



## Mae Ernst Elliott

May 21, 1923 - January 9, 2021

Lula Mae Ernst Elliott was born in Brady, Texas on May 21, 1923, to Ova Lee Dodd and Montie Perry Dodd. During the Great Depression, her family moved frequently to secure employment to support the family. At the age of eleven, Mae attended a revival meeting under a brush arbor pavilion with her grandparents, and asked Jesus into her heart. This was the decision that, in her own words, set the course for her life “from a child of the Great Depression to a child of the King”. She was baptized in the San Saba River and was discipled as a member of Central Baptist Church in Brady until graduation from high school.

Although Mae dreamed of going to college, as the oldest child she needed to help support her family. She received an invitation to move to San Antonio to live with a family from her church and to work at Kelly AFB. Mae became a member of Palm Heights Baptist Church where she met her future husband, Russell Ernst. They married in 1946 after his return from service in Germany during World War II. After fourteen years of marriage, Russell was hospitalized and passed away unexpectedly in 1960. Mae brought up their five children on the family homestead south of San Antonio. In her words, “I didn’t do it alone. The Lord was there to help me, and my children have made me very proud and thankful to God for their lives and influence.”

In 1979, Mae married Alton “Buck” Elliott, a former high school classmate and

retired Air Force pilot. Buck passed away in 1999.

During her career, Mae worked in the Southside Independent School District, then returned to Kelly AFB to work as a stenographer and writer/editor, where she retired in 1984. In her retirement she worked at Southside Baptist Church and Harlandale Baptist Church, also serving as librarian in each church. She volunteered with Christian Women's Job Corps and Friendship International at First Baptist, San Antonio.

Mae passed away peacefully on January 9, 2021 and is with her Lord and Savior. Preceded in death by her parents and two sisters, Barbara Flores and Peggy Profili, Mae is survived by sisters Virginia Heider and Valera Denman, brothers Bobby Dodd and Billy Dodd, children David Ernst (Jackie), Bonnie Hearon (Thomas), Marcia Fitzsimmons (Burton), Sarabeth Ramsey (Wayne), and Theodore Ernst (Sharon), 14 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Throughout her life, Mae was known for her poetry, usually composed personally for those around her (especially family and fellow residents of Brookdale). Her writing, her smile, her kindness and her genuine interest in others won the hearts of many in her 97 years.

A celebration of Mae's life will be January 26 at 1:00 pm at First Baptist Church San Antonio, 515 McCullough Ave. The service can be livestreamed at this address: [www.fbcса.org/elliottservice](http://www.fbcса.org/elliottservice). The family requests that memories be shared about Mae on this website. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be given in her memory to FBC San Antonio's TV Ministry (<https://fbcса.org/giving>) or to the Baptist University of the Americas (<https://www.bua.edu/en/giving/>).

Funeral services will conclude at the church. There will be a private graveside service for immediate family only. We the family wish to express our appreciation to each of you for your expressions of sympathy.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JAN **26**. 1:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of San Antonio  
515 McCullough Ave  
San Antonio, TX 78215  
<http://www.fbcса.org/>

# Tribute Wall

LH

“ *What a blessing to have known my precious friend, Mae. We became friends through the Homebound Bible Study class with which my husband and I worked. Mae's love for the Lord and for other people was always evident. She had the best, most positive attitude no matter her health or other circumstances affecting her life. During our Bible Study class, Mae would ask for prayer for several of her neighbors at her retirement complex, always looking out for the needs of others. Our class members often reported the wonderful calls they received from Mae. When my husband died suddenly last year, I was the one receiving Mae's calls, notes, and cards. I'll always remember her kindness and encouragement during such a hard time in my life. In so many ways Mae showed all those who had the privilege of knowing her the fine art of keeping on keeping on. I thank the Lord for Mae's example of a life lived to its fullest every day.*

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**Linda Hibner** - January 30, 2021 at 11:02 PM

PR

“ *I am thankful that Marcia shared her wonderful mother with us. She was always like a bright light in any room; such a wonderful smile and demeanor. I met her when I used to volunteer with Friendship international and transcribed a couple of her poems once. Her soul overflowed with poetry, music, faith, and love. I wish dearly that I could have visited her over Christmas and sung some carols with Marcia for her. I admired her very much and pray for strength and peace for her family.*  
*Love, Pris*

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**Pris** - January 26, 2021 at 02:09 PM

HH

“ Much love and prayers for al the family. We love Aunt Mae and cherish her so much. We know she is celebrating with the rest of the family and having a great time. Even though, we will miss her wit and sassiness!

*Jim and Heidi Hutcherson*

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**Heidi Hutcherson** - January 25, 2021 at 02:36 PM

JB

“ I knew Mae through our shared membership at Harlandale Baptist church. She was the kindest and sweetest soul. We spent some time helping her in the library and setting up a computer. She loved having helpers and visitors in the library. She was a servant of the lord through and through. She will be greatly missed but we take comfort in knowing she is reunited with our lord and we will cherish all the memories we have of our time together.

