



## Ms. Mary Rushton Blanton

October 10, 1917 - July 8, 2017

Mary Rushton Blanton, born October 10, 1917 in Norphlet, Arkansas, died peacefully at her home in Blytheville, Arkansas on July 8, 2017, at 99, with her daughter, Michaela Strausberg and niece, Teresa Purcell by her side. She was preceded in death by her parents, William Fay and Ethel Gillespie Rushton, her husband of 50 years, Archie Lee Blanton; two sisters, Roma Johnson and Ester Lois Cawthorn, and one brother William Fay Rushton Jr.

Mary began her 45 year nursing career by substituting herself to fill a position originally awarded to her sister, Roma, in the nursing program at Warner Brown Hospital. She was the school nurse at Harding College in the early 40's. Desiring to further her knowledge, education, and career, she attended a certification program at the Mayo Clinic, and later earned her CRNA (Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist) at Baylor Hospital in Dallas, Texas.

Mary is survived by her daughter, Michaela D. Strausberg of Blytheville, Arkansas and sons, Michael M. Blanton (Anita Turrentine) of Fayetteville, Arkansas, and Kevin O. Blanton (Kate) of Olive Branch, Mississippi. Also survived by her grandchildren; Samuel Scott Beard (Evelyn) of Livermore, California, William Todd Beard of Fayetteville, Arkansas, Leslie Jean Felts (Neil) of Winfield, Kansas, Brocha Tamara Evans (Michael) of Monroe, Ohio, Rachel Danyette Carson (Chris) of Sydney, Australia, Erik Blanton of Dallas, Texas, Alex Blanton of Springdale, Arkansas, Brenden Patrick Blanton of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Ryan Winfield Blanton of Roanoke, Virginia. She also has 9 great grandchildren and 4 great-great grandchildren.

Mary was a member of the Church of Christ at 1208 West Main Street in Blytheville, Arkansas.

Memorial services will be held in Fayetteville, Arkansas with internment at Fayetteville National Cemetery with her husband, Archie Blanton.

Services to be announced.

# Cemetery Details

## Fayetteville National Cemetery

700 S Government Ave

Fayetteville, AR 72701

<https://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/fayetteville.asp>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Tri-City Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Ms. Mary Rushton Blanton*



**Tri-City Crematory Funeral Home. ~ Serving for over 10 Years** - July 14, 2017 at 09:38 AM

PW

“ *Mrs. Blanton was one of the coolest ladies we have ever known; I regret that I am just now finding out about her passing; and today would have been her 100th birthday; always on my calendar. I'll never forget the time she spent a night at our house due to impending bad weather; the following morning, breakfast lasted about 4 hours as I sat entranced by all of her stories. Cheerful, hat wearing classy dresser, story teller extraordinaire, writer of notes that were art, and last but not least....oh how she loved the handsome men (made my hubby's ego swell). Mrs. Blanton was one of a kind, and we are thankful we knew her.*  
*Pam & Tim Winterrowd*

**Pam Winterrowd** - October 10, 2017 at 09:20 AM

DM

“ *I was so saddened to hear of Mary's passing, but rejoiced to know that she is no longer burdened by that mortal body! Mary and I enjoyed many fun times and she even introduced me to the opera at Music Hall in Cincinnati. I will miss her lilting laughter and her quick wit. She was truly a special lady. Our loss is Heaven's gain. My deepest sympathy to Brocha and the rest of the family in their loss.*

**Doris McCollum** - August 21, 2017 at 08:17 AM

SS

“ *We are saddened that our sweet genteel lady has left us and the angels are rejoicing and welcoming our wonderful sister home. She was an example for all Christian women and a great enjoyment to be around. Run through the flowered fields Mary! You had a great run here! Till we all meet again, Paul and Sheila Shreve Cincinnati, Ohio*

**Sheila Decker Shreve** - August 20, 2017 at 09:12 PM

JD

“ *Mary was a lady in every way. She was a friend and a privilege to know . Her shoes can not be filled. We love her, and she will be greatly missed . No doubt she is in the arms of our Lord . IT WAS A PRIVILEGE TO HAVE KNOWN YOU ! THANK YOU our sweet Mary !*

Jan Decker - August 20, 2017 at 04:03 PM

TB

“ *So sorry to hear of Miss Mary's passing! Such a beautiful lady and oh those hats and gloves! She will be missed but Paradise has gained a wonderful soul!*

Terri Bauer - August 20, 2017 at 03:25 PM

HC

“ *I am so sorry to hear about Mary she was my friend and my sister in Christ! I will always love her, miss her and cherish the time I spent with her in Cincinnati while she was there. Please know your family will be in my prayers. Love Heather Decker Cook.*

Heather Cook - August 20, 2017 at 02:34 PM

SB

“ *Mrs Mary what is my movie buddy, my Scrabble opponent (always beat me) although she was very kind to represent stutters and she laid her word down ex. tttile and she reminded me age has its privileges.*

*We share the same faith and tons of laughter. She referred to Karen and I as the Cats and jammer kids and warned to stay out of trouble when she went to bed. I can still hear her calling us darling and with every syllable you tell she meant it Her calligraphy and handwritten letters were a gift almost lost our Miss Mary did her best to keep it going I almost lost our Miss Mary did her best to keep it going.*

*Karen and I will love and miss her but we will but we will hold fondly to the memories of singing hymns and sharing memories of her family that we never met but felt is the weekend after hearing stories.*

*We sang out flyaway all the way back to because we knew indeed that Miss Mary was no longer encumbered by by a body that had betrayed her.*

*Prayers of peace for the entire family we love her and always well*

*Karen Bell*

*Sherri Bennett*

sherri Bennett - July 17, 2017 at 01:09 PM

DG

“ *Mrs Mary was a lovely lady whom I enjoy getting to visit with, my thoughts and prayers are with her family. Dorothy Guthrie*

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**Dorothy Guthrie** - July 11, 2017 at 04:49 PM



“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



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**Tri-City Crematory Funeral Home. ~ Serving for over 10 Years** - July 09, 2017 at 04:23 PM