



# **Norma Jean Jacques Rodgers**

JUN 29, 1933 - JAN 27, 2017



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**MEMORIAL PARK**  
Funeral Home & Cemetery

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## **Norma Jean Jacques Rodgers**

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**N**orma Jean Jacques Rodgers, age 83, went to be with her Lord on January 27th, 2017, after a long and courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease. She was born on June 29th, 1933 to her parents, George and Lois Jacques. She graduated from Nicholas Blackwell (Bartlett) High School in 1951, and was a member of the Beta Club, the Rainbow Girls, and was on staff at the school paper and annual. She married her husband, William F. Rodgers, Jr. on August 27th, 1951. In their 65-plus years of marriage, they lived in 5 states, and took on life's challenges with a sense of adventure and determination. They were active members of the United Methodist Church, and treasured their friendships in the Discussion Group at Bartlett UMC. Jean and Bill raised their two daughters to be strong, kind, and determined women. Their faith and deep love for one another anchored them, even in the most challenging times. Jean served for many years as the Registrar for the Defense Contract Audit Institute in Memphis, TN, where she made many long-time and lasting friends. She retired in 1989. Over the years Jean and Bill made over 45 trips in the USA with their friends Jim and Ruth Baumgartner. They also made two trips to Europe with Marshall Morris and other friends. Of all her many roles and accomplishments, her greatest treasure was the love of family. Jean was clever and quick-witted, and brought the gift of laughter to others, even in her final days. Jean never met a stranger. Her warmth and hospitality made anyone feel at home; her kindness and grace were buoyant enough to lift any spirit. She will always be remembered with deepest gratitude as a loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and dear friend. The family would like to thank all those who have loved and cared for her over the years, a gift that has warmed our hearts and brought the light of love even into the darkest places. She leaves behind and will be dearly missed by her husband, William F. Rodgers, Jr., daughters Jeane Russelle Low, Elizabeth Robin (Ron) Rittiner, granddaughter Elise (Ryan) Low Edwardson,



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sister Peggy Roberts, her niece Karen McKinley, nephew James Reeves, cousins, and many long-time friends. The family will receive friends from 1p.m. until her service begins at 2 p.m. Wednesday, February 1 at Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN In lieu of flowers, you are invited to make a donation to the Sunny Day Club, a ministry of Brentwood United Methodist Church that brought Jean much joy, comfort, and a renewed sense of belonging while battling Alzheimer's disease. Sunny Day Club c/o Brentwood United Methodist Church. 309 Franklin Rd., Brentwood, TN 37027 Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave., Memphis TN 38119 (901) 767-8930. "Celebrating Life....Behind the Stone Wall." Her obituary and service information will be posted as soon as it becomes available.



## Tribute Wall

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BM

**Boyce Edwards-Morris** posted:

I can't ever remember that as children at Gragg school that I ever saw that Norma Jean wasn't smiling. My deepest sympathy to Billy and Norma Jean's family and friends. Boyce Edwards-Morris

February 10 at 11:21 AM

RB

**Ruth Baumgartner** posted:

Jean was a charmer. On the many trips Jim and I took with her and Bill, she charmed us into the best hotel rooms, best restaurants and best theatre seats (fifth row center). She made friends everywhere she went. She was quick-witted. An inquisitive acquaintance said to her, "I hear Ruth married a rich, old man." Jean quickly responded, "He's not old." Jean always looked crisp and pretty. I loved her musical laugh. She was the best friend and one who could keep secrets. She knew all mine. I've never seen them in print. I will always miss her. I will always love her. She was special. Ruth Baumgartner Laguna Niguel CA

February 2 at 6:34 AM

MP

**Memorial Park** posted:

Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Norma Jean Jacques Rodgers.

January 30 at 7:46 AM

MP

**Memorial Park** posted:

Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Norma Jean Jacques Rodgers.

January 28 at 1:37 PM

RB

**Robert (Bob) Ray** posted:

The fellas at DCAI took weekend canoe trips down the Spring River in Arkansas. The girls jokingly gave us a hard time that they were not included. So we said OK you are included. Then they said we'll go if Jean goes, knowing that they were safe. To their surprise Jean said she'd go. On the river Jean's canoe turned over and she took a dive into the river. She came up sputtering, holding a bottle of wine she'd retrieved from the river bottom. That's Jean.

January 28 at 8:54 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Norma by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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