07 PM



“ *Miss Betty was very kind to me when I was a newbie teacher many, many years ago. I loved her positive attitude and sweet spirit. So sorry for your loss.*

Julie Phillips Olson - May 09, 2020 at 01:40 PM

RL

“ My Aunt Betty was one of the sweetest and best people I’ve ever known. She may have been more like my own dad than anybody I’ve ever known... as faithful & loyal & Christlike a person as there was.

By the way, her niece Judy (who I consider my cousin & for all intents & purposes might as well have been Aunt Betty’s own daughter) is likewise one of the best people there is, which ultimately is a testament to the Lord & how He used Aunt Betty in enriching the lives of others.

I remember vividly the time Aunt Betty always had for me personally. While most adults just naturally pretty much give “surfacy” acknowledgment & conversation to kids in favor of spending their time with other adults, Aunt Betty sought me out at family gatherings with intention & talked sports or whatever she knew would interest me. We talked mostly about football because she obviously like that sport best, & we talked Razorbacks exhaustively & in detail, as well as discussing who she told me was her fav athlete of all time, Joe Namath. I’m thankful for my Aunt Betty.

Randy Looney

Rev. 21:4

Randy Looney - May 07, 2020 at 11:38 PM

WB

“ Sorry for your loss, loved Ms Betty she was such sweet lady. She encouraged me at TOPS 408.

She loved sunflowers, but enjoyed visiting with people, always had a smile on her face.

Wanda Bryant - May 06, 2020 at 02:46 PM

JW

“ Judy and family, I was so sorry to hear of Aunt Betty's passing. I remember her storytelling ability. She entertained us for hours and enjoyed the stories as much as we did - a true storyteller. The best legacy I believe one can leave is to have spread love and I believe she did that in spades. I am so glad you had her in your lives which let me have her in my life. Janice Wotske

Janice Wotske - May 06, 2020 at 02:11 PM

LC

“ Judy and family, I'm so sorry for your loss. "Aunt" Betty was such a precious lady and will be so missed. There are so many wonderful memories, and I so enjoyed working with her over the years. She was always leaving little "s's" as she called them on our teacher desks. I still have my woven God's eyes she gave me on my bulletin board by my computer and see it each day. I will cherish getting to sit on her sunflower porch and when I see a sunflower it will always remind me of Betty and the good times. Keeping all of you in my prayers during this sad time. Linda Carruthers

Linda Carruthers - May 06, 2020 at 12:18 AM

RL

“ Judy,
So sorry for your loss of Aunt Betty. She exemplified the word Lady in every way.
I know how she loved you and your family and how you all loved her.
She certainly left all who knew and loved her better for it.
I will be thinking of you in the days ahead. Ruth Ann Looney

Ruth Ann Looney - May 05, 2020 at 09:56 PM



“ *My late grandmother was friends with Betty since they were teenagers! Jesse Ruth Scott loved her so much. My late mother Sondra Scott Warren spoke of many fond memories of Betty & her niece Judy. I remember how sweet Betty was whenever I would see her at church. My condolences & love goes to the family! -Jennifer Warren*

Jennifer Warren - May 05, 2020 at 03:55 PM

FM

“ *Prayers for Family and Friends, May God be with each of you. My Girls and Granddaughters took Manners Classes from her.*

Frances Mahan - May 05, 2020 at 02:40 PM

VM

She will forever be remembered. Anyone who knew “Mrs. Looney” as we called her will never forget her. She loved unconditionally. She was such a awesome “Lady “. Yes she will be missed. Sending our love to you Judy. For we love you just as much and will forever !! Vernell Middleton and family.

Vernell Middleton - May 06, 2020 at 02:30 PM

SU

“ *I remember Miss Betty well, even though so many years have passed. I remember her manners class and how to stand in the "T" position. I remember how she made me feel..... special and cared for. She was so kind, gracious, and fun to be around! She leaves a powerful and lasting legacy full of love, laughter and a genuinely kind soul. There has to be a special place in heaven for those that have such talent with making children feel safe, loved and proud of who they are!!*

Susan - May 05, 2020 at 02:37 PM

DL

“ so sorry for the loss of Aunt Betty .I was glad to have met such a grand lady. Il enjoyed listening to her stories and her magic gold dust. We shall miss her humor. My sincere condolences to the family.Del Longair

Delvoir Longair - May 05, 2020 at 01:15 PM

DH

“ Prayers for the family! She was a precious lady and will be greatly missed.
I was in her manner classes and loved it. I even got to visit on her sunflower porch ❤️

Deidre Huey - May 05, 2020 at 09:52 AM

JH

“ Randy, my condolences on the loss of your Aunt Betty.
John Headrick

John Headrick - May 05, 2020 at 01:28 AM

CB

“ Sending love and prayers to Judy and all the family. So sorry for your loss Cornelia Burnett-Virden. Atkins Ar.

Cornelia Burnett-Virden - May 04, 2020 at 09:29 PM

 Mandy
Dorsey
Wood

“ We will miss Mrs. Looney so much! She was quite the lady and Razorback fan. I will think of her every Razorback season! Thank you for sharing her with us.

Mandy Dorsey Wood - May 04, 2020 at 07:26 PM

JH

“ Miss Betty was the epitome of a Southern lady. She was graceful, refined, intelligent, well-spoken and kind. She and Miss Nina Gene opened their home to my grandmother for a time and they developed a deep friendship, which I watched admiringly throughout my life. I was in Miss Gray's kindergarten class that first year and remember stories read to us by Miss Betty. I also attended Miss Manners classes for a couple of years and I still remember how to stand with T feet and what I should carry in my purse. It was a great blessing to know, love, and be loved by Miss Betty. Miss Judy, Lynn, and LeeAnn, You are my prayers as you say goodbye. I love you all.

Johanna Hall - May 04, 2020 at 07:17 PM