

## Betty "Joyce" Avret Morgan

February 1, 1932 - June 8, 2017

Our beloved mother, Betty Joyce Morgan, age 85, passed away on June 8, 2017 after a brief illness. Born in Macon, GA into abject poverty, she was reared on the mill village by her textile worker parents and raised to eternal glory with her Heavenly Father.

Tall, fearless and athletic, Joyce graduated Miller High school in 1949, lettered in Varsity basketball and was in Girl Reserves. She attended Georgia State College for Women (GSCW) prior to enrolling in secretarial school. She learned how to swim after being thrown off a bridge into a creek in South Georgia, picked cotton, killed a water moccasin with a hoe, and had a root canal without novacine.

She walked to school in cardboard lined shoes and was doing the family laundry at age 7. Despite being bullied by classmates who called her 4 eyes and lint head, she became a loyal daughter, loving friend, trusted confidante, and great encourager. Her fondest childhood memory was visiting her illiterate grandmother in Screven county, without whose unconditional love, her life would have been greatly diminished.

In 1955, Joyce caught the Nancy Hanks train out of Bibb county with her meager possessions, relocated to Atlanta, secured employment, was married and became a mother within 16 months.

In 1966 Joyce foresaw the need to establish a kindergarten in South Fulton county. She truly found her calling, and continued to teach and influence 5-year olds for 25 years, serving as Preschool Director in Clifftondale and Fairburn. Later she worked at Bank of America.

She taught women's Sunday school for 20 years, was a Girl Scout leader, played on church softball team, coached girls Little League, led AWANA and VBS. She was a voracious reader and gifted pianist, talented seamstress, and a lifelong learner with an inquisitive nature, who loved traveling and meeting people from different cultures and walks of life.

Joyce was a teetotaler and strict disciplinarian (but no killjoy), who raised 3 children on a shoestring budget, and knows her ulcer started at the local A & P grocery, agonizing over which groceries she would have to put back when money ran short, as it often did. She was widely known for her delicious Southern cooking, but could not boil water when she married. Nor could she drive.

Hysterically funny and a great conversationalist, others were drawn into her authentic presence by her self-deprecating humor, caring and direct approach. God fearing and hardworking, she was not one to put on airs, and remained a humble, salt of the earth servant who possessed skills which transferred to all her endeavors. The world could use more people like Joyce, with a large heart and small ego, sacrificing her comforts to help others.

She used her gifts and service at Clifftondale Baptist Church. Her unwavering faith, integrity and Christian witness was recognized by all.

She is predeceased by her parents, Nathaniel and Elizabeth Avret, husband of 56 years, Bobby Morgan, adored son in law Steve S. Tolleson. She is survived by siblings Dr. E. T. "Bud" (Stella) Avret and Beth (Charles) Martin. Also survived by 3 children: Mary (David) Hand, Mark (Karen) Morgan Ph.D., Jane Tolleson and 8 grandchildren: Christopher (Ashley) Bortolazzo, David Bortolazzo, Meredith Morgan Lewis (Chris), Jon (Linsey) Morgan, Stephen Tolleson, Tom Tolleson, Tyler Hand, Laura Hand, and 6 great grandchildren.

Guests will be received from 5-7 at Parrott Funeral Home, 8355 Senoia Road, Fairburn on Wednesday, June 14. The funeral will be Thursday, June 15 at 11 am followed by internment at Holly Hill cemetery.

We invite those who wish to do so to donate to Samaritan's Purse, PO Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607 for the support of Christian relief work in 3rd world countries, in lieu of flowers.

# Cemetery Details

## Holly Hill Memorial Park

359 W. Broad Street  
Fairburn, GA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 14. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Parrott Funeral Home & Crematory  
8355 Senoia Road  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
(770) 964-4800  
info@parrottfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.parrottfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

JUN 15. 11:00 AM (ET)

Parrott Funeral Home & Crematory  
8355 Senoia Road  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
(770) 964-4800  
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# Tribute Wall



“ Parrott Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Betty "Joyce" Avret Morgan



Parrott Funeral Home - June 10, 2017 at 08:53 AM



*Beautiful tribute to a wonderful woman and family! The Pittman Road house brings back lots of great memories. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire family and my longtime childhood friend, Mary.*

Rebecca Sappenfield - June 11, 2017 at 09:39 AM

GS

*I met Joyce at Clifftondale Baptist where she served our Lord faithfully. Loved her smile and laughter. May sweet memories bring comfort in the days ahead.*

*Jerry and Glenda Steadham*

Glenda Steadham - June 14, 2017 at 11:19 AM

RT

“ Joyce was a true friend who loved God and loved others. We taught together at Fairburn Baptist Church Kindergarten for many years. She was an inspiration, a great teacher who made learning fun. Thanks for the memories!



