



## Cleo M. Whitington

June 14, 1939 - February 24, 2018

Cleo Morgan Whitington went home to be with the Lord on February 24, 2018. She was born on June 14, 1939, in Denton, Texas to Raymond and Jewell (Wynn) Morgan. She was raised in Denton and attended Texas Woman's University. She married George Leroy Whitington, Jr. on May 23, 1959. He is a lay minister, and together they had a long life of Christian service in churches throughout Texas – Houston, Dallas, Austin, Odessa, and for the last 17 years, in San Antonio. They opened their home to many over the years and because of this, they also have numerous spiritual children. Cleo was known for her gift of hospitality, sharp wit, practicality, sense of humor, frugality and faithfulness.

She is survived by her husband of 58 years, George Whitington; her children, Grace Whitington Barber, Martha Gill (Jalee), Steve Whitington (Julie), Linda Roberts (Roger) and son-in-law, Lynn Denton; twelve grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; her siblings, Joy Queen, Jerry Morgan (Sue), Carol Glenn (Jerry Don), and Melanie Morgan; and many more – nieces, nephews and extended family. She also has spiritual daughters, Peggy Sue Prewitt-Herber, Melissa Cartwright (Gary) and many more. She was preceded in death by her parents, grandparents, and a daughter, Virginia "Ginny" Denton.

Friends, family and others whose lives have been touched by Cleo are invited to celebrate her life on Saturday March 3rd, at 2:00 at the Mission Park Chapel North, located at 3401 Cherry Ridge. Family will receive friends for

visitation at the Chapel on Friday March 2nd, from 5 – 8 pm.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society or the charity of your choice.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 2. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge  
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr  
San Antonio, TX 78230  
(210) 349-1414  
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

## Funeral Service

MAR 3. 2:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge  
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr  
San Antonio, TX 78230  
(210) 349-1414  
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

## Interment

MAR 3 (CT)

Mission Retama Cemetery  
15940 Lookout Road  
San Antonio, TX 78202  
(210) 967-4242  
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

# Tribute Wall

SR

“ C J and I had been in the church life only a short time when I met Cleo. Someone came to the meeting who did not have a hymnal, so Cleo gave her hymnal to the person to use. I was going to share my hymnal with Cleo, but she said, "I don't really need it. I know this hymn." And she did. She also knew all the other hymns that we sang that day. Months later, I came to realize that she knew the words to most of the hymns, and what few words she didn't know, she would whistle. She said, "After all, the Bible said, 'Make a joyful noise,' and whistling is definitely a joyful moise." And, of course she was correct. When we moved to Houston, I missed her so very much, but I greatly appreciated having been so close to her for several years. She was a precious, loving sister in the Lord.

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**SHarold Parsons Rogers** - March 05, 2018 at 08:31 AM

MH

“*Sister Cleo was always gracious, giving, and generous in ministering Christ to me and my son Patrick. Her countenance shone and her eyes twinkled with the Spirit of the Lord. In fact, she radiated a "Jesus-kindness" from Jesus Himself that characterized her life. God the Father indeed imbued her with great spiritual strength and perseverance that should encourage all of us as believers that with God the most challenges of circumstances can be faced head-on. She would take the time to listen and share with me, and when she did, her attention would be focused on me, and I could feel her care for me as a "mother-shepherd". Finally, it seemed to me that her most important goal was to see that other Christians were learning and growing "in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18), and for non-believers to know her experience of Christ. She was available to the stranger, visitor, or anyone she could engage with her overflow of Christ. I will never forget and am so grateful for Sister Cleo who showed the results of one who "abided in the vine" (John 15:4). It would be very appropriate and in keeping with this great disciple of the Lord Jesus if she were to be appointed one of the "welcoming ones" by the Lord to welcome the Saints home to Heaven to whom she had ministered.*

*Mark R. Harrington*

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**Mark Harrington** - March 04, 2018 at 05:54 PM

