



Mrs Mary Frances Ritter

July 28, 1928 - December 7, 2021

On Saturday, December 7, 2021, our dear, strong, Mary Frances Thomas Ritter, of Nacogdoches, Texas, age ninety-three, entered into eternal rest with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Frances was born on July 28, 1928, in Gary, Panola County, Texas, to Robert Lee Thomas and Hattie Lura Heaton Thomas. She was the second child and first female in an extended family with many cousins. She told stories about growing up in the country near Mount Bethel. Her parents purchased land in Carthage about 1944 and her father built a house in town.

Frances attended public school in Gary and Beautician training in Palestine. She met her future husband of forty-three years, the late Levy Monroe Ritter, a friend of her brother. On November 11, 1949, Frances and LM were married in Beaumont, Texas. Their only child, Susan Ann, was born on July 27, 1950. During those early years, both Frances and LM worked different professions and lived in several locations in Texas.

During their years in Panola County, the couple started a Singer Sewing Machine business and opened shops in both Mansfield, and Deridder. During the 1970's, Frances began the task of learning to paint becoming a very proficient artist. Recently, enduring arthritis, she completed paintings for her grandchildren.

Frances is preceded in death by her father, Robert Lee Thomas; her mother, Hattie Lura Heaton Thomas; brother, Sampson David Thomas and nephew, David Wayne Thomas.

She is survived by her daughter, Susan Pate and husband Mike; grandchildren, Stephen Pate and wife, Jan; Bradley Pate and wife, Maggie; Jennifer Whitehead and husband, Seth; great grandchildren, Averey, Logan, Evan, Lainey, Cameron, Adrienne and Greyson; sister, Jo Ann Nunley and husband don; brother, Robert Roland Thomas and others.

Pallbearers are Stephen Pate, Bradley Pate, Robert Templin, Seth Whitehead, Logan Whitehead and Mike Pate

Visitation will begin at 10 AM, Friday, December 10, 2021, with services following at 11 AM at the Hawthorn Chapel under the direction of Hawthorn Funeral Home, Carthage, Texas. Burial will be in Odd Fellows Cemetery in Carthage.

The family sincerely appreciates the professional care and the personalized attention provided by the staff of Hospice Plus of Lufkin, Texas.

Cemetery Details

Odd Fellows Cemtery

Carthage, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 10. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel
307 W Wellington St.
Carthage, Tx

Funeral Service

DEC 10. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (cst)

Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel
307 W Wellington St.
Carthage, Tx

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Funeral Service Video*



Hawthorn Funeral Home - December 14, 2021 at 01:46 PM

GG

“ *Mrs. Frances was one of the sweetest people I was fortunate enough to get to know. My children remember her very fondly as well. Her family and friends are in our thoughts and prayers. RIP Mrs. Frances.*

Glenda Grimes, Garrett Wallace, Shauna (Sissy) Wallace



Glenda Grimes - December 13, 2021 at 08:56 AM

RD

“ *So sorry Susan to hear the passing of Frances . I will always have fond memories of her and L.M. . My thoughts are with you and your family .*

Randy and Judy Davis

Randy Davis - December 10, 2021 at 08:30 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mrs Mary Frances Ritter.



December 09, 2021 at 12:08 PM