

## XIV. MEMORIALS

### IN MEMORIAM

#### MINISTERS

CAROLYN JACKSON ALLBRITTON  
CLETUS BAINE BEIGHTS  
WILLIAM J. BRYAN, III  
DONALD GLENN COKE  
H. NEILL MCFARLAND  
ELVIN BEN READ  
DON TRUITT SHAW  
ROBERT L. SPENCER  
CLAY A. YEAGER

#### LOCAL PASTORS

JOEL NATHANIEL ARNOLD  
JOHN D. EDWARDS

#### MINISTERS' SPOUSES

MARY DAVID ALLEN  
MARGARET CARROLL  
LINDA CLOYD  
LINDA RAE DEAN  
GEORGIA KIFER  
CORINNE "CONNIE" MCFARLAND  
WILLIAM G. MILLSAP  
SERITA NADINE HAMILTON YEAGER

**CAROLYN JACKSON ALLBRITTON**

Rev. Carolyn Jackson Allbritton passed away on Thursday, October 12, 2017, at the age of 62 in Winnsboro, Texas.

Rev. Allbritton was born on December 5, 1954, in Rockwall, Texas, to James Holley and Betty Jo Eddings. She taught English for 20 years in Caddo Mills, and Rockwall, Texas.

After earning a Master of Divinity (Cum Laude) from Southern Methodist University, Perkins School of Theology in 2009, she began her pastoral duties with the United Methodist Church. Rev. Allbritton served in the following congregations of the United Methodist Church; Ladonia/Pecan Gap UMC, First UMC of Alvord, West View UMC in Greenville, Wolfe City UMC as well as First UMC Winnsboro.

She is survived by her husband, her mother, a son, a daughter and four grandchildren.

**CLETUS BLAINE BEIGHTS**

Rev. Cletus Blaine Beights, passed away on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at the age of 90 in Dallas, Texas.

Rev. Beights was born on September 15, 1927, in Hermleigh, Texas to Henry and Ida May Beights. He graduated from Loraine Texas High School, earned a BA from McMurry College, Abilene, Texas and a MA degree from Scarrett College in Nashville, Tennessee. Afterwards, he attended 2 years at Perkins School of Theology at SMU in Dallas, Texas.

Rev. Beights surrendered to God's call to the ministry and received his license to preach in the Methodist Church in 1947. He was ordained a Deacon in 1953 and received his Elders ordination in 1955. He was the founding minister of St. Paul Methodist Church in Midland, Texas in 1955. He remained there for seven years leaving a new church building and over 600 members. Until his official retirement, he served as an associate minister in larger churches working to bring Jesus Christ's love to others and ministering those into the church.

He officially retired from the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church in 1989. However, in retirement, he worked as an associate pastor for another 15 years. His last church was Polk United Methodist Church in Amarillo, Texas where he worked with senior church members and enjoyed visiting those in the hospital and at their homes.

In his words, he was a true vegetarian and loved his red beans. Cletus would tell stories of encouraging hospital patients he visited "to be sure to eat their red beans." He was the most loving, caring, kind and gentle spirited man and was always full of gratitude.

Survivors include his four children, fifteen grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren and one sister.

### REV. WILLIAM J BRYAN III



Reverend William Jennings (Bill) Bryan, III, passed away on August 27, 2017 from pancreatic cancer at the age of 65 in Dallas, Texas.

Rev. Bryan was born in Dallas on October 1, 1951 to William Jennings (Sonny) Bryan, Jr. and Joanne Chapman Bryan. He grew up in Dallas, graduating from Justin F. Kimball High School in 1970. He worked at the family barbecue business Sonny Bryan's Smokehouse prior to earning a B.A. from Rice University, MTh cum laude and DMin degrees from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. While at Rice, he met and married Corinne Clemons Bryan and settled in the Dallas area where he served local congregations of the United Methodist Church including First United Methodist Church (FUMC) in Rockwall, Arapaho UMC in Richardson, Grace UMC, and Lovers Lane UMC in Dallas before becoming Director of the Intern Program and Professional Formation at Perkins School of Theology in 1998. In 2015, he was promoted to Associate Dean for Student Affairs where he continued to serve until his death.

He retired from the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church March 1, 2017 after 42 years of service. He was a lover of people, books, music, history, sailing, bicycling, and especially the Church. His faith and courage have been reported in an article and photograph on the front page of the Dallas Morning News on Easter Sunday 2017. He is survived by his wife, one daughter, one son, one grandson, one brother, and many loving aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

### DONALD G. COKE



Rev. Donald G. Coke passed away August 21, 2017 at the age of 90 at home.

