



Betty Jean Towriss

May 26, 1939 - July 1, 2022

Betty Jean Towriss of St. Petersburg, FL passed away on July 1, 2022, peacefully in her home. Betty was born on May 26, 1939 to Charles Preston and Dora Belle (Helphenstine) Claypool in Goddard, Kentucky.

Betty's life began as the youngest of seven children on a farm in eastern Kentucky. At a very young age, Betty felt to call to give her life to Christ and use the special gifts God had given to her to witness and share the gospel. After graduating from high school at the age of 16, Betty began traveling with her two best friends, singing at revival meetings and camp meetings throughout Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, West Virginia and Virginia. A friendship that continued on their entire lives. A young man, having seen Betty's picture in his local newspaper advertising the trio singing at a revival in his home town, went to the service to meet her and hopefully ask her for a date. She said "No" but asked him to return the next evening to that service, he did and she agreed to have a date. That young man became her husband of 51 years and the two of them shared a life of ministry together for 46 years.

After raising her family, Betty began a career teaching 2 year olds in day school. At the age of 80 Betty retired having had the privilege of shaping and mentoring the young lives of two generations.

Betty is survived by her children: Tamara "Tammy" (Rick) Hale of Roanoke,

Virginia; Kelly (Michael) Hone of Hickory, North Carolina; Charles David Towriss of St. Petersburg, Florida and Stacey Davis of St. Petersburg, Florida; her loving sister Gail Hinton of Flemingsburg, Kentucky; her grandchildren: Candace (Brian) Pruett of North Carolina, Elizabeth (Christopher) Cotter of Ohio, Kari (Jeff) Carpenter of North Carolina, Katelyn (Ryan) Ackerman of North Carolina, Tyler Davis of Florida, Meredith Hale of Tennessee, Lauren (Matt) Goldstein of Florida and Lydia Davis of Florida along with 11 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Betty was greeted in Heaven by her loving husband, Rev. Charles E. Towriss, her parents, her grandson, Charles Preston Towriss, her brothers Marvin Claypool and Charles Preston Claypool, Jr., and sisters Helen Franks, Maxine Fox and Mabel Rabe. A celebration for a life well lived is scheduled of Saturday July 9, 2022 at Central Christian Church located at 6161 22nd Avenue N., St. Petersburg, FL 33710. Receiving will be from 12:30pm to 2:00pm and the service will start following at 2:00pm. Donation can be made in her name to Hospice/Empath or Central Christian Church. We the family would like to say a special THANK YOU to Elizabeth, Betty's Hospice Nurse.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 9. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Central Christian Church
6161 22nd Avenue N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Service

JUL 9. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Central Christian Church
6161 22nd Avenue N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Tribute Wall

PS

“ *Betty and Chuck left a lasting place in my heart along with my children. Your family is so dear to each of us! Heaven is shining brighter today. Pat Starkell & McGowan children*



pat starkell - July 09, 2022 at 10:59 AM

TH

We love you as well Pat. Thank you for the special friendship you had with mother and daddy.

Tammy Hale - July 26, 2022 at 11:21 AM

JE

“ *Jesus Escobar sent a virtual gift in memory of Betty Jean Towriss*



Jesus Escobar - July 08, 2022 at 02:15 PM

“ Tammy, Kelly, Charles David, Stacey, Aunt Betty's family and her beloved grand children. As you know My sister, brothers and I lost our mother at a young age to us and her so we feel and understand what your hearts are experiencing today, the passing of your wonderful mother our Aunt Betty.



Speaking for myself I remember Aunt Betty as a Mother like figure in my life.

I have always had fond memories of her back to my childhood and probably some of the best family trips we ever had were over to Roanoke, Virginia where I remember like yesterday Aunt Betty scrubbing my little pants and shirt tails in her kitchen sink that were soiled from playing in that fire red dirt from playing outside with my cousins. She always had that smile, so well displayed in her picture which all who came across her will always remember forever.

