



# Mary Thompson

JUL 26, 1929 - NOV 27, 2019



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# Mary Thompson

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**M**ary DeWitt Thompson, 90, was born in Mount Holly, New Jersey on July 26, 1929. She passed from this life to her eternal home in heaven on November 27, 2019 in Houston, Texas.

Visitation will be held Sunday, December 8 from 4 P.M. to 7 P.M. at the First Baptist Church in Leesville, LA.

Funeral Services will be held on Monday, December 9 at 9:00 A.M. at the church with Rev. Craig Forque officiating. Burial will follow in the Central Louisiana Veterans Cemetery in Leesville, LA under the direction of Labby Memorial Funeral Home.

Mary is preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, George C. Thompson; brother, Harold Dewitt and sister, Evangeline Warrick.

Mary is survived by her three children: George Samuel Thompson and wife, Lisa of Baton Rouge, LA, Debra Jean Thomas and husband, Brian of Houston, TX and Steven Craig Thompson and wife, Frances of Louisville, CO; five grandchildren: Phil Howard Thomas II and wife Rocio of Houston, TX, Benjamin Collins Thomas and wife, Taryne of Houston, TX, George Charles Thompson and wife Mari of Baton Rouge, LA, Sarah Marie Thompson of Baton Rouge, LA and Stefany Annaliese Thompson of Louisville, CO; two step-grandchildren: Bridger and Anabelle Elwin of Louisville, CO.

Mary attended kindergarten at Folwell School in Mt. Holly, N.J. She then went to Milton H. Allen School in Medford, N.J. through elementary and Jr. High grades. She graduated from Mt. Holly High School (also called Rancocas Valley Regional High School) where she was a cheerleader for 4 years and lettered in all sports. Next she attended The Kings College in New Castle, Delaware, earning a B.S. degree. Once again she played all sports and was a cheerleader. After spending seven years in Germany, Mary and her family arrived in Leesville, LA in 1965 where they decided to retire near Ft. Polk, LA. She graduated from Northwestern State Univ. receiving a M.Ed. plus 30



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and a Specialist degree.

Altogether, Mary taught 33 years in N.J., Germany, Pickering, East Leesville Elementary and finally retiring from West Leesville Elementary, La in 1994.

Mary was an active member of Leesville First Baptist Church where she sang in the choir. She taught Sunday School for years and was director of the 2nd and 3rd grade department at the former First Baptist Church on Fifth Street as well as the new building on Texas Highway. On Sunday evenings, she and her husband taught Training Union for youth for many years. She also was a substitute teacher for her favorite Sarah Sunday School Class. She and her husband enjoyed entertaining widow friends in their home every year. They both believed in community involvement by being members of Vernon Parish Retired Teachers' Association, Alpha Delta Kappa, and Fidelity Sororities, Rotary, Gideon Auxiliary, AARP, and Chamber of Commerce. She enjoyed leading the singing at the nursing home "Sing-Along" once a month. George and Mary were Grand Marshalls of the Leesville Christmas Parade in 2014 which was an honor for them.

Mary was responsible for the wheelchair path in the woods by the nursing home as well as the "Merry Christmas" banner and the "Leesville Welcomes You" and "God Bless You" signs on HWY 171. While George was in Korea and Vietnam, she supported him and cared for their children.

Being a patriotic citizen, Mary also collected donations for engraved names on monuments and bricks at the Veterans' Plaza on Leesville Main Street.

For years Mary was a teacher consultant for Weekly Reader Publications representing the southern district. Through that publication, a student from Vernon Parish was selected to go to California for a Presidential Parade with all expenses paid.

Marys' awards include:

Vernon Parish Elementary Teacher of the Year – 1989

West Leesville Elementary Appreciation – 1994

Community Care Nursing Home Appreciation

Rotary Club District Service Award – 1999-2000

Vernon Parish Volunteer of the Year – 2000

In lieu of flowers, please make your donations to First Baptist Church of Leesville in her memory.



