

Phyllis Lorene Titus

February 6, 1923 - November 29, 2021

Obituary

Phyllis began her life on a farm north of Viola, Illinois. Both she and her sister, Erma Peterson Sterling, came by their teacher personalities and excellent sewing abilities naturally, learning from their mother, Francis Liebendorfer Holdsworth.

Young Phyllis began driving early, perched on the knee of her fun-loving Irish father, Clarence Holdsworth.... first on the tractor and later in their car. She adored her big brother, Dean, with whom she had a close friendship. Tragically, he died as an airplane pilot during WW II.

She earned her BS at the University of Illinois. It was there that she met her husband-to-be, Rayburn Lewis Titus, on a blind date. They especially enjoyed dancing to the great swing-dance bands that came to campus. They were married for 60 years, from March 29, 1944 until his death in 2004. Theirs was a wonderful partnership based on love, mutual respect, and cooperation.



Phyllis had a strong intellect and active curiosity all her life. Her interest in people and the world around her led to an enjoyment of travel, including camping, Airstream Rallies, spending winters at Tip 'O Texas Retirement Resort, and travel abroad. Her gregarious nature plus good listening skills blessed her with many close relationships with friends and family members of all ages.

Phyllis received her MS from SIU, Edwardsville. She taught Home Economics and Science at East Jr. and North Jr. High Schools in Alton, Illinois. She was an active member of the United Methodist Churches of Alton and Godfrey Illinois, and more recently joined Sequoia Methodist in Fayetteville, Arkansas. She volunteered for Meals on Wheels at Alton Memorial Hospital for 29 years, was a member of the Ch. JZ PEO, and a member of the U of I Madison County Home Extension.

Ray and Phyllis created a stable and secure home environment with a strong foundation of faith in God. Their surviving children are Anne Titus (husband Kent) of Fayetteville Arkansas, Tria Titus of Boise Idaho, and Mark Titus (wife Teresa) of Richardson Texas. Phyllis and Ray's other son, David, passed in 1987. The family includes 9 Grandchildren and 16 Great Grandchildren, as well as a number of cousins, nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 2:00 pm CST. Use this link to access the Youtube channel for Sequoyah United Methodist Church and search for "Phyllis Titus"
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi5IKSxJpRFnIFd8g8EfdBQ>

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