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**Janice Brady** - January 25, 2021 at 10:44 AM

CS

“ Mae, was like a grandma to me and then to my wife and great-grandma to my little ones. We first met back in 2004 at Harlandale Baptist Church, she was managing the resource/library ministry room. I was a new student at Baptist University of the Americas. At the time she was needing some help with the yard and I offered to help her. What I didn't realize was she was helping me I needed an “Abuela” (aka – grandma). She was full of love, she had a big heart for missions. During those years I was driving to visit my family down in the Rio Grande Valley it was in one occasion that she took a road trip with us we met her sister down in McAllen. Over the years we moved to Brazil to serve as missionaries and she would check in on us for 15 years she was our Abuela Mae. We recently got a Christmas card and a New Year's greeting from her. She was a prime role model of servanthood, I will miss her but will remember her courageous life of maximizing our days for the Lord. - Cheyenne Solis and family

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**Cheyenne Solis** - January 21, 2021 at 04:26 PM

DM

“ Mae was always happy and smiling, I loved our visits and always enjoyed talking with her, RIP Mae, Godspeed!

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**David Miller** - January 19, 2021 at 10:52 AM

VH

“ Mae and I were very close, growing up during the depression and then WW2. We were very thrifty, saving enough in our first year working in the defense of our country, to buy a house for the family. We also sang together, along with our younger sister Valera, mostly in church, but once in a USO show.

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**VIRGINIA L. HEIDER** - January 19, 2021 at 12:09 AM

LS

“ Mae was the first person to welcome me to Brookdale. She was so caring always asking about Bubba and his mission trip also promoting his book. Mae was so smart and lovely and I am really going to miss her, but I'm so we thrilled she is in heaven. Love and Blessing. Louise Stahl

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**Louise Stahl** - January 18, 2021 at 11:54 AM

BS

“ Miss Mae was the most devoted person I have ever met. If somebody was in need she was there. Little notes, cards, words, visits have lightened up so many peoples life. She was very caring and understanding. She did not miss a birthday! We will miss her kindness. Brigitte Schwarz



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**Brigitte Schwarz** - January 17, 2021 at 03:11 PM

CM

“ Aunt Mae was a sweet, kind woman with a beautiful heartwarming smile. Her love of life, others and Jesus was such an inspiration. She lived life abundantly.

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**Cathy Mask** - January 16, 2021 at 09:34 PM

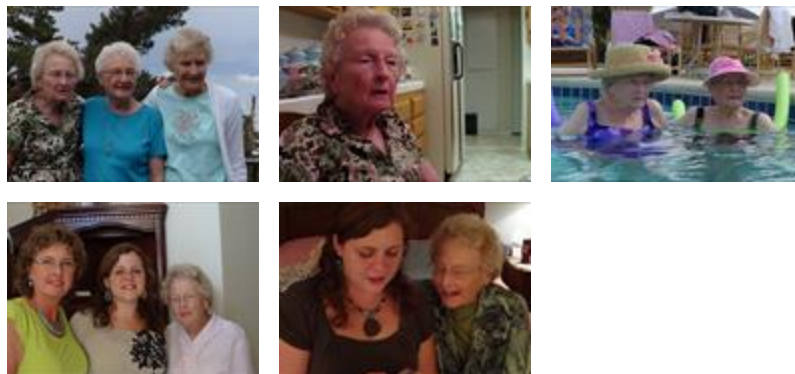
SY

“ Mae was such a Beautiful person, we went to same church..Harlandale Baptist Church and we worked together in the library. She was always smiling and always helpful to anyone she met. She would tell me stories about her Family and the trips they took..she had a wonderful family . She will be missed,

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**Sylvia** - January 16, 2021 at 11:50 AM

DM

“ *Just a glimpse of some wonderful memories of our sweet Aunt Mae. It was always a wonderful time going to visit her and family in San Antonio. I always wanted to grow up to be a strong woman like she was. She set a good example to us all in her faith and in life. We had a great time reuniting the three sisters in California and in Texas.*



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**Deborah Moon** - January 15, 2021 at 08:25 PM

VH

*We loved her so much--all of the extended family, and plan to meet her again on the Other Shore!*

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**VIRGINIA L. HEIDER** - January 19, 2021 at 12:18 AM

CM

“ *Aunt Mae was one of the sweetest, kindest ladies I've ever known. I never saw her when she wasn't smiling. She will be missed by all of us.*

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**Clyde Miller** - January 15, 2021 at 07:06 PM

JM

“ Ms. Elliott was our Brokdale Poet, she wrote a poem whenever she met someone or would write uplifting letters to staff. I received my first poem from Mae when I started my position in the Activity Room as a Resident Programs Coordinator. I got my second poem from Mae when I moved up a position in the Activity Room as a Resident Programs Director. Till this day, I still have that poem framed in the Activity Room hanging on my wall. I myself wrote Mae a poem. I'm no poet, but I heard she loved it! Thank you Mae for being so sweet & wonderful and raising great children. Ms. Elliott you will be missed.



Jeanette Medina - January 15, 2021 at 03:37 PM

MS

“ Ms. Elliott and I shared a time when both of us had a grandchild/great grandchild in the NICU at the same time and rejoiced when they were discharged. We would share stories over the past 2 years on the well being of them and the joy when they were able to go home. Mae wrote uplifting and encouraging letters to the associates working with her, and I always looked forward to receiving a note or card in my folder from her.

Melissa Smith - January 15, 2021 at 02:16 PM

ME

“ It was so delightful to get to know Mrs. Elliott when she was helping with the Friendship Group at FBC. Her lovely smile and friendly manner made everyone around feel welcome.

Marilyn Elliott - January 15, 2021 at 01:44 PM