“ Having grown up in West Texas (Van Horn & Ft. Stockton) I remembered George, Cleo and their family from those years. In Dec 2003 my husband and I showed up a table meeting in San Antonio. At the time George asked to recognize any visitors he looked straight at me, pointed his finger and said, "we know you". A couple of years ago we migrated within our locality and began joining the home meeting at George and Cleo's on Tuesday nights. My husband and I can testify that after being in George & Cleo's home we always felt so cherished. In the days immediately following our sister's passing I considered this hymn. <https://www.hymnal.net/en/hymn/ns/99>

*Mary poured out her love offering  
To many such love was a waste.  
Throughout all of the centuries  
Such lovers Your sweetness do taste.  
Precious lives and heart treasures, too  
Positions and golden futures,  
Have been "wasted" on You, Lord;  
Your sweetness a fragrance so sure.  
She took opportunity  
To love You; Lord, with her best.  
Like her, Lord, I too would pour  
My love and all that I have.*

*As I love You I set my being—  
My spirit, my soul and body.  
With my heart, my mind, and my strength,  
Absolutely on Thee.  
Lord, I let my entire being  
Be occupied by Thee  
As I enter in Your heart  
I sense a fellowship sweet.  
Occupied and lost in You;  
My Lord, You're my everything.  
Fellowship so intimate;*

*In spirit Lord I enjoy Thee.*

*Lord there's none in heav'n nor on earth  
That I desire but Thee.*

*Though my heart and flesh faileth, Lord,  
Thou ever my portion will be.*

*All is vanity, all is dung;*

*I count all other things loss;*

*Everything else drains my love*

*But You have captured my heart.*

*Lord, I've seen Thy preciousness,*

*Thy worth, Thy reality.*

*Now, my Lord, I must confess*

*My heart is only for Thee.*

*Our sister Cleo was such a testimony to the body. May the Lord  
strengthen us and encourage us to grow up into Him in such a way.*

*Justin & Marti Stout*

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**Marti Stout** - March 03, 2018 at 10:06 PM

“In His human living, He (Christ) expressed not His sufferings, but resurrection.”

After I read this sentence on day 2 of this week's HWMR (week 4) I wondered, “What does this kind of life look like? What does it look like to express the resurrection life in a human living?” Almost as quickly as I asked the question the Lord answered it, “it looks like the life of sister Cleo.”

Sister Cleo struggled and suffered with multiple sclerosis for more than 25 years. But in the 10 years that I've known sister Cleo I never observed struggling or suffering. Instead, I saw a sister who cared for the saints and the Church. I saw a sister with a smiling face. I saw a sister who expressed the resurrection life, not her sufferings.

On Saturday mornings at the hall I would see her dusting surfaces and wiping door knobs. She would do what she could to serve. She didn't use her medical condition as an excuse. She handled the book ordering and sales. She called saints before love feasts every month to ask them to serve in the kitchen and cleanup on the day of the love feast. She even called saints to remind us when to turn the clocks back or forward so we wouldn't be an hour late or an hour early for the Lord's Table meeting. She and George have been hosting a Tuesday meeting with dinner for as long as I can remember. Sister Cleo would cook and clean with the help of other sisters for that meeting. She also hosted weekly sister's meetings in their house. She cared for the saints and she cared for building up the Body of Christ.

The reading on day 2 of the HWMR concluded with:

*“No matter what the circumstances were, the Lord Jesus lived a life of suffering but expressing the fragrance of His resurrection. In every place and in every time Christ lived a life in His humanity mingled with His divinity and expressing His resurrection,”*

*This is the kind of life I saw in sister Cleo. She was not consumed with the restrictions of her condition, but gave herself for Christ and the Church.*

*Thank you sister Cleo for showing me what living a life that expresses resurrection looks like.*

**Steve McFaul** - March 03, 2018 at 09:58 AM

SL

“ *Shepherding and nourishing. Such a quiet unintrusive living of one who was given as a gift to perfect others by a shepherding and nourishing Life. I often recall my husband preferring to get the HWMR from Cleo. The smiles and an encouraging word as she, with one functioning hand, handed him the book, took the money, opened the zippered bag which was on her lap, made change if necessary and then followed up with a call if new HWMR came and he/we had not gotten ours. Seemingly small quiet details that were an absolute balm to the heart. Lord, gain what You are after in all of us.*