Rev. Coke was a graduate of W.H. Adamson High School in 1944 and was a charter member of the board of directors of the school for 17 years. After attending Texas A&M for a year, he completed his undergraduate study at Southern Methodist University where he received B.A. in Education 1952 and a B.S. in 1956. Rev. Coke also served in the United States Navy, and was a mail carrier and stock trader before being called to ministry. He graduated from Perkins School of Theology in 1959.

Rev. Coke served as a United Methodist minister in the North Texas Annual Conference including appointments in congregations in Hutchins, Grand Prairie, Celina, Wichita Falls, with a final fulltime appointment at St. Andrews United Methodist Church (now Camp Wisdom) in the Dallas area of Oak Cliff. Later in his career, he was appointed as associate pastor in several Dallas area congregations where he ministered effectively at First United Methodist Church, Plano, First United Methodist Church, Duncanville, and Spring Valley United Methodist Church. In addition to serving as a pastor, Don also led trail hikes for young adults in Colorado for the North Texas Annual Conference leading to a love for the Rocky Mountains.

Rev. Coke is described by all as positive, fun-loving, wise, a loving soul, an engaging storyteller, and a great hugger. Of particular note was Don's exhaustive memory. Don loved movies and excelled in sports, especially golf and handball. He was an avid reader of novels by W.E.B. Griffin, David Baldacci, and Louis L'Amour, and loved listening to recordings of books on road trips. He was a Mason, a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, and served on the boards of the Women's Chorus of Dallas, Mosaic Song, and the Order of the Rainbow for Girls. Don loved music and was a fan of summer musicals. Each of his spouses also loved music. For over a decade he and Peggy West-Coke sang in the church choirs of Spring Valley and Northaven United Methodist Churches. He sang the role of "Elijah" in Mendelssohn's Oratorio with Karl Dent under the direction of Peggy O'Neal Coke. Don

was an active participant in the “Dirty Dozen” a progressive group of United Methodist ministers who led the way toward social reform in the church.

He is survived by his wife, a son, a daughter, and other extended family.

## H. NEILL MCFARLAND



Rev. Dr. H. Neill McFarland passed away on July 14, 2017 at the age of 93.

Dr. McFarland was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School, received a BA from TCU, a BA from SMU, and a PhD from Columbia University. He served as Associate Pastor at First Methodist Church of Dallas (1946-47), Associate Pastor of Crown Heights Methodist in Oklahoma City (1947-49) and Pastor of Goodsell Memorial Methodist Church in Brooklyn (1949-1954). He joined the SMU faculty in 1954 and served as Associate Dean of Perkins (1966), Vice President and Provost of SMU (1967-1972), and Director of International Programs (1975-1979).

Rev. McFarland authored two books, *The Rush Hour of the Gods* and *Daruma: The Founder of Zen in Japanese Art and Popular Culture*, as well as numerous articles. He retired in 1988.

As a visiting professor at Kwansai Gakuin University in Japan (1956-57), he developed a lifelong fascination with Japan, which he visited 14 times. In 1970, he founded the Japan-America Society of Dallas. In 1986, he was awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, by the Emperor of Japan for his contributions to mutual understanding and friendship between the U.S. and Japan. Deeply committed to the importance of understanding other cultures, he was a prolific lecturer in the community about religions of the world. In Dallas, he served leadership roles in the Japan-America Society, Dallas United Nations Association, Thanks-Giving Square Foundation, and Multicultural Community Center.

In his personal life, Rev. McFarland was an avid collector of crosses of the world, stamps, and Japanese folk art. He also enjoyed carpentry, creative woodwork, and tennis.

He is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and a brother.

## ELVIN BEN READ



Rev. Elvin Ben “Gentle Ben” Read passed away on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at the age of 67.

Son of Elvin and Pauline Read, Rev. Read was born in Odessa, Texas on May 29, 1950. He graduated from Odessa High School, and went on to attend McMurray College, where he met and married Stella Hennigh Read on May 24, 1971.

