



Betty Ruth Craft Anderson

March 14, 1932 - April 20, 2025

Betty Ruth Anderson, of Soso, MS entered the loving arms of her Savior April 20, 2025. The daughter of John Craft and Mittie Butler Craft, she was born the eighth of eight children, March 14, 1932 in Smith County, Mize, MS. She attended school in Mize and graduated from Mize High School in 1949.

Preceding Betty in death were her husband Woodrow "Woody" Anderson; parents John and Mittie Craft; step-mother Mattie Jones Craft; brother Randall Craft (Imogene) of Mize; sisters Hilma (Barney) McAlpin of Laurel; Willie Myrl (Corbett) Sullivan of Mize; Audell (Willard Clark, Percy) Swager of Laurel; Ann (Bill) Frisby of Mobile, AL, Johnnie (Lavern) Royals of Soso; Vernell (George) Creel of Soso; nephews Pat Sullivan of Columbia, SC; Paul Clark of Mendenhall; Larry McAlpin of Laurel and niece Barbara Clark Miller of Guthrie, OK.

Betty Anderson is survived by nineteen nieces and nephews, all who consider Betty their second mother. Nicky McAlpin Blakeney, Laurel; Jeanne McAlpin Hull, Baton Rouge, LA; Sandra Craft Cooper, Fulton, MS; Randall (Linda) Craft, Jr. Fulton, MS; Melodee Craft (Ray) Goodwin, Newfoundland, NJ; Stephanie Craft (Stephen) Henning, Batesville, MS; Stanley (Patricia) Sullivan, Mize; Betty Anne Sullivan (Tom) Young, Caregivers, Soso; Steve (Jane) Sullivan, Mize; Ken (Karen) Swager, Laurel; Carolyn Sullivan (Bob) Fillingham, Mobile, AL; Michael Sullivan, Mobile, AL; Sherry Royals Jefcoat,

Soso; Marilyn Royals Monroe, Springfield, KY; Kirk (Wanda) Royals, Soso; Gary (Ann) Creel, Sugar Hill, GA; Cynthia Creel Shelton, Memphis, TN; Debbie Creel, Soso; Judith Creel (Paul) Heathcock, Heidelberg, MS. There are a host of great, 2X great and 3X great nieces and nephews.

Upon graduation, Betty moved to Laurel to be closer to some of her family and to find employment. She did find employment but she also met her husband, Woodrow "Woody" Anderson. They were married in 1950 and married for 55 years, till Woody's death in 2005. God did not give Betty and Woody children but they had a large family of siblings, nieces and nephews and many friends. She considered herself a second mother to her 23 nieces and nephews and a grandmother to many more. Their home was always a gathering place for family reunions and friends and always a place of fun and laughs

Betty was a longtime resident of Jones County and the Laurel area. She was a member of West Laurel Baptist Church and an active choir member for many years. She loved to sing for the Lord.

Betty Anderson was employed in the banking and insurance industry for many years. She was a talented artist; sold some of her work and taught many students at her home studio. Betty loved her county, state and nation. She believed in staying informed and knowing the candidates. She was an active member of the Jones County Republican Women.

Betty enjoyed traveling with friends and family. She visited 48 of the 50 nation's states and traveled internationally. She enjoyed cooking and gardening. She took great pride in her yard and continued to mow her own lawn till the age of 89. Betty loved her pets. She had many dogs and cats over the years. It was very important to her to know that Tom and Jerry, her cats, were going to be cared for when she was gone.

Most of all Betty Anderson loved God and people. She had a kind and forgiving heart.

The family would like to thank Forrest General Hospital Hospice and Betty's Care Team: Dr. Washington, Crysti, Andrea, Chaplain Paul, Sally, Renee and others at Asbury Home for their excellent care, compassion and support.

Visitation will be held at Memory Chapel Funeral Home on Wednesday, April 23, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. The funeral service will be at Memory Chapel on Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. with interment to follow at Sunset Gardens Cemetery. Pastors Allen Hill and Russ Freeman will officiate.

Pallbearers will be John Dickerson, Jose Rodriguez, Matt Sullivan, Paul Heathcock, Tracy Broadway, Tom Young, Brian Sullivan, and Gary Creel.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like to mention Betty had several charities which she supported: Tunnel to Towers Foundation, The Wounded Warrior Project, St. Jude's Children's Hospital and American Cancer Assoc. Feel free to make a donation to your favorite charity or one of Betty's in her memory.

