

LOITA I. "IVY" PHILLIPS



Loita I. "Ivy" Phillips, 86, of Callahan, passed away June 24, 2022. Ivy was born September 13, 1935 in Orianna Community of Treutlen County, Georgia to James Daniel and Edna Bernice Williams Walker. Following graduation from high school, she moved to Augusta, Georgia, where she met the love of her life, Nelvin Linnell Phillips, Sr. They were married October 11, 1953. They moved their family to Callahan in 1968. They had four boys. She and Nelvin enjoyed 24 years of marriage before his passing in 1977. Ivy was a go-getter and enjoyed being busy, as if four boys didn't keep her busy enough! She worked as a secretary at the First Baptist Church in Callahan; was a bookkeeper for several local businesses; and also, a tax preparer. After Nelvin's passing, she decided she wanted to go back to school to be a nurse in cardiac care in 1978 at the age of 43. She graduated in 1981 as a cardiac nurse and worked at St. Vincent's Hospital for 17 years on the cardiac floor, eventually becoming assistant head nurse. Ivy later transitioned to the realm of home health care.

She was a faithful servant of the Lord and knows it was with the Lord's strength that she was a four-time cancer survivor. One day at a time, she would say. She was a longtime member of Gray Gables Baptist Church, a member (officer) of the Jones Cemetery Association; the United Daughters of the Confederacy; and the West Nassau Genealogy Society. She loved history and she loved life. She was always a bright light to all she met. Her sweet smile would light up a room and she never met a stranger. She will truly be missed by all that knew and loved her. She is predeceased by her husband; parents; two sisters; three brothers; daughter-in-law Debbie Phillips; and a granddaughter Kristina Swenszkowski.

She is survived by her sons Nelvin "Lynn" Linnell (Elizabeth) Phillips, Jr., James Randolph "Randy" (Cynthia) Phillips, all of Callahan, Lilliot Lanier (Shawn) Phillips of Brandon, FL, and Gregory Allen (Vicki) Phillips of Dallas, Georgia; ten grandchildren Catina Phillips, Susan (Robert) Dodson, Nelvin (Brandee) Phillips, III, Randi English, Tracy Hunter, Kevin (Jennifer) Swenszkowski, Amanda (Ryan) Alton, Courtney (Charles) Zoeller, Leslie (David) Budner and Nancy (Cody) Hicks; three honorary grandchildren Thomas (Sarah) Wiggs, Jr., Matthew (Megan) Wiggs and Andrea (Paul) Rogers; 20 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and a brother Charles Feltman (Ruby) Walker.

Serving as pallbearers are: Nelvin Linnell Phillips, III, Robert Noal Dodson, James David Walker, Dewey Lee Hester, Jr. and Dennis Anderson, Andrew J. Wilkinson, and David Budner.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Cancer Society.

The family received friends Monday, June 27 at Callahan Funeral Home. The funeral service was held Tuesday, June 28 at Gray Gables Baptist Church in Callahan. Burial followed at Jones Cemetery, Callahan.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.

Arrangements by Callahan Funeral Home, Inc., 879-2336.