

LUCY RAYDEAN MATTIS



Lucy Raydean Mattis, 81, beloved mother, grandmother and friend passed from this life, safely into the arms of Jesus on Sunday, Mother's Day, May 14, 2006.

Mrs. Mattis was born to Charles Alton and Blanche Moore Brown on September 15, 1924, in Iowa Park. She graduated from W.F. George High School in 1942, and then worked for Thompson Tool Company and the Iowa Park Herald. She met William Carroll Mattis of California while working at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls in 1957. They married in 1958 and were stationed in San Rafael, CA, where their son, Charles, was born, then Toul-Rosieres, France, where their daughter, Kathryn, was born, and then Ogden, Utah. When Capt. Mattis began his service as a B-57 pilot in Viet Nam, she brought her children back to Iowa Park. Capt. Mattis was killed in action northeast of Plieku in March of 1965, and because of his heroism was posthumously awarded five medals, including the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Mattis Hall at Sheppard Air Force Base was named in his honor in 1971.

Raydean returned to college and earned her BS degree in English from Midwestern University in 1969, and then began teaching English and journalism at Iowa Park High School. She loved working with students and took several to the state UIL journalism competition. She was also sponsor of the annual staff and the school newspaper. She retired from teaching in 1987 and moved to Bridgeport, Texas, in 1995.

She was a member of the Bridgeport Church of Christ and was always very active in church life. She began singing at weddings and funerals when she was a teenager, and together with some of her friends made a record of hymns when they were in high school. She taught children's Bible class at virtually every church she attended. Raydean enjoyed singing, travel, playing bridge, quilt making and keeping up with her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Capt. William C. Mattis, and is survived by her son Charles Mattis and his wife Mary Lee of Abilene; daughter Kathryn Nordman and her husband Joel of Bridgeport; granddaughters Marie, Laura and Robin Nordman of Bridgeport; granddaughter Caroline Mattis and grandson Holton Mattis of Abilene; a brother, David Brown of Sour Lake; and other extended family.

Funeral services were at the Iowa Park Church of Christ May 16 with interment following in the Highland Cemetery in Iowa Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Boles Children's Home or Abilene Christian University.

Dutton Funeral Home

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