



Nita Alice (Matthews) Simmons

May 1, 1920 - March 5, 2018

Nita Alice (Matthews) Simmons, 97, passed away on March 5, 2018 at Brookdale Senior Living in Springfield, Ohio. Nita was born May 1, 1920 in Gallia County, Ohio to the late John Edward Matthews and Verna Alice (Warner) Matthews. Her brothers, Glenn and Clare Matthews and her sisters, Nola Brabham and Helen Matthews preceded her in death.

Nita graduated from Gallia Academy High School in 1938 and moved to Gallipolis, where she met George Simmons. After their marriage in 1941, they moved to Wellston and opened Simmons Dry Cleaners. Nita continued the business when George was called to the Army in World War II. Upon his return they continued the dry cleaning business and added Simmons Motel. George also went into partnership with Hobe McKinnis operating the One Hour Cleaners and Laundromat in Jackson.

After George's untimely death in 1969, Nita moved to Jackson where she lived for 43 years. She continued to run the dry cleaners and laundry with her business partners, Christine and Christy McKinnis.

Nita was a faithful and active member of Hope United Methodist Church during her time in Wellston and Christ United Methodist Church after her move to Jackson.

Nita enjoyed her children and grandchildren, who loved hearing her stories of growing up on a farm and also the stories of her adventures during her many trips with her sister, Helen.

She is survived by her children, Sandy Evans, Georgene (Dan) Knapke and Mark (Kathie) Simmons; 13 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild and several nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will be held at the Mayhew-Brown Funeral Home in Jackson from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Monday, March 12, 2018. A memorial service will follow at 12:00 p.m. with Janie Karl officiating. Burial will be in Mt. Zion Cemetery, Gallipolis, at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, Nita requested donations to be made to the Christ United Methodist Church, 150 Portsmouth St., Jackson, Ohio 45640; Ohio's Hospice of Dayton, 324 Wilmington Ave., Dayton, OH 45420 or a charity of your choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Mayhew-Brown Funeral Home and Southern Ohio Cremation Services.

Condolences may be sent to www.mayhew-brownfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

MN

“ Sandy, Georgene and Mark I was saddened to hear of Aunt Mita's passing. She was such a lovely lady! I have fond memories of our childhood visits to her home. Always felt she was a good friend to my mother. I'm so glad you invited us to her 95th Birthday. She and Aunt Izzy were so cute telling us stories! I wish we could be there. We are in Florida trying to decide what is best for Mike's Dad (91) who is failing. It is always hard to lose a parent. I know that she is in a better place. We will be keeping you all in our prayers! Our deepest sympathy! Mike and Barb

Mike and Barbara Ann Neal - June 29, 2018 at 09:20 AM

AM

“ Nita was a dear friend of my parents. She was a sweet, lovely woman. I am sorry for your loss. I know she will always be in your hearts.

Arla MCVICKER - June 29, 2018 at 09:20 AM

JF

“ Dear Georgene, Sandy and Mark, I was blessed to have such a wonderful Mother- in Law for so many years. Thank you for sharing her with me. Truly one of the sweetest people I have ever had the p,ensure of loving.

J.L. Ford - June 29, 2018 at 09:20 AM

BS

“ It was such a privilege to know Nita. I didn't meet her until much later in her life but I was dazzled by her warmth and generosity not to mention her wit and her sweet manner. Did she ever know a stranger? I doubt it. She put people instantly at ease. Reading the data about her life, I have gained increased respect for all that she accomplished in her long and distinguished lifetime. I pray each of her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and her great-great grandchild will carry her spirit forward. It will be a ripple effect of goodness that will make life better for each of us. I send condolences and prayers to all.

Barbara Summers Summers - June 29, 2018 at 09:20 AM



“ Draw close to God and he will comfort and strengthen you.

June 29, 2018 at 09:20 AM



“ Draw close to God and he will draw close to you.

June 29, 2018 at 09:20 AM



“ May God strengthen and comfort the family during your time of sorrow.

June 29, 2018 at 09:20 AM