To sign the online guest book, visit www.memorychapellaurel.com.

Cemetery Details

Sunset Gardens Cemetery

1206 Wansley Road
Laurel, MS 39440

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **23**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home
3100 Audubon Drive
P. O. Box 674
Laurel, MS 39440
(601) 428-5235
memorychapel@comcast.net
<https://www.memorychapellaurel.com/>

Service

APR **24**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home
3100 Audubon Drive
P. O. Box 674
Laurel, MS 39440
(601) 428-5235
memorychapel@comcast.net
<https://www.memorychapellaurel.com/>

Tribute Wall

CI

“ I knew Betty as Big Aunt Betty, she was my my great aunt by marriage. When we would visit Pam's grandparents in Mize, we always had to catch up with her and uncle Woodrow. She had a life well lived for certain. Once while we were visiting I tried to get Woodrow and Pam's other great uncle Bilbo to have an electric wheel chair drag race down hwy. 35, but they both declined. She was such a joy to be around and I know she will be missed greatly. In times like these I always like to quote Psalm 116:15 "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His holy ones." Thanks to Betty Ann for keeping us posted as Big Aunt Betty's health declined. I know from first hand experience that caregiving is a tough job. I'm so glad and thankful that Betty Ann and Tom were able to be there and provide the care and help when she needed it the most.
C. Britt Pate, III

C. Britt Pate, III - April 24, 2025 at 05:38 PM



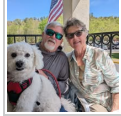
Thank you for those kind words. Betty Anderson will be missed.

Betty Young - May 15, 2025 at 09:29 AM

SH

“ I've known Betty Anderson through work in insurance but mostly in Jone County Republican Women & Republican Executive Committee of Jones County! She was very active politically & we shared many great times with candidates & other a party members with tea parties , Barbecues & formal affairs! We attended Ms Republicans State Conventions many times plus the Insaugeration of George W Bush! I loved Betty & all of her family & so regret I cannot attend her Visitation or funeral! I'll miss my dear sweet kind friend but Heaven has gained a Saint! RIP Betty! 🙏🙏❤️🇺🇸

Stella M Hall - April 23, 2025 at 02:12 PM



Thank you Stella. Aunt Betty loved her count, state and nation. She believed in being involved and informed politically. Thanks for your remembrances and sharing.

Betty Young - May 15, 2025 at 09:36 AM

MM

“ *Marilyn Royals Monroe purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Betty Ruth Craft Anderson.*



Marilyn Royals Monroe - April 22, 2025 at 09:51 PM

CC

“ *My friend, Betty, was always there when she was needed, maybe the loan of a special dress if needed, or a needed ride. Wonderful memories of our Friday Aft. Cards. She always kept the party lively with her laughter. She was generous with her blue berries and enjoyed sharing them with everyone.. she is missed!*

carline craig - April 22, 2025 at 04:28 PM



Love you Carline. We will try to keep those card games going. And we still have blueberries, I must bring you some. Aunt loved people and loved to laugh. Thanks for sharing.

Betty Young - May 15, 2025 at 09:42 AM

SE

“ I am so sorry to hear of Betty’s death, although I know she rests with Jesus now! Prayers for all who loved her! I was privileged to know Betty for many years during our work careers, and consider her my friend. She was a very special person, friendly, kind and caring! I last saw her at an event at West Laurel Baptist Church and enjoyed visiting with her!

Sarah Entrekin - April 22, 2025 at 11:09 AM



Sarah, thank you for sharing your memories of our beloved Aunt Betty. She loved her friends so much. Thank you for sharing.

Betty Young - May 15, 2025 at 09:46 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Betty Ruth Craft Anderson.



April 22, 2025 at 10:59 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Betty Ruth Craft Anderson.

April 22, 2025 at 10:59 AM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Betty Ruth Craft Anderson.*



April 22, 2025 at 09:50 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Betty Ruth Craft Anderson.

April 22, 2025 at 09:50 AM



“ *Betty was a very kind and sweet person. Very talented. Praying for family and friends during this difficult time.*

Amy Williams - April 22, 2025 at 09:07 AM



Thank you Amy for your thoughts and prayers.

Betty Young - May 15, 2025 at 09:48 AM