



Betty Louise (Martin) Steele

June 3, 1937 - April 13, 2023

Betty Louise (Martin) Steele was born to Lindle Eugene Martin and Etta Duma (Pruitt) Martin on June 3, 1937, in Grants, New Mexico and passed away at her home in Siloam Springs, Arkansas on April 13, 2023. Betty graduated with honors from Estancia New Mexico high school in 1955 where she was homecoming queen, cheerleader and voted best-all-around. On October 2, 1955, Betty married William (Bill) Steele and lived in New Mexico until they moved to Siloam Springs, Arkansas in 1972. Betty and Bill adopted three babies into their home, Randy in 1959, Rick in 1962, and Renetta in 1966. In 1973, Betty and Bill bought their dream farm, then called "Spring Valley Farm" on the outskirts of Siloam Springs from John and Alice Gratton. Betty retired from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, AR after 25 years of service as the administrative director for the Agriculture and Economics department and was best known for proofing the professor's papers as she had a stellar command of grammar and spelling.

Oh, how Betty loved to play golf, and was an exceptionally talented player. She had such a great swing that she had to "tee off" from the men's tee box to be a fair player for the women. In true Betty fashion, she requested to be buried with her putter.

Betty is preceded in death by both parents; brothers, Sonny Martin, and Benny Martin; sisters, Faye Champagne, and Linda Miller; daughter-in-law

Amy Steele; and her beloved son Rick Steele.

Betty is survived by her husband of 67 years, Bill Steele, of the home; son, Randy Steele and wife, Valerie of Siloam Springs, AR; daughter, Renetta Steele Reyes and husband Ruben Reyes of Yukon, OK; and Teri Browsers Carnes and husband Joe of Kansas, OK; 6 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren; sisters Joyce Burns of Springdale, AR, Darene Bingham and husband Bob Lloyd of Springdale, AR, and Mimi Mathis of Fayetteville, AR. Betty is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and cousins which she adored.

In lieu of flowers or food, Betty requested donations to The Rick Steele Memorial Scholarship fund, for her beloved son's legacy to live on. Donations can be made to: Scholarship Fund, Siloam Springs High School, 700 N Progress Ave, Siloam Springs, AR 72761-4349, Rick Steele Memorial Scholarship in the memo.

Services are under the direction of Wasson Funeral home with visitation on Thursday, April 20, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with family present. Graveside service will be on Friday, April 21, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at Yell Cemetery with reception immediately following at the Mosaic Community Church on Hwy 412, Siloam Springs, AR.

Cemetery Details

Yell Cemetery

Yell Cemetery Road
Benton County, AR

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 20. 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Wasson Funeral Home
441 U.S. 412
Siloam Springs, AR 72761
(479) 524-5131
wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>

Graveside Service

APR 21. 10:00 AM (CT)

Yell Cemetery
Yell Cemetery Road
Benton County, AR

Tribute Wall

VM

“ Betty was a sweet lady, a joy to be around for sure. Wes and I adopted her and Bill as our parents since ours had passed away. The world would be a better place if there were more like her for sure. RIP sweet Betty, until we meet again. Vicki and Wes Marshall

Vicki Marshall - April 19, 2023 at 11:08 PM

ST

“ Randy I'm so very sorry for your loss. Your Mom was such a joy to be around.. she'll never be forgotten! ❤️



Sheila McClelland Tucker - April 19, 2023 at 12:11 PM

SN

“ I remember our reunions and Betty always laughing and enjoying every moment. She was a true beauty. Rest In Peace dear cousin.. The Nix family.

Sharon Nix - April 19, 2023 at 01:29 AM

LR

“ Betty was a true gem and will be missed terribly. I loved listening to her sing and watching her dance.



Liz Reading - April 18, 2023 at 05:53 PM