I also remember her as a very sincere kind heart, God fearing and faith devoted lady. I remember she had this little card thing on her kitchen table where you picked one everyday and it had a Bible verse of the day on it and her reading those to us. I think they sat in a little plastic white church maybe.

One great belief our entire family shares which is so wonderful is that all of us know in our Christian hearts that Betty is not gone and in fact is well alive. She has lifted to her wonderful creator and waiting family. No more pain / no more grief. She lives we know from her Christian Spirit and good works from this life. We can count on this being Christians and know we will see Betty again. Our souls live forever and Betty's is safe in the loving arms of her Lord and Savior.

My advice is to carry on her great works in your own spirits. I try to live in my mothers spirit, her grace and kindness because I believe she lives in my heart. Your mother lives right in your heart where her

spirit can be seen in your own works and good will which is the gift she has passed on to you. You will often feel her presence and your sadness will turn to joy. I often feel my mothers presence when I pray. So always pray a lot to be close to Betty.

*Thinking of each of you,
Love your Cousin Zach*

Zach Towriss - July 08, 2022 at 11:43 AM

TH

Thank you Zach. Mother would be touched by your description of her and how you felt about her. She loved all her nieces and nephews deeply. She too was heartbroken when your precious mother passed. They had a special bond. Much love!

Tammy Hale - July 26, 2022 at 11:20 AM

KF

“ I remember when Bob and I travelled to Florida and we decided to visit your mom during our vacation trip. She cooked up the largest and most delicious meal for us!!! We had ham and roast beef and all the sides!!! She was a gracious hostess - and I loved her kind and gentle disposition. She was honest and wise!!

Karen Fouch - July 05, 2022 at 09:20 PM

TT

“ Sad to see her leave us. But as the hymn reminds, "When we all get heaven what a day of rejoicing it will be." I can only imagine the reunion underway in Heaven, as I'm sure it is full of joy and laughter with many of our loved ones who've gone before. I always have and will carry very fond memories of Aunt Betty, going back to my earliest childhood memories. I was always warmed by her hospitality, comfortable in her presence, and touched by her bright and glowing spirit. Much sympathy and love to my beloved cousins.

Ty Goulding Towriss - July 05, 2022 at 06:48 PM

AT

“ Aunt Betty was so sweet and I always loved visiting her and Uncle Chuck in St. Pete. May she Rest In Peace and be reunited with Uncle Chuck and Preston ❤️

Alex Towriss - July 04, 2022 at 02:44 PM

TH

Oh my, how daddy and mother loved your family! Your kind words would have meant a lot to her.

Tammy Hale - July 26, 2022 at 11:22 AM

JN

“ Our Sympathy to all the family. Betty was well-known through out the country, for her singing and witnessing to God. She had the Love Of God in her heart and that brought kindness, caring and love to all she met. God Bless the family and give them the strength ,through this difficult time , 🙏🙏🙏



John & Jean Newman - July 04, 2022 at 01:25 PM

JO

“ Betty was such a beautiful and sweet lady. I will always remember her playing piano and singing at church. What a legacy she has left to her family and friends. RIP Betty.

Julia O'Dell - July 03, 2022 at 08:57 PM

RS

“ I was grateful to meet and get to know Betty at Central Christian Church, St. Petersburg, Fl. What a wonderful lady. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Rita Strube - July 03, 2022 at 07:15 PM

MM

“ Sorry for your loss. Prayers for all the family. I enjoyed getting to know Betty when they pastored in Muncie ,Ind. and then reconnected after moving to Flemingsburg, Ky. A very sweet christian lady. Prayers for God's sustaining presence for all the family

Marie Moore - July 03, 2022 at 05:28 PM

RF

“ I will always remember Betty's beautiful singing in church, and the wonderful harmony with Stacey and Barb. Pastor Towriss and Betty touched my heart all those years ago, and I will never forget. Deepest sympathy goes out to the family. I will pray for their grieving hearts.

Roger Fetzer - July 03, 2022 at 02:20 PM

KH

Thank you for your words of comfort.

Kelly Hone - July 18, 2022 at 07:04 AM