



Alice "Betty" Dawson

October 20, 1923 - March 20, 2018

Alice Gratton "Betty" Dawson, 94, of Blythewood, passed away Tuesday, March 20, 2018. Born on October 20, 1923 in DuBois, PA, she was a daughter of the late Samuel Henry and Alice Cook Gratton.

Betty was a leader of her times becoming a WAVE in the US Navy during WW II, stationed in Washington, DC. She attended Hunter College in NY and Oklahoma A&M. Betty then married her childhood sweetheart, Paul W. "Wiley" Dawson, Jr. and they moved south to raise a family. She always enjoyed the working life and continued to work until the age of 94. Betty retired from the Veterans Administration after 30 years, where she started out in the foreclosure department and then became a VA mortgage loan underwriter. After retirement Betty helped her daughter start Midland Mortgage Corporation and she has worked there for the past 36 years until shortly before her passing. She loved gardening and the game of golf and was a member of the Columbia Country Club for over 50 years. Betty, a beautiful, stylish woman, who loved fashion, made style look effortless every day. Anyone that knew Betty, knew her quick wit and the knack of telling you exactly how she felt and whether it was good or bad she said it while making you laugh.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 66 years. She is survived by her three children, Paul W. "Koot" Dawson III, Mary Beth Dawson Gillis (Joe), and Kathy Dawson Buckner (Jim); six grandchildren, Jeb Buckner (Ann), Jessica Dawson, Ali Corral (Mark), Dakota Dawson, Danny Buckner (Hannah), Elizabeth Buckner; and nine great grandchildren.

The service for Betty will be held at 11 o'clock, Monday, March 26th at Elmwood Cemetery, 501 Elmwood Ave, Columbia, with the Rev. John Barr officiating. Shives Funeral Home, Trenholm Road Chapel, is assisting the family.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to American Heart Association, Midlands Chapter, 190 Knox Abbott Drive, Suite 301, Cayce, SC 29033 or to the charity of one's choice.

Comments



“ Betty was so welcoming & such a pleasure to know. She gave generously of her time when we'd work with her and always made us laugh with her quick wit & charm. What a strong woman. Sending our love & condolences. Cathy & Steve Raynor

catherine raynor - April 13, 2018 at 05:02 PM



“ Mary Beth, Koot, and Kathy,
The news of Betty just made it's way to me down in Georgia. So very sorry to hear. "One of a kind" is an understatement but it's as close as I can come to describing your mom. There were so many good times working with y'all at MMC years ago. She could keep me in stitches. I loved to hear that laugh when she would tell a story. I certainly am not surprised that she worked right up til the end of her life. God bless your family. I know she will be deeply missed.

John Thompson - April 02, 2018 at 01:46 PM



“ Betty was always fun to be around and so kind to me. I spent many nights at their house when we were teenagers. I have wonderful memories of the whole family sitting around the kitchen table and talking about everything. There was always laughter, dares and long stories. They loved nothing more then being together and were fiercely protective of each other. I feel so blessed to have been welcomed into this wonderful family. Betty will be missed but never forgotten. Mary Lib Hampton

Mary Lib Hampton - March 23, 2018 at 06:19 PM



“ To all the Dawsons, So sorry to hear of Betty's passing. She was a wonderful lady. She was such a help to John with his clients over the years. We always enjoyed seeing her when we were at the condo in Garden City. My prayers are with you all.
Sherry Beck

Sherry Beck - March 23, 2018 at 02:28 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Alice "Betty" Dawson.



March 23, 2018 at 01:37 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Alice "Betty" Dawson.



March 23, 2018 at 07:19 AM



“ My daughter Ann, married Betty's oldest grandson Jeb Buckner...We went shopping for Ann's wedding dress and Betty was so happy when Ann found the dress she loved...We had a fun day, getting the dress, going out to lunch....Betty treated Ann like she was one of her own and Ann loved her dearly....She is gone from this earth, but will live on in the hearts of many, especially her 3 children and her grandchildren....Marion Tompkins



marion tompkins - March 23, 2018 at 06:52 AM



“ I had such respect and admiration for Betty and her daughters when I worked for them in the 90's. Her lively personality and dedication to her work were an honor to have witnessed. My sincere condolences to the entire family.

Anne Jenkins Proctor

Anne Proctor - March 24, 2018 at 11:13 AM



“ My heart breaks for Ms Betty’s family, but rejoices in her entrance to heaven. She remains a role model for women who work in business. I have fond memories of her at Midland Mortgage...always the beautiful Southern Lady with a sharp mind and warm heart. May she Rest In Peace, and may her family find peace in the knowledge of her residence with our Lord.

Julia Howell - March 23, 2018 at 12:05 AM



“ I cannot say enough good things about such an amazing lady. She set the bar for every woman in business. I always thought that she could live forever- and she will- just in a much more beautiful place! My deepest and most sincere condolences go to all of her wonderful family!

Coe Hankinson - March 22, 2018 at 05:57 PM



“ I could write a book on how much I loved that lady. She was absolutely one of a kind with her permasmile , her humor , and the love and attention she showed to me. And she broke the mold when it came to " TELL IT LIKE IT IS ". This world was a better place with her in it. GREAT NEWS THOUGH - HER CHILDREN ARE THE SPIT OUT OF HER MOUTH SO BETTY’S PERSONALITY LIVES ON !! May this unique lady rest in peace.

MICHAEL MARSHA - March 22, 2018 at 05:44 PM



“ Mary Beth, Kathy and Koot: I am so sorry to hear about Betty's passing. I am so glad I got to know and love Betty for the last 23 years of working at Midland Mortgage. She was the most amazing person I have ever worked with or even known and will miss her so much. She has a special place in my heart and will be missed by so many people she has touched over the years.



Kim Lloyd - March 22, 2018 at 05:35 PM



“ I am in a state of shock. I did not realize Betty had been sick. Not having her in our presence is a sad day. What a wonderful, wonderful woman in so many ways. What Betty and Mr Dawson's legacy is their beautiful family. They taught strength, determination, compassion, and the love of life with your family. Betty's life as we know it will be missed but her soul and goodness to mankind will always be remembered. I love you Betty Dawson and always have.

Donna Hardy - March 22, 2018 at 07:08 PM



“ Midland Mortgage Spartanburg Office purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Alice "Betty" Dawson.



Midland Mortgage Spartanburg Office - March 22, 2018 at 04:48 PM



“ Kathy and Mary Beth, I am so sorry to hear of your mothers passing. She was so sweet and kind and beautiful. I remember the first time I actually met her, it was at Kathy and Jim's wedding, and she was was so much fun. I know she will be missed.



Carmen Hudson - March 22, 2018 at 04:46 PM



“ My most heart felt sympathies and prayers to all. She indeed was a very special person who would always bring a smile and helped so many homebuyers through the years! I will miss her very much!

David G - March 22, 2018 at 05:44 PM



“ So very sorry to hear about your mom but always remember she will always be alive in your hearts.....cherish each and every memory.love you

Martha Guzman - March 23, 2018 at 07:27 AM



“ I am so sorry. She was such a fine lady. I always enjoyed calling on Midland. She was always so pleasant. She will be missed. My heart goes out to Buckner, Dawson and Gillis families. God Bless You All.

Steve Capps - March 23, 2018 at 05:54 PM



“ Mary Beth, Kathy, and Koot

Love you and all your family members. Your mom and dad are greatly missed by all that knew them. Sorry to learn of Betty's passing. What a bright light that added so much to so many peoples lives !!!! We will all miss her. Love you all as family and hope to see you soon.

Howard Wills

Howard Wills - March 25, 2018 at 01:34 AM