



Nellie Jo Tolbert Ritchey

November 22, 1920 - May 18, 2010

RITCHEY

Nellie Jo Tolbert Ritchey Nell Jo entered her home in heaven on Tuesday, May 18, 2010 at the age of 89 years. Since 1933, she had been the loving widow of Ernest P. Ritchey "Ritchey" as she affectionately called him. She was born in Gadsden, Alabama on November 22, 1920 to Henry G. Tolbert and Katie Bell the real McCoy. She was a member of the James Memorial Baptist Church in Gadsden, AL. She was a little girl when it was organized and remembered meeting at Hooks Lake until the church was built. As a young woman, she served as a Sunday School teacher, choir member and choir leader. A proud graduate of Gaston High School, Jo won the Balfour Award, was Salutatorian and played on the basketball team could still fit in her uniform. After attending Gadsden Business College, Jo later worked at Sears and was the first woman in the Southern District to be assigned to be the hardware department. She was known as the girl with the long, pretty hair. A job transfer brought the family to San Antonio, TX in '62. Nell, as she was known at Castle Hills First Baptist Church, was involved with many activities, sang with the Senior Adult Choir and volunteered at the Methodist Hospital. Daughter Savola's family - husband John Whorton, daughter Gena, sons Greg and Scott, grandkids Celeste, Jessica and Jake all reside in TX. Son Barry Ritchey's family - wife Kathi and daughter Tess, all live in Albuquerque, NM. This cotton pickin' Southern Belle, was a lot of things to a lot of people. Her treasure of stories from the past were a link that tied generations together.

Cousins from afar, friend and family will dearly miss her spirit, wisdom and strength.

SERVICE

Visitation will begin at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, May 25, 2010 at Castle Hills First Baptist Church Grace Chapel with the Funeral Service to begin at 12:00 PM. Interment will follow at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. The family asks that memorial gifts be made to the Bulverde Baptist Church Building Fund, 1331 Bulverde Rd., Bulverde TX 78163.