He then attended Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. He served as a United Methodist minister in the North Texas Conference for 45 years including Beverly Drive UMC, Farmersville UMC, Plymouth Park UMC Irving, Sulphur Springs Wesley UMC, Burkburnett UMC and Ridgewood Park UMC. He retired from Calvary UMC in Paris and moved to Wichita Falls, Texas in 2016, where he attended First United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife, four children, eleven grandchildren, and mother-in-law, as well as numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

### **DON TRUITT SHAW**



Rev. Don Truitt Shaw passed away on Friday, September 8, 2017 at the age of 81 at Wesley House in Sulphur Springs, Texas.

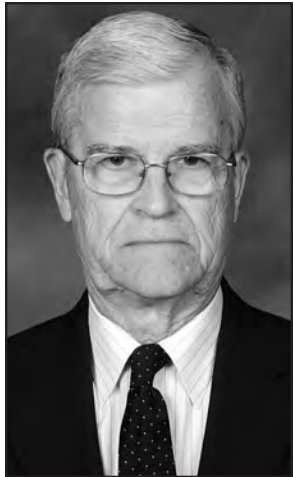
Rev. Shaw was born on October 26, 1935 in Sulphur Springs, the son of Ernest Ford and Annie Jane Horn Shaw. He married Patsy Ann Gibson on October 23, 1953 in Tira, TX.

Rev. Shaw received his Masters' degree in Divinity and served as a Methodist minister for many years. Prior to retirement, Rev. Shaw served many churches including those at Ladonia, Irving, Greenville, Denton, and Mesquite.

Rev. Shaw's hobbies included making crosses and recreational farming.

Rev. Shaw is survived by his wife, two daughters, two grandsons, three great-grandchildren, and one sister.

### **ROBERT L. SPENCER**



Rev. Robert Lee Spencer passed away on Monday, December 11, 2017 at the age of 85.

Rev. Spencer was born in Lavaca, Arkansas on March 25, 1932, to parents Fred and Ruby Spencer. After graduating from Lavaca High School, he enlisted in the US Air Force where he served as Chaplain's Assistant from 1951 to 1954. During that time he fell in love with and married Jane (Janie) Blackford of Tulsa.

Upon his discharge from the service, he briefly attended College of the Ozarks in Arkansas and then was appointed as student pastor of Ellison Avenue Methodist Church in El Reno, OK and served the nearby Methodist churches of Wanette and Trousdale while attending Oklahoma City University. In a few short years, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Preaching from OCU, a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY, and a Master's Degree in Mission from Perkins Theological Seminary of SMU, Dallas.

In December of 1961, Rev. Spencer and Janie along with their two young sons, Rob and Michael, sailed for Brazil where they served as Methodist missionaries for nine years, first in Rio de Janeiro and then in Recife. In 1970, they returned to Texas from Brazil and he was appointed pastor of First UMC Wylie where he served for 6 years, St. Philip's UMC of Garland for 10 years, First UMC of Lewisville for 9 years, and Wesley UMC of Sulphur Springs for two years before retiring in 1997.

After two years of fishing, Rev. Spencer returned in 1999 to the active ministry to become part-time Associate Pastor of Christ UMC of Farmers Branch, Texas, where he served for 18 years until his passing.

During Rev. Spencer's many years of ministry, he reached thousands of people with his message and personal example of God's love for all. He loved fishing, traveling, reading, and watching sports, especially the Dallas

Cowboys, the Arkansas Razorbacks, and Kansas Jayhawks (after his grandson won a football scholarship). He was known to wear a red blazer on the occasional Sunday morning during football season. His passion for reading can be seen in the enormous library he accumulated, with a particular focus on biographies.

Rev. Spencer is survived by his wife, two sons, three grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter. He is also survived by two brothers, a sister-in-law, and several nieces and nephews.

## CLAY A. YEAGER



Rev. Clay Arnold Yeager passed away on June 4, 2018 in Denison, Texas at the age of 87.

Rev. Yeager was born in Tahlequah, Oklahoma on March 11, 1931 to very proud parents; mother, Jimmie Juanita Fair Yeager and father, Clell Yeager. He grew up in the beautiful town of Tahlequah with his cousins and many friends. He found his love of music early in life. He was in the school boys' quartet and choral group. God blessed him with a beautiful tenor voice that many enjoyed through his lifetime. He also discovered how deeply he cared for animals; not just pets, but exotics and African species. He said many times that he wished he would have become a veterinarian in a zoo.

The Yeager family was very involved in the First UMC in Tahlequah. Clay graduated from Tahlequah Central High School in May of 1949. He attended Northeastern State College in Tahlequah and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in May of 1953. It was then that he began to feel the calling to become a servant of the Lord as a Methodist minister.

