



Beatrice Dew

January 28, 1927 - March 21, 2005

Beatrice Dew, 78 year-old resident of Leach, Oklahoma, died March 21, 2005, at Quail Ridge Living Center, West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma. Born January 28, 1927 in Morrill, Nebraska, she was the daughter of Elmo Cleopolis Burkes and Berna Ethel Cook Burkes. In February, 1945, she moved to Oklahoma where she worked at the powder plant in Pryor, Oklahoma. She married Jess Dew on August 25, 1945. Bea had been employed for 13 years at Lowery School, 17 years for Oaks Mission Children's Center, and retired from Siloam Springs Memorial Hospital in 1991. She was also a foster grandparent. She was preceded in death by her husband Jess Dew in 1987; one brother, Ardith Burkes; and one sister, Tilda Morrow. Survivors include one son, Bill Dew of Chicago, Illinois; one daughter, Sharon Dunlap Peck of West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma; five grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; seven great great grandchildren; six brothers, Keith Burkes of Witchita, Kansas, Godard Burkes of Hindsville, Arkansas, Lionel Burkes of Springdale, Arkansas, Earl Burkes of Huntsville, Arkansas, Glen Burkes of Tallahassee, Florida, Loy Burkes of Bandero, Texas; one sister, Wanda Howard of Hindsville, Arkansas. Funeral services will be 2:30 Thursday, March 24, 2005, at Wasson Memorial Chapel, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, with Rev. Jess French officiating. Burial will follow at Bill Batt Cemetery, Cherokee County, Oklahoma. Arrangements are under the direction of Wasson Funeral Home, Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

Tribute Wall

RL

“ I knew Bea Dew from her work at the Oaks Indian Mission. Robby and Stacy, her grandchildren were staying with her and I spent time visiting with them all out on the swing set on the grounds of the Mission. Bea would tell me stories about growing up and getting married. And later, I had the chance to work for her son - Bill Dew, at the Cherokee Nation Health Department. I have since lost track of Stacy and Robby, and hadn't seen Bea or Bill for years, but wish all the family to know that I am so sorry for their loss. Best wishes to all the family.

Rebecca H. Lane - September 19, 2012 at 01:10 PM

LH

“ My aunt, Reba Swicegood, was Bea's room mate at Quail Ridge. Just wanted to let you know that everyone is in our thoughts & prayers. May your loving memories & God's love comfort you at this time.

Larry & Lana Hurt - September 19, 2012 at 01:10 PM

RB

“ I am very honored that Silvester was chosen as a pallbearer. Not sure why she chose him over so many others just that she had seen the kindness in him.

Aunt Bea always had time for us kids. she was always laughing and smiling.

When dad was in the hospital about 40 some odd years ago, Martha and I stayed with your family. Aunt Bea would tell us stories at bed time. One I remember was about an Indian girl that had fell in a bear den and how the bears helped her to get out. I know the name of the girl but would make a mess trying to spell it.

There was snow on the ground while we were there and Sharon put plastic bags over our shoes so we could play outside and she took us to feed the horses and taught us to hold our hands flat so the horse could get the food.

I remember Aunt Bea rocking me in those ladder back chairs at grandma's.

One time we were at Wanda's and us kids were out by the highway honking diesels. Well one came by honked and one of Wanda's dogs got ran over and killed in front of us. All five of us girls are running to the house screaming and crying. Your parents were there visiting also. Uncle Jess jumps in the car and chases that truck almost to Eureka Spings to tell him what he had done. We love and miss him also. Martha would call him her brown sugar, he seemed to get a kick out of it.

I regret not attending his funeral.

Your Mother was a very special person. She has left us many fond memorys.

With love,

Cousin Brenda

Richard boslaugh - September 19, 2012 at 01:10 PM

DD

“ Granny was always been a huge part of my life...Half of my childhood was spent at her house and she will always be in my thoughts...Granny always told me to make something of myself and to never get caught in the wrong crowd and to stay in school. She always said she couldn't wait to see me graduate high school and I know that when that time comes she will be there in spirit. Granny was the most honest, respectful, sincerest person I know, and there will never be another person like her. Granny has taught almost everyone in this family something special and I will never forget her. She was a vital part of this family and is greatly loved and will be deeply missed.

Daniel Dew - September 19, 2012 at 01:10 PM

SO

“ I will always treasure the relationship that Granny & Daniel had, as well as the unconditional love she gave to him. I as a mother would just like to say thank you for being a very big part of his life. You will be deeply missed!

Shanon L. Howard Ogden - September 19, 2012 at 01:10 PM

LM

“ We both just think that Bea was the the "best of the best" and there will never be another with her goodness and kindness, along with a host of other special gifts.

We have known Bea and her family since before Sharon was born and have spent

so many special times with them.

Our hearts and our love are with the family at this time

She will always be remembered as a "special" person in our lives.

Louise (James) Larson & Tresa (James) Madden - September 19, 2012 at 01:10 PM

JB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. You will be missed.

Jo Burkes-Upson - September 19, 2012 at 01:10 PM

SM

“ Aunt Bea has always been a very special aunt to me. She will always be in my heart.

I will always cherish the good memories I have, of spending time with your family as a child. I remember the excitement I always had when summer was getting near because that is when the family get togethers would start happening and we would gather at Grandma's to visit with one another, and I would get to spend two weeks of the summer with your family.

I remember her sitting with us, telling us stories. The one that we really laughed at a lot was ?When the rooster died over her cooking,? and we all know what an excellent cook she was! She had some left over bread dough, or piecrust dough (I don't remember which it was) so she rolled it up into a ball and tossed it out the back door. The rooster ran up and ate it and choked to death on it because it stuck in it?s throat.

And another story we used to laugh at, was shortly after Bea and Jess got married, I believe it was a pie she had baked. She thought she screwed up on it some how and didn?t want to throw it out because money was scarce in those days and she didn?t want Jess to know she screwed it up, so she hid it from Jess and ate the whole thing by herself. (I wonder if it really was screwed up!)

Sharon, I remember the nights I spent with you and how we layed awake giggling and talking late into the night. Then we would hear Aunt Bea knocking on the other side of the wall, telling us to be quiet so they could get some sleep too.

I will always remember her laugh and her kindness with everyone and how she was always there to help if someone needed help. I feel fortunate that I was able to know her and spend the times with her that I did. She has certainly been loved by everyone!

With all my Love, Susie

Susie Burkes McCollum - September 19, 2012 at 01:10 PM