



## Betty W. Rice

April 23, 1927 - September 7, 2024

Betty Wolfe Rice, 97, of Birmingham, AL passed away on September 7, 2024 after a long and fulfilling life.

Betty was born in Arkadelphia, Alabama on April 23, 1927 to David and Ida Wolfe. Betty was second to the youngest of 10 children living on a large working farm. After graduating from high school, Betty moved to Nashville, where she graduated from business college with a concentration in accounting. She went on to have a successful career in accounting and retired from the Jefferson County's Treasurer's Office.

She was active in the LDS church, where she was always ready to provide service to others.

She became a worker at the Atlanta and Washington temples. In her effort to see every US temple, she drove across country, which took her from one coast to the other. Her favorite church assignments involved working with the youth.

While her church service to others was extensive, she carried that spirit to everyone around her.

She was always ready to help, which included sitting with the sick, providing meals and doing whatever she was able to do.

She married Preston C. Rice in 1955. Preston was a well-respected engineer at Southern Research Institute.

In 1960 following the death of her sister, Margaret, Betty became the legal guardian to her

nieces Diane and Elizabeth and raised and loved them as her own.

Gardening was her passion, and this was reflected in her beautiful garden at home.

Her friendships were life long and she outlived most of them. Although, even in old age she enjoyed forging new relationships.

However, Betty's greatest passion centered on her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She is survived by her sons, Michael (Hazel) and Marc (Sue), and her daughter, Elizabeth

(Gene), son-in-law, David Bell, as well as 13 grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren and

great-great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents David and Ida Wolfe, 6

sisters, 3 brothers, her husband, Preston C. Rice and her beloved daughter Diane "Nanno".

A funeral service will be held on Monday, September 16 at 11:00 am at

Gardendale Heritage

Funeral Home located at 2214 Decatur Highway, Gardendale, AL 35071.

Family will greet

visitors at 10:00 am, prior to the service. A graveside service will follow for the immediate family.

# Cemetery Details

## Union Chapel Methodist Cemetery

330 Buttermilk Rd.  
Cordova, AL 35550

# Previous Events

## Family will receive guests

SEP **16**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home  
2214 Decatur Highway  
Gardendale, AL 35071  
(205) 631-8810  
gardendalefuneralhome2@gmail.com

## Chapel Service

SEP **16**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home  
2214 Decatur Highway  
Gardendale, AL 35071  
(205) 631-8810  
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# Tribute Wall

LP

“ I was a missionary in the Alabama Brigham mission. Betty was in the first ward I served in. Many may have been nervous in the beginning, but with such loving people like Betty there, I just felt loved, welcome and I felt I belonged. She was one of my favorite people, there. As I was getting transfered, she became emotional and said, we all go away and she never sees us again. Of course I told her I would be back to visit, someday after I go home. She told me all of you say that and you never come back to see me. Of course I promised I would. I never did make it back to Alabama. She was right. Alabama holds a huge part of my heart, still to this day. I'll be 58 this year and I still have such a special place in my heart for Betty. She was one of the best people I have ever known and can't think of her without joy. I sure love her. I am so happy to see all the wonderful pictures that were shared, I really enjoyed them. I have thought about her often since my mission and seeing she had such a long life is wonderful, everyone was better for having known Betty.

Love you always wonderful lady  
Sister Laura McDevitt (Philbin)

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LAURA PHILBIN - January 26, 2025 at 02:43 AM



“ 50 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home** - September 13, 2024 at 01:14 PM

CB

“ *Oh how I loved this sweet lady! I have missed her since we moved to Tennessee. My heartfelt sympathy to her family.*

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**Cecelia Byrd** - September 12, 2024 at 05:21 PM

JS

“ *I spent many a day at the Wolfe home on Woodside. Mike and I grew up together. Mrs. Rice was a fine lady and lived a fulfilled life . God Bless.*

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**Jay Stamper** - September 12, 2024 at 04:27 PM