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**Sister in the Lord** - March 03, 2018 at 07:37 AM

AN

“ Despite her disability, our sister Cleo is very strong. She wants to serve and function in any possible capacity she can. I think that is why she still takes care of the book services when she was alive. She does not let her disability or infirmity stop her or discourage her. Her voice is very fine and not loud, yet she would pray in the prayer meeting. Whenever she is able, she still goes to the cleaning service on Saturdays and I see her wipe down the door knobs, tables, whatever that is within her reach during the times that I went there. In the sisters' meeting, I noticed that she knows where everything is placed. It is really her home and her kitchen. When we were moving to another house, she asked me whether I need boxes for books, as she keeps the one she gets for the HWMR and ministry books and she gave them to me. Those boxes were very sturdy, double-ply, suitable for heavy books. There was one time when the weather forecast was that the roads would be very icy on a Tuesday. The night before she called me and said that I do not need to buy any food for the meeting. She does not want me to make the trip due to icy roads forecast and she will make do with whatever they have. Our sister is very detailed, considerate, and thoughtful. She is such a great example to us sisters.

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**Anonymous** - March 02, 2018 at 06:34 PM

 Lisa  
Shell  
Allen

“ Cleo was like a Mother to me, I will miss the times I call to talk to Cleo. May the Lord strengthen you all.  
Love y'all  
Lisa shell Allen

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**Lisa Shell Allen** - March 02, 2018 at 03:31 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cleo M. Whittington.*



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March 02, 2018 at 12:14 PM



“ *Hello, Ms. Barber.....keep you in prayer.*

*Ms. Dean-Shaw*

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**Jacqueline** - March 01, 2018 at 03:56 PM

MP

“ *Praise You Lord Jesus! Thank You Lord Jesus!*

*Missing our dear sister Cleo, I want to be in her memorial meeting, but unable to come. My deep condolences to Bro. George and to her whole family. May The Lord comfort and strengthen you all! I share at this time of grieving, but rejoicing in The Lord, remembering her, and her life full of services to our Lord!*

*Sister Cleo's faithfulness to The Lord, and her function in the Body to strengthen each one that came to her are a sweet, beautiful and bright pattern! Christ is magnified in her always.*

*I miss her very much! I have been personally so uplifted in my spirit and comforted as I had been praying, interceding with her by phone, and enjoying the HWMR in the past year. She was always ready to take up the call. My little grandson was also full of joy at my prayer time with sister Cleo. The anointing, joy, and brightness in this precious sister has blessed us and many others. I miss the time with her; her smiling face draws our hearts to Christ, our center. Sister Cleo and her husband Bro. George are pillars for the church. Thank You Lord Jesus for Your overcoming life in them supplying us, the members in Your Body! Christ in us, the Hope of glory!*

*1 Thess.4 :16-18 Because the Lord Himself, with a shout of command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are living, who are left remaining, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and thus we will be always with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.*

*Praise You Lord Jesus! We love You Lord Jesus!*

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**Mehala Prasad** - March 01, 2018 at 10:33 AM

MG

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Martha Gill** - February 27, 2018 at 05:39 AM

GB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Grace Barber** - February 26, 2018 at 10:46 PM

GB

*This was from November 2017, when George and Cleo visited Grace's daughter, Laura and their great-grandchildren, John and Irene.*

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**Grace Barber** - February 26, 2018 at 10:49 PM

TS

*When you spoke and had a time of fellowship with Cleo you never considered our dear sister's physical limitation. She always had a smile on her face and my feeling was always that she genuinely cared for me. I miss her tender voice on the other side of the phone. She never missed an opportunity to encourage and give you her time. My sweetest memory of her is seeing her beaming face as she sang with her heart to the Lord in the meetings. Praise our Lord for the time and service He afforded Cleo while she was among us. She was a sweet and faithful shepherd. We'll miss you Cleo.*

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**Tony & Sylvia Steele** - February 27, 2018 at 11:21 AM

GB

“ *Dear family and friends - the time will be limited at Cleo's memorial service, so please post your favorite memory or story here. Thank you! George and family*

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**Grace Barber** - February 26, 2018 at 10:45 PM