Following his quest to be a voice and witness of Christ, he moved to Dallas Texas to attend Perkins Seminary at Southern Methodist University. He was awarded a Masters of Theology in May of 1956. He met the love of his life, Serita Nadine Yeager, while attending SMU. After both graduated in May of 1956, they married on August 7, 1956 in Perkins Chapel.

He fathered two children, who were his pride and joy: Evan Todd Yeager in April of 1960 and Kathleen Marie Yeager in May of 1965. He was a doting father and took his role of raising and nurturing his children as a central importance in life. No event was too small to celebrate. He was present for his children and was their rock.

He went on to serve over 25 churches in his career as a United Methodist minister and God's servant, beginning in Oklahoma and then throughout the North Texas Conference. He retired and settled in Commerce, Texas, where he lived for 14 years, before relocating to Denison, Texas to be closer to his cherished adult children.

Rev. Yeager loved any given opportunity to share a story or tell historical facts. History fascinated him. He was proud to be a descendent of Jessie James and other outlaws, which in itself was entertaining. He captivated people with his intelligence, humor, and smile.

Rev. Yeager is survived by a son and daughter, three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

**JOEL NATHANIEL ARNOLD**

Rev. Joel Nathaniel Arnold passed away on Saturday, May 5, 2018, at his home in Greenville at the age of 87.

Rev. Arnold was born in Cotton Valley, Louisiana on May 20, 1930, the son of Sebastin E. Arnold and Lee Ola Kirkland Arnold. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps in the Korean War. He married Imogene Blessing on April 15, 1954, in Carlisle, Texas. Rev. Arnold earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Stephen F. Austin University in 1955.

He and Imogene moved to Greenville where he taught distributive education at Greenville High School for two years. He was a real estate broker and appraiser and insurance agent for many years. He was a member of Salem-Kinser United Methodist Church until he became a United Methodist minister at the age of 65. He was pastor of Campbell and Caney United Methodist churches for 18 years until his retirement in 2013. He was also a chaplain at the Greenville hospital for several years.

Rev. Arnold is survived by his wife, three sons, a daughter, six grandchildren, a great-granddaughter, and a host of loving relatives and friends.

**JOHN DAVID EDWARDS**

Rev. John David Edwards passed away on October 13, 2017 in Wichita Falls, Texas at the age of 74.

Rev. Edwards was a loving man who served Jesus and the Church for over 40 years including Roxton UMC and Wichita Falls Wesley.

He enjoyed helping and caring for people. He has given his last two dollars to someone else in need. He loved Christian music and it could often be heard blaring from his garage workshop. Everyone who knew Rev. Edwards loved him and has very fond memories of him. He had three great-grandchildren that made him incredibly happy. He was beyond thrilled whenever he was with them. He was the best poppy in the whole world. If you were blessed to be in his family or be his friend, you know how immensely he loved you. There is no other man in this world like Rev. Edwards, nor will there ever be. As a minister, he performed many funerals, but he saw them as a celebration of life and confirmation that someone had entered into the kingdom of heaven. Today, we know that he has entered those gates and sits peacefully with his Savior. No more pain, no more tears. We will see him again.

His survivors include his wife, two daughters, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**MARY DAVID ALLEN**

Mary David Ritter Allen of Dallas died on July 3, 2017, at the age of 87.

Mrs. Allen is the spouse of Rev. Joseph L. Allen. She was born on April 14, 1930, in Columbia, South Carolina, to H. C. and Mary Peele Ritter. In 1951, she received her B.S. degree in piano pedagogy from Columbia College, Columbia, South Carolina. For two years, she taught piano in the preparatory department of Columbia College and thereafter taught piano in Connecticut, England, and Dallas for over fifty years. She was active in the Richardson Music Teachers Association and in the Greater Dallas Group Music Teachers Association.

Mary David was a gentle and perceptive person. She loved to travel, read mysteries, lunch with friends, and attend symphonies, theater, and SMU women's basketball games. She greatly appreciated her many friends and the care she received during her years as a resident of Highland Springs retirement home in Dallas, as well as the excellent care she received from the staff of Medical City of Plano.

Mrs. Allen is survived by her loving husband of sixty-three years of marriage, a son, two daughters, a sister, and many other beloved extended members of the family.

