



Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens

March 10, 1924 - July 1, 2019

Martha Jane Waters Owens was born March 10, 1924 in Gateswood, Al to Stanley M. Waters and Virginia Jernigan Waters. She was the sixth of Stanley and Virginia's eleven children. As a child Martha was given the nickname, "Puff" by her siblings, and the moniker stuck throughout her life. Martha grew up working on her family's farm, attending Belle Fountain School in Gateswood, and taking care of her younger brothers and sisters.

In 1942 Martha married Charles M. Owens of Dothan, Al. When Charles returned from WWII the two resided in Dothan during the early years of their marriage where their daughters, Linda Dianne and Mary Virginia were born. The family later moved to Prichard, Al for about 20 years where Martha babysat many children out of her home; especially Debbie, Ronnie, Michael, and Mark Wright. The Owens later moved to Chickasaw, Al for about 19 years. In 1991 Charles and Martha permanently moved into their retirement home on the bay in Fort Morgan, Al. They were married for 64 years until Charles's death in 2006.

Martha always loved being active in her community, her church and with her big extended family. She enjoyed keeping house and cooking, and could make the best cookies, pies, gumbo, and yellow grits you ever tasted. Martha also got a kick out of a good prank or joke, and often played them on her siblings, nieces, nephews, and grandchildren. She was an excellent story-

teller and could regale folks for hours with detailed yarns from her childhood and adolescence. Martha was a member of the Fort Morgan Ladies Auxillary and Shell Banks Baptist Church.

Along with her husband, Charles, and her mother and father, Martha is preceded in death by her brothers, Lincoln Lamar Waters, Stanley Laverne "Worm" Waters, Edwin Quint "EQ" Waters, Weston Waters, John Quincy Waters; sister, Catherine "Kitty" Waters Hellmich; siblings-in-law, Bea Waters, Pat Waters, Jean Waters, Kay Waters, Frank Hellmich, Elmer Peterson and Charlie Wilder, and son-in-law, Rex D. Gibson.

Martha is survived by her daughters, Linda Dianne Owens Gibson of Saraland and Mary Virginia Owens Sparks and son-in-law, William C. "Sparky" Sparks Jr. of Gateswood; brother, Herbert Waters of Pine Grove; sisters, Philena "Doll" Waters Peterson of Bay Minette, Susie Waters Wilder and Lavone "Sweet" Waters Hinesley (Howard) both of Fort Morgan; sister-in-law, Hazel Owens Cannon of Tavares, FL; grandchildren, Shelly Sparks Young (Tim) of Irmo, SC, Melanie Sparks Smith (Rod) of Seneca, SC, Michelle Gibson (Eddie) of Citronelle, Rex Gibson Jr. of Louisiana, Scottie Vest (Rochelle) of Oklahoma; great-grandchildren, Raleigh D. Norris of Jacksonville, FL, Rayne W. Norris of Irmo, SC, soon-to-be Charlotte M. Smith of Seneca, SC; and countless nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

Martha was able to live out the final years of her life in the bay cottage she loved so much because of the unwavering 24/7 care and love her daughters, Dianne and Mary provided her; along with the visits and meals provided by her sisters, Susie and Sweet. The family would also like to thank the wonderful sitters and nurses of Comfort Keepers, Kindred Home Health and Kindred Hospice.

Services will be held at Hamilton Baptist Church in Gateswood Saturday, July 6, 2019. Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. and the funeral will begin

at 11:00 a.m. A graveside service will immediately follow at Clear Springs Cemetery in Gateswood. Memorials may be made to: Hamilton Baptist Church Building Fund at 32815 Co. Rd. 112 Robertsdale, Al 36567 or Clear Springs Cemetery Fund c/o Buddy Barnett at 28555 Co. Rd. 112 Robertsdale, Al 36567

Cemetery Details

Clear Springs Cemetery

Gateswood, AL

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Hamilton Baptist Church
32815 County Road 112
Robertsdale, AL 36567

Funeral Service

JUL 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

Hamilton Baptist Church
32815 County Road 112
Robertsdale, AL 36567

Tribute Wall



“ Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens

October 04, 2023 at 01:12 PM



“ Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens

November 08, 2022 at 06:34 PM



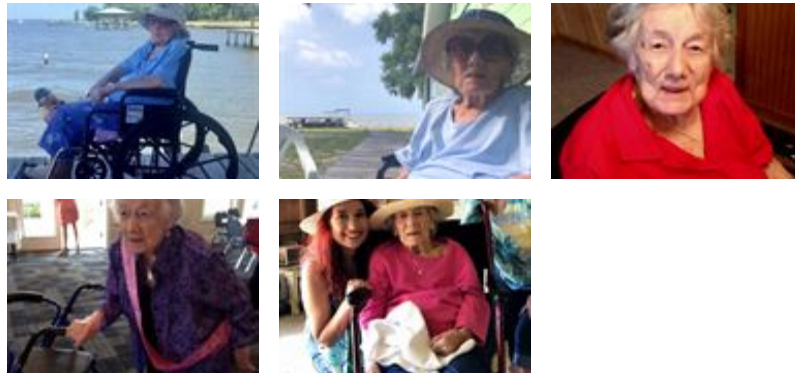
“ I have known Mrs. Martha for over a year it was a pleasure to get to know her and to take care of her. Thoughts an prayers go out to her daughter's Dianna & Mary an the entire family. Mrs. Martha Owen's and her stories will forever be in my heart.



Tessa Kyles - July 05, 2019 at 08:16 PM



“ 46 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pine Rest Funeral Home and Memorial Park, LLC - July 05, 2019 at 09:15 AM

LH

“ Lowell Hicks lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens



Lowell Hicks - July 03, 2019 at 11:16 PM

Donna Smith

“ We Love Ms. Owens! She was our neighbor, we moved next door to Mr. Owens & she when I was 6. She watched us across the street, & would bring us goodies . My Mother, Jean, & her always kept in touch. Our condolences to Diane, Mary & the whole family!

Donna Smith - July 03, 2019 at 10:12 PM

JM

“ Thinking of you Dianne and family



june gibson myers - July 03, 2019 at 08:30 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens.



July 03, 2019 at 07:41 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens.



July 03, 2019 at 05:19 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens.



July 03, 2019 at 06:49 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens.



July 02, 2019 at 10:16 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens.



July 02, 2019 at 09:52 PM

DS

“ My condolences to the family it was honored to have a chance to take care ms ownes.she will be missed dearly.she was so so sweet lady.

Debra Starnes - July 02, 2019 at 08:27 PM

DS

“ Debra Starnes sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens



Debra Starnes - July 02, 2019 at 08:24 PM

DS

“ Debra Starnes sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens



Debra Starnes - July 02, 2019 at 08:23 PM

DS

“ Debra Starnes lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Martha Jane Waters Owens



Debra Starnes - July 02, 2019 at 08:22 PM