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Words of comfort may be expressed to the Thompson Family at [www.labbymemorial.com](http://www.labbymemorial.com)



## Tribute Wall

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VT

**Vicki Turner** posted:

Miss Mary was filling in for my 3rd-grade teacher for a few minutes one day at East Leesville Elementary School. She engaged us in a rousing show-tune, teaching us the words as we went along--"Hey, look me over, lend me an ear, fresh out of clover, mortgaged up to here!..." I will never forget her energy, her joy, and her total lack of abandon while teaching us the words to this song, words I remember to this day all because she cared enough to teach them. She touched many, many lives in her long career, and mine was one of them. All she needed was ten minutes--that's all it took for her to influence this impressionable third-grader back in the 1960s. I will never forget her.

December 12 at 7:00 PM

JH

**Jim Haensly** posted:

Miss Mary was one of those extraordinary people who stood out in so many positive ways. She was kind-hearted, truly thoughtful, always positive and joyful, with an incredible spirit that was impossible to miss in even the shortest interaction. The first time she walked into my Moms room at Eagles Trace, I thought Mary was a special minister of joy hired by Eagles Trace to visit everyone who needed an uplift! Every single time she visited my mom, I watched my moms face respond with a big smile of true happiness. She brought smiles, laughter, and positive observations of simple things like the turtles by the pond as well as the deeper joy of relationships past and present. Her energy and enthusiasm were so strong that no one could be in her presence without experiencing it themselves and having it lift them up as well. I remember laughing with her when she told her wide range of great stories. When Mary left a room, she left behind the warm glow of love, happiness, and friendship. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to meet Miss Mary, getting to know her, and how she touched my family so profoundly. There is most definitely a special place in heaven for Mary Thompson.

December 8 at 7:00 PM

MO

**Mary Oconnor** posted:

Miss Mary was a beautiful gracious angel on earth. Even in her last year of an amazing life she thought of others and visited residents of her assisted living home, spreading cheer and companionship wherever she went. Today she is among the angels, singing with the choirs, beside her husband, and playing the greatest game of Bingo ever! Hugs, my dear friend Debbie! Praying for continued comfort and peace for you, Brian, and all of your family.

December 8 at 7:00 PM



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**Robbie Northcutt** posted:

MISS MARY WE WILL MISS YOU AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LEESVILLE IN THE CHURCH CHOIR

December 6 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Ms. Mary and Mr. George were both true treasures. Always positive and upbeat! They made an impact on the community, no doubt. I first met them years ago when I was a reporter for the Lake Charles American Press. I did a feature on them which described how they met and married. They always remembered me and had a way of making folks feel special.

December 4 at 7:00 PM



**Debbie Thomas** posted:

In loving memory of a wonderful person. We will love you and miss you always.

December 3 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

I have fond memories of Mr and Mrs Thompson. Mr. Thompson was my HS assistant principal at Hornbeck in the 1980s. I remember this one sweet memory. I loved Mr Thompson so I gave him and Mrs Mary an invite to my graduation (like he would not have to be there) and on the night of my graduation they came to me and pulled me aside to give me a gift. Mrs Mary said, we cant afford to give to all but you took time to send and invite. I have carried their kindness with me for years. Prayers to the family. I know you will miss her! Jackye Cavanaugh Mosley

December 3 at 7:00 PM



**Millie Merritt-Zane** posted:

Ms Mary you and Mr T will always and forever have a special place in my heart- you saw in me a creative side and helped encourage me to bring it out and share- You helped to send me as one of 6 children chosen across the United States as a Southern Delegate, through Weekly Reader contest , Winnie the Pooh for President back in 1976. A memory I cherish, and grateful to have. My deepest sympathies to the family- Heaven has gained another Angel, you will be missed but never forgotten.

December 3 at 7:00 PM



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**Debbie Thomas** posted:

Mom you were the best Mom ever! Thanks for the love & great advice you always provided. You were the kindest person I ever knew. A true inspiration! Enjoy singing with Jesus & PopLove, Debbie

December 2 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Gram-thank you for your faithfulness to Jesus, to PopPop, the family. You are such an inspiration to all. Your first grade self always loved me like I am, and always made me want to be better. From your favorite son-in-law, Brian

December 1 at 7:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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