Rebecca Thompson - June 15, 2017 at 12:28 PM

PF

“ *Piedmont Newnan Radiology Family. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Betty "Joyce" Avret Morgan.*

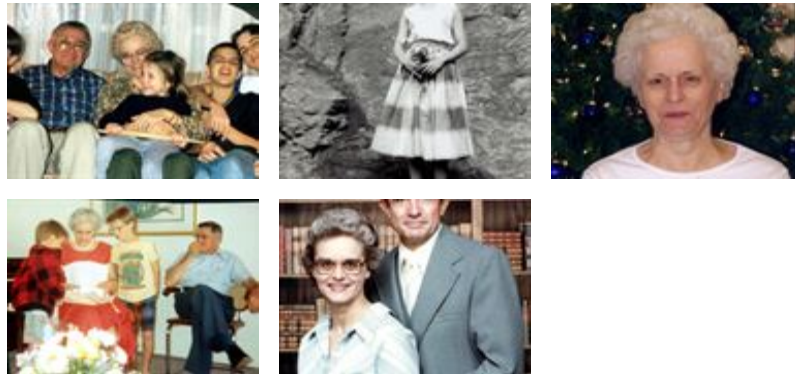


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**Piedmont Newnan Radiology Family.** - June 14, 2017 at 06:05 PM

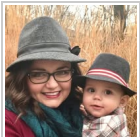


“ *22 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Parrott Funeral Home** - June 13, 2017 at 10:13 AM



“ *Joyce was a dear friend of my memow, Faye Forsyth, who passed away the day before she did. Joyce was always very kind to me and my sisters, Jennifer and Jessi, while we wiggled and squirmed as little girls do when they sit in "big church". What a blessing to my family that Memow's sweet friend joins our Father in Heaven just one day after my Memow did. Love and prayers for all your family from ours. Jacquelyn (Davis) Carnes*

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**Jacquelyn Carnes** - June 13, 2017 at 09:25 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Betty "Joyce" Avret Morgan.*



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June 13, 2017 at 09:00 AM



“ *Leif & B, Kim, Tunde & I, Phoebe, Vidya, Hannah & B purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Betty "Joyce" Avret Morgan.*



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**Leif & B, Kim, Tunde & I, Phoebe, Vidya, Hannah & B - June 12, 2017 at 08:29 PM**

LW

“Mrs. Morgan was a woman of strength, character, and whose love for the Lord Jesus Christ was evident throughout her life. She was a 'rock' of support & strength for Mama when Daddy died and was a wonderful friend to Mama for decades. Mama and Joyce had wonderful times together at work, going to England, doing things in Clifftondale and with First Baptist of Clifftondale, Sunday School teacher, and just being friends for many years. She was a true friend to Mama as well as to me and my family. She was a prayer warrior and her influence and impact was felt across generations. To the family, I know this is a sudden and sad time for which we don't understand, but we do know that she was strong in the Lord and she is His. I pray for the Lord's strength during this time because she will be missed so much.

We love you,  
Darlene Eskew  
Lori & David Winkler & family

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**Lori Eskew Winkler** - June 12, 2017 at 08:59 AM

DF

“Mrs. Morgan was my kindergarten teacher & I loved her dearly! She had such infectious energy & laughter! I am so thankful to have had her in my life, even for just a short time (& I'm thankful that my parents were able to keep in touch with her over the years). She was very special!

My prayers are with the family...



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**Diana Dodson Fowler** - June 11, 2017 at 10:14 PM

MG

“ *I'll never forget that laugh of hers. What a wonderful Christian woman she was - an example for all to follow. I will miss her.*

*Mary Anne Goforth*

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**Mary Anne Goforth** - June 11, 2017 at 06:15 PM

KJ

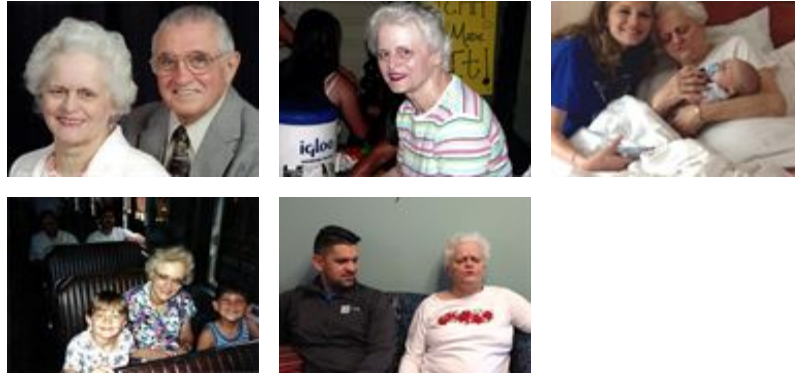
“ *Thinking of you. Prayers for comfort in your grief. Kathy Juengst*

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**Kathy Juengst** - June 10, 2017 at 11:18 PM



“ *26 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Parrott Funeral Home** - June 10, 2017 at 08:50 AM

PM

“ *Prayers for the Morgan family!*

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**Patricia Rowell Moody** - June 08, 2017 at 03:15 PM