**MARGARET CARROLL**

Margaret Carroll, surviving spouse of Rev. Bob Carroll, passed away on Saturday, March 17, 2018 in Wichita Falls, Texas at the age of 87.

Mrs. Carroll was born on December 30, 1930 in Palaska, Hall County, Texas. She was the daughter of L.J. Mock and Ella Jefferson Mock. On April 15, 1949, she married A.R. "Bob" Carroll. Bob entered the ministry of the United Methodist Church in 1965, and together, he and Mrs. Carroll served Beverly Drive UMC, Electra UMC, Windom Circuit, Trenton-Randolph, and St. Jo-Forestburg.

She is survived by three daughters, four granddaughters, one great-granddaughter, and three great-grandsons.

**LINDA CLOYD**

Belinda "Linda" A. Cloyd passed away on November 6, 2017 in Frisco, Texas at the age of 60.

Linda was born on November 19, 1956 in London, England to Johnnie and Ann Lee. On January 26, 1979, she was joined in marriage to Rev. Jack Cloyd Jr. in San Antonio, Texas. She retired from Aetna Health Plans, and was a member of First United Methodist Church in Avery, Texas.

Linda's love for her children and grandchildren was the cornerstone of her life. Her husband Jack was the soul-mate that is spoken of so often by others attempting to describe their love for a spouse. To Linda, family began with her mom and dad, brother and sisters and then expanded to children, grandchildren and everyone she ever came to know. She



loved with great passion, dedication, and she loved for life. Love was the greatest and easiest word to roll off her tongue. If you knew her at all, you knew she loved you deeply, sincerely and with absolute honesty.

She came to church late in life, but when she came to Christ she came with passion, hope, faith, and trust. Even though she did not always understand it all, the one thing she understood above all, was that God created love and he poured an infinite amount for her to share and offer.

She waits just around the corner with the smile that is distinctly hers and a hug she will bestow on everyone that comes after. A hug and delight that she is reunited with each of us as that day comes for us all individually.

She is survived by her husband, a daughter and a son, seven grandchildren, siblings, a niece, nephews, and numerous other relatives and friends.

### LINDA RAE DEAN



Linda Rae Dean, spouse of Rev. Jim Dean, passed away on March 18, 2018 at the age of 83.

Linda was born in Galveston, Texas on January 18, 1935. At the age of 4, she moved with her family to Wichita Falls, Texas, where they lived until she graduated from Wichita Falls High School.

Early in her life, she was actively involved in tap and ballet, played the piano, sang in acapella choirs in high school, and was an active member in similar groups at First UMC in Wichita Falls, where she met her future and only husband, Jim – the love of her life.

After three consecutive years of Christmas Eve proposals, she said “yes” and was married to James (Jim) F. Dean on May 25, 1956 at the First UMC in Wichita Falls, Texas. They immediately moved to Dallas, where, two years later, Jim graduated from Perkins School of Theology at SMU, and they started their life of ministry together. For the next 52 years, they served 14 different United Methodist congregations across Texas, from Houston to Rome. The love they shared will never end.

Linda was a loving and supportive mother to three sons. She is survived by her husband, a son, five grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

### GEORGIA KIFER



Georgia Mae Whitehead Kifer, surviving spouse of Rev. Earl E. Kifer, passed away on May 14, 2018 in Dallas, Texas.

Mrs. Kifer was born February 27, 1920 and raised by her father, Barney and mother, Violet in Bowie, TX. She met her husband, Rev. Earl E. Kifer, in Wichita Falls in 1941. They were married in November, 1943 in Harlingen, Texas and had three sons, Ronald Wayne, Gregory Glen, and Mark Lester.

They served several churches in the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church including Chico, Roanoke, Denton, Wylie, Mesquite, Greenville, Denison, and Dallas. Earl and Georgia retired at CC Young in 1990 and she lived there ever since.

Georgia helped start the Art (Canvas Painting) Classes at CC Young, as well as enjoy singing her favorite hymns in the choir.

Mrs. Kifer is survived by two sons (having been preceded in death by one son), thirteen grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren, and her special caretaker who loved her for the past 11 years.

And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.

## CORINNE “CONNIE” MCFARLAND



Corinne “Connie” Alice Campbell Kamperman McFarland passed away Wednesday, January 17, 2018 after a period of declining health at the age of 96.

