



Gwen Houston

OCT 19, 1928 - APR 1, 2020



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Due to health restrictions in effect because of the Coronavirus Pandemic; private graveside services for Gwen Samuelson Houston who died peacefully on April 1, 2020 in Lafayette, LA will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2020, with interment in Beauregard Cemetery. Reverend Jon Telifaro, pastor of Covenant United Methodist Church in Lafayette, will preside at the service, under the direction of Labby Memorial Funeral Home.

Mrs. Houston is survived by one daughter, Shelley Houston Lizotte, her husband Philip; one grandson, Kyle Lizotte; and one step-granddaughter, Nicole Lizotte; all of Lafayette. She was preceded in death by her husband, George M. Houston; and their son Scott Houston; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leo (Harriet B.) Samuelson; and one sister, Gayle Bailey.

Mrs. Houston was a graduate, cum laude, of California State University at San Jose and was co-owner and publisher of the Beauregard News with her husband George for 32 years.

She was active in many civic organizations including BPWC, Beauregard Historical Society, Beauregard Parent-Teacher Association, and the Beauregard Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, where she was a member of the Pink Ladies. She was also active as a Den Mother for the Cub Scouts and assisted with Bluebirds and Campfire Girls organizations.

Mrs. Houston was an active member of the First United Methodist Church for more than 60 years where she served in many capacities including Secretary of the Administrative Board, Chairman and longtime member of the Staff/Parish Relations Committee, and as a Sunday School teacher for over 20 years.

A longtime member of the Beauregard Parish Historical Society, Gwen was the editor of the Beauregard Parish History Book in 1986; and the "Chapters in History" booklet for Beauregard's Sesquicentennial Celebration in 1968. She also edited the "First United Methodist Church New Millennium Centennial Anniversary Church History" in 2001.



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George and Gwen Houston owned and published several award-winning newspapers during their 32 year journalism career. The publications included the Beauregard News, Kinder Progress, Vernon Journal and others. They merged the Beauregard News and the DeRidder Enterprise in the early 1980's. They also published the Fort Polk newspaper from 1952 until the corporation was sold in 1984.

After their retirement from the publishing industry, George and Gwen traveled extensively over the years and visited nearly every continent on the globe, with the exception of Antarctica. It was in keeping with George's nuptial promise that he and Gwen would travel the world together.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the First United Methodist Church in DeRidder, or to the United Methodist Children's Home in Ruston, LA.



Tribute Wall

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SL

Steve Landreneau posted:

Shelley This is Steve Landreneau So sorry to hear of the passing of your Mom She was such a wonderful woman and always a joy to be around Prayers to you and your family

April 9 at 7:00 PM

RC

Rosalyn Charles posted:

It was a pleasure taking care of Ms. Houston. She was surely a sweet heart and will be missed. My condolences go out to the family!!!!

April 3 at 7:00 PM

RK

Ronald P Kern posted:

Shelly, prayers and more prayers. I was thankful to have your mom as my Cub Scout Den Mother. So sorry. Ronni P. Kern

April 2 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Such a beautiful lady. She will be sorely missed. May you all be blessed with acceptance, peace and happy memories.

April 2 at 7:00 PM

ML

Morris Lebleu posted:

Shelley, I am so very sorry for the death of your dear mother Gwen. Please know of my prayers for the repose of her soul and for you and your family as you move forward

April 2 at 7:00 PM

MR

Martha Lou And Ron Roberts posted:

Ron and I always enjoyed our association with Gwen. She was smart, engaging, and always so kind and gentle. We are remembering you as you deal with this loss.

April 2 at 7:00 PM



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CM

Clarence Mcknight posted:

I knew through her sister Gayle who went from the 4th grade to graduation together. She was always gracious and easy to converse with. Gorge and I knew each other through ft polk events. He worked constantly for ft polk while the la aide to the secretary of the army.

April 2 at 7:00 PM

RC

Randy And Earline Cline posted:

Our thoughts and prayers to a very special family. Mrs Houston was a pillar in our community and her absence will be greatly felt. She was a beautiful and gracious lady!

April 1 at 7:00 PM

TL

Tom Lampo posted:

So sorry for your great loss. Praying for your healing, comfort, strength and peace during this painful time. Letting you know we are thinking about you during this difficult time. Our heartfelt sympathy.
Tom and MaryAnn Lampo

April 1 at 7:00 PM

SL

Sam Lampo posted:

Shelley,I am so sorry to hear about your Mom. She was a wonderful lady and will be missed.Sam Lampo

April 1 at 7:00 PM

RF

Roz Fisher posted:

So sorry to hear about Mrs. Houstons passing. I know my family thought a great deal of her. Sending our love and sympathyRosalind Lampo Fisher

April 1 at 7:00 PM

BG

Belinda Green posted:

A lovely lady. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

April 1 at 7:00 PM



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BM

Belinda Mcdonald posted:

Shelley, my deepest sympathies. Mrs. Houston was such a big influence in my life growing up. She was the true definition of grace and charm, and I truly looked up to her and your whole family. Warm hugs for you, Phil, Kyle, and Nickie.

April 1 at 7:00 PM

DP

Dianne Penney posted:

A superb lady who influenced so many and left a marvelous legacy for all friends and family. She will be long remembered

April 1 at 7:00 PM

FC

Frances Crawford posted:

Such a sweet lady! So sorry for your loss

April 1 at 7:00 PM

KA

Kelley Allen posted:

So sorry to hear of Mrs Houston's passing. Our hearts and prayers are with you all during this time of grief.

April 1 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Shelley, so sorry to hear about your Mom. I regret Not walking over to see her . Take careFrankie Harris

April 1 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Gwen by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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