



Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett

June 21, 1921 - February 22, 2020

Graveside funeral services for Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett, 98, of Carthage, Texas will be 2:00 p.m. Monday, February 24, 2020 at the Strong Cemetery in Rusk County, Texas with Rev. Jason Taylor and Dr. Monty Pierce officiating. Burial will follow under the direction of Hawthorn Funeral Home.

Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett was born June 21, 1921 in the Churchill Community of Rusk County. She passed this life peacefully February 22, 2020 at her Carthage Texas home. Helen was the oldest of five children born to the marriage of Neal Oliver and Jewell Strong Woods. She was raised and schooled in Tatum graduating with the Eagle class of 1938. Helen graduated Stephen F. Austin State University, She completed her degree in primary and secondary education, physical education and sociology. While working for General Dynamics in Ft. Worth she met and married her life's love John Franklin Durrett, Jr. June 12, 1943. Together her and John owned and operated John and Helen Cleaners for over two decades. They would raise three children and serve actively in Central Baptist Church and the Carthage community. She is preceded in death by her husband of 55 years, John Durrett, Jr.; son, John Durrett; brothers, J.T., Neal Eddie, and Albert Woods. Mrs. Durrett is survived by her devoted son, Andy Bruce Durrett and wife Tonya of Anchorage, Alaska; loving daughter, Tina Cooper and husband Billy Miller of Henderson; sister, Nell Fears of Emerald Bay; grandchildren, Casey Cooper and wife Anna of Henderson, Marcus John Durrett and wife Jodi of Alaska, great grandchildren, Cheyenne Williams, Cobin and Tucker Durrett;

numerous nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

An online guestbook may be signed at www.hawthornfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Strong Cemetery Rusk County

CR 334
Henderson, TX 75654

Previous Events

Graveside Service

FEB **24**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Strong Cemetery
County CR 334
Henderson, TX 75652

Tribute Wall

JN

“ My only contact with this dear lady was once when she was a substitute teacher for my fifth grade teacher at Baker Elementary School in Carthage, Texas. I got very sick that day and she took me down to the nurse’s station. While there, I started throwing up and Mrs. Durrett took me into the restroom, washed my face and comforted me while I was so very sick. Now, many years later, I have retired from teaching and serving as a high school principal in Tennessee. I never forgot her example of kindness and compassion. Mrs. Durrett, I hope I made you proud of all my interactions with students throughout my career. Rest easy dear lady.

-Joe Newman

Joe Newman - June 30, 2021 at 09:09 PM

LB

“ Linda Bellamy lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett



Linda Bellamy - August 07, 2020 at 12:11 PM

LR

“ Linda Reed lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett



Linda Reed - May 30, 2020 at 05:00 PM



“ *Danny Collins lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett*



Danny Collins - February 27, 2020 at 02:46 PM



Your mom was absolutely the sweetest lady ever.

Danny Collins - February 27, 2020 at 02:48 PM

LG

“ *Linda Bone Green*



Linda Bone Green - February 24, 2020 at 08:15 PM

DK

Andy so sorry for your loss. Your mom was a special lady.

Debbie Whitaker Key - February 26, 2020 at 11:21 PM

CM

“ To Tina and Andy, I have so many wonderful memories of your mom and your entire family. I remember when I was about six my mother needed surgery and I stayed with y'all for a week while she recuperated. There were so many times that we played or dug in the dirt and ran around both yards playing. Your parents were wonderful friends and your grandparents were wonderful neighbors. When my dad died your parents came to visit with Mother and It was so good to see them. And, yes, your mom was as beautiful as ever. I know you have so many happy memories, and so do I. May your blessings continue.
Carol Pliler Molina

Carol Pliler Molina - February 23, 2020 at 09:24 PM

OH

“ Ora Jean Hartless lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett



Ora Jean Hartless - February 23, 2020 at 08:30 PM

OH

God bless you and yours during this loss! Tina I am very sorry she was such an amazing person

Ora Jean Hartless - February 23, 2020 at 08:31 PM

JD

“ John O, Droptini lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett



John O, Droptini - February 23, 2020 at 07:29 PM

JN

“ I was in 5th grade and Mrs. Durrett was subbing for my teacher. I became very ill and she took me down to the nurse’s office. The nurse was not there and suddenly I started vomiting. Mrs. Durrett spoke calmly to me, and cleaned my face even though I vomited all over her. She took very good care of me and got me in one of the beds. I’ve always thought what a special lady she was to treat me so kindly even though she was a substitute teacher.

Joe Newman - February 23, 2020 at 07:00 PM

ML

Sending prayers to the Durrett family. Mrs. Helen was a very special lady. They let me work at the laundry one summer between my freshman and sophomore year at college. Many fond memories of the Durretts during and after college at Panola. She will be missed by many.

Marcella Lawless - February 23, 2020 at 08:28 PM

BE

“ Becky Shoffner Eubank lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett



Becky Shoffner Eubank - February 23, 2020 at 05:41 PM

BE

I loved Mrs Durrett, she was an inspiration to me. She had a way of making me feel good about myself, always encouraging me to hang in there, she would say, "Stay close to God and let Him direct your life Sweetie". What a colorful lady she was!! Welcome to your Heavenly Home Mrs. Helen....I love you.

Becky Shoffner Eubank - February 23, 2020 at 05:49 PM

KK

So very sorry for your loss. She was an amazing lady. She was tiny but mighty! She lived big and loved her family deeply.

Kelli Kelley - February 24, 2020 at 09:48 AM

 Wayne Woods

“ *We will never forget the day that we stopped by and found Helen working in her yard. We had a great visit. Love you very much Helen. Bubba and Carolyn Woods.*



Wayne Woods - February 23, 2020 at 10:43 AM

MA

“ *Mary lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett*



mary - February 23, 2020 at 10:41 AM

HH

“ *HeartsWay Hospice lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett*



HeartsWay Hospice - February 23, 2020 at 06:48 AM

JH

“ *Jeanette Hart lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Woods Durrett*



Jeanette Hart - February 22, 2020 at 10:03 PM

GY

“ *What a special lady! Helen always had a smile and hug for us. She called Don 'The Candy Man' because he shared his candy with her at church. She will always hold a special place in our hearts. Don and Gayle Yocum*

Gayle Yocum - February 22, 2020 at 08:35 PM