Mrs. McFarland, surviving spouse of Rev. H. Neill McFarland, loved people by cooking and sewing for them. For many years, she was a member of the SMU Women’s Club, a local Gourmet Club and the Dallas Quilters’ Guild (Nimble Thimbles). Connie fed folks marvelous meals and shared her skills so her family and friends could do the same. An incredible and creative seamstress, quilter and counted cross stitcher, she invested her love of color into numerous Ronald McDonald quilts for children, and helped elderly ladies piece quilts at a local retirement home. A compassionate and confirmed lover of cats, Connie adored those she and son Bill raised (as well as cocker mix Stinky), and nurtured both feral and adopted cats she and husband Neill shared.

Strong, competent, determined, intelligent, witty and sometimes acerbic, Connie faced single motherhood with commitment and steely resolve. She worked many jobs to support herself and Bill, most notably as Executive Secretary to SMU Vice President R. Richard Rubottom, Jr.

When she married Dr. Neill McFarland in 1973, her world broadened, allowing travel she relished. Members of the Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth (founded in 1970 by husband Neill), they honeymooned in Japan, revisiting in '85 and '88. In 1978, Connie delighted in exploring England through the “SMU at Oxford” program.

Mrs. McFarland is survived by a son, step-daughters, several step-grandchildren and step-great grandchildren, step-nieces and nephews. Connie’s gracious and friendly manner will be missed by the many she touched.

## WILLIAM G. MILLSAP



William G Millsap, spouse of Rev. Connie Millsap, passed away in Dallas, Texas on December 9, 2017 at the age of 64.

William (Bill) Millsap was born in Santa Monica, CA and raised in San Marino, CA; the first born of prominent architect Robert E. Millsap, II and Ruth Millsap and grandson of prominent General Contractor, Robert E. Millsap of Los Angeles, CA. He graduated with a BS in Landscape Architecture from California Polytechnic, San Luis Obispo, CA and received a MFA from California State University, Northridge. Bill began his professional career of over 41 years as a landscape architect in 1978 with the preeminent firm of Emmet Wemple and Associates and later became President of the firm. He later joined as a senior principal with Cole, Jenest & Stone in Charlotte, NC from 1994-1996. He joined Mesa Design, Dallas as a senior principal in 1996. In 2011, he was one of the founding

partners of studioOutside, Dallas. His projects include retail, mixed use, hospitality, residential and urban design across the United States and internationally.

More important than the projects themselves, which were of great interest to him, were the relationships of the people he worked with over his career: the clients, developers, architects, consultants and his peers in the industry, and especially those at studioOutside.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters, siblings and step-siblings, nieces and nephews.

### **SERITA NADINE HAMILTON YEAGER**



Serita Nadine Yeager, spouse of Rev. Clay Yeager, passed away on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 in Denison, Texas at the age of 84.

Serita Nadine Hamilton was born in New Albany, Indiana on January 21, 1934 to her mother, Cleo Beatrice McKown Hamilton, and her father, Leslie Eugene Hamilton. She grew up in a Christian home with her mother as a college English professor and father as an electrical engineer. She moved with her parents to Dallas, Texas shortly after World War II and graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1952. She then was accepted into Southern Methodist University where she attended college for four years. She was involved in many student associations including PSI Chi, Alpha Kappa Delta, and nominated for homecoming Queen. It was there at a religious retreat that she met the love of her life, Clay Arnold Yeager. In the spring of 1956, she graduated, with honors and a major in Early Childhood and a minor in Psychology. They married on August 7, 1956 at Perkins Chapel on the SMU campus and Nadine then took on the role of being a Methodist minister's wife.

She became the proud mother of a bouncing baby boy, Evan Todd Yeager, on April 15 1960. On May 4, 1965, she welcomed a beautiful little girl, Kathleen Marie Yeager. Because of her son's learning disabilities, Nadine made it her mission to go back to school and become a diagnostician and special education teacher. She attended North Texas State University and Texas Woman's University and earned her master's degree in Special Education, specializing in Dyslexia. She then taught at Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas under the guidance of pioneering pediatric neurologist, Dr. Lucius Waites and pioneering language therapist, Dr. Aylett Cox. Her many years of teaching children with disabilities (learning and physical) continued through the mid 1990s. Nadine also became an advocate for the mentally ill volunteering for the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) for many years. She briefly became a real estate agent in Dallas then retired in Commerce, Texas in 2001.

She loved her family very much and prayed for all she met.

She is survived by her husband (who passed away on June 4, 2018), a brother, a son, a daughter, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. There are many cousins, friends and coworkers that will miss her as well.