



## Mrs. Mary Katherine Earney

March 2, 1920 - February 24, 2014

MARY K. EARNEY, 93, historian, passed away peacefully February 24, 2014 in Fern Park, Florida. Burial and a gathering of family and friends will take place Sunday, March 9, at 3 p.m. in the Marfa Cemetery, Marfa, Texas. The family asks for friends, past students and anyone still in town who knew "Mary K.," to please join us and wear or bring something decidedly Texan or Marfan.

Mary K. was born in 1920 to Hunter and Fletcher Metcalfe and she spent her childhood in Marfa. She valued education; graduating from the University of Texas at Austin in 1941 with two degrees and where she also was a member of Alpha Phi sorority. In 1969, Mrs. Earney furthered her education by obtaining a Master's Degree from Sul Ross State University.

Mary K. married William H. Earney in 1942. In the following years, they had 4 children and Mrs. Earney worked as a newspaper correspondent and photographer for regional newspapers. She also taught history for 10 years in the Marfa Independent School District.

Mrs. Earney moved to Georgetown, Texas, a few years after the death of her husband, Bill Earney in 1993. In Georgetown, Mary K. continued her pursuit of writing as a member of the San Gabriel Writer's League. Her other writing endeavors included being a columnist for the Big Bend Sentinel and authoring 3 books.

She enjoyed interacting with people, hostessing parties and playing bridge. Mrs. Earney is survived by her son, Robert F. Earney, of Lubbock, Texas, and daughter, Anna Curtis of Fern Park, Florida; 7 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; and, a niece, Emily Croom, of Bellaire, Texas. Two sons predeceased her.

In lieu of flowers, the family hopes anyone wishing to honor her memory will make a contribution to the Marfa School District, PO Box T, 400 W. Lincoln, Marfa, Texas 79843.

Arrangements are entrusted to DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory 9001 N. Orlando Ave. Maitland, Florida 32751 (407) 695-CARE (2273).

# Tribute Wall

ST

“ My condolences to the family. I pray you find comfort in knowing that even though we may lose a loved one in death, God will bring back to life all those found in his memory. (Job 14:15 John 5:28, 29 Acts 24:15) Yes, we have the hope of seeing our loved ones again, and the life to be enjoyed when this takes place will be truly wonderful. (Revelation 21:3, 4)

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**Steve** - April 24, 2014 at 08:21 AM

PK

“ I knew Mary K. While she was a resident of the Wesleyan Retirement Home. I always enjoyed visiting with her and considered her a special friend. This year when my computer was still giving a birthday alarm for her on Texas Independence Day, I tried to find out where she was if she was still living. I had checked out her niece's genealogy book and knew it was her niece because some of the illustrations were the history I knew. I had purchased several of her books which she autographed for me. Today, as I signed up for a chance to win a quilt at the Georgetown quilt show, I remembered the beautiful quilt she won one year. It was a red, white, and blue beauty. My sincere sympathy to her family. Pat Koym

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**Pat Koym** - March 22, 2014 at 06:30 PM

RD

“ *Mary Katherine and Judge Bill Earney were two of the finest people I ever met.*

*It's a little sad to hear of the passing of our friend Mary Katherine Earney, of Marfa, Texas, at age 93. But, I am so very grateful to have known her and thankful for all of the great moments we shared. Mary Katherine was the wife of my first judge as a new attorney, the Hon. Bill Earney, and she was the daughter of long-time District Judge Fletcher Metcalf. She was raised in little Marfa, Texas, she earned two degrees at UT and then went back to Far West Texas to educate and help people. In those days, the district judge had 6 huge counties- from Marfa driving 4 1/2 hours to Big Lake. She supported Bill in everything and was a teacher and accomplished author, who continued to write until the end. Pam and I enjoyed sitting on their high porch in Marfa with them, at the end of a day, and looking many miles South toward Mexico- at that beautiful country. Such a person as Mary Katherine was particularly valuable in that very remote place. We can remember the good times and a part of our lives that was made wonderful by these special friends, but we are still sad that she is gone. She and Bill were the "ring leaders" of a wonderful group of friends that included the Lucius Bunton's, the Ike Livingston's and many more "characters" of the Big Bend of Texas. Mary Katherine always had a smile on her face, a gleam in her eye and she truly loved people. She made the World better and she will surely be missed.*

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**Ronnie Dickens** - March 21, 2014 at 11:48 PM

PG

“*Mary Katherine, Mrs. Earney, was my teacher for a year in Marfa Elementary School. I remember her as innovative in the classroom, willing to try new things. She was a very intelligent person and encouraged her students to be individuals and work toward a goal at their individual levels. I played tennis with her daughter Ann. I remember each year at Christmas a santa sugar cookie was given to me hand delivered by Ann so beautifully decorated I could not bite into it. This was a really nice thing for her to do with her children. I remember that Mrs. Earney cooked stew for some kind of community fund raiser, one of several volunteers to do a roaster pan full. She was a good cook and I remember she was especially interested in the country of China. My sister was good friends with her son John Fletcher roaming the countryside exploring nature, bugs, snakes etc. I remember calling her son Craig to help get a snake out of the house I was renting, he carried it out in a pillow case. She had to be pretty accommodating in my eyes since, as I am told, the boys liked to catch snakes and bring them home. Someone else will have to share those stories.. As I recall it was a busy family hunting, fishing, learning, backyard cookouts, natorious pet german shepard "King".*

*Patti Godbold*

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**Patti Godbold** - March 08, 2014 at 11:44 AM