



Odette Matthews

OCT 8, 1919 - MAY 23, 2015



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Odette Matthews

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Odette Denise Lourdin Matthews passed away on May 23, 2015. She was born in 1919 in Vichy, France. After living through German occupation during WWII and witnessing the liberation of Paris, she moved to Washington DC where she worked as an attorney for the French Embassy. She met Luther Franklin Matthews who had just returned from the war, married him, and moved to Memphis. They were married for 30 years. Odette was a loving wife to Luther while he worked with Allright Parking and then founded The Downtowner Motor Inns. Odette is preceded in death by her husband, Luther F. Matthews, her daughter, Denise Raikos (Gusty), and her son, L. Franklin Matthews, Jr. (Martha). She is survived by her son, Harold Matthews (Cecilia) of Naples, FL, her grandchildren, Karen Winchester (John) of Germantown, Patricia Aiken (Wyatt) of Memphis, Melissa Fitch (Philip) of Indianapolis, Gustin J. 'G.J.' Raikos, Jr. of Indianapolis, Nicholas Raikos of California, John 'Jake' Raikos of Indianapolis, her great-grandchildren Jennifer Gray (Nick), James Aiken, Elizabeth Winchester, Rachel Aiken, and Philip Aiken, and her great-great-granddaughter Adeline Gray. Odette taught French at Miss Hutchison School in the 1960's. She was active in the Memphis society, the Woman's Exchange, the Duration Club, and the Church of the Holy Communion. Odette remained a staunchly patriotic American during her 70 years in this country. Visitation will be held at Memorial Park Funeral Home on Friday, May 29th, 2015 at 1:30 pm, with services following at 2:30. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to The Salvation Army, St. Jude Children's Hospital, or The Church of the Holy Communion. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave. Memphis, TN 38119, (901)767-8930, "Behind the Stone Wall"



Tribute Wall

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BO

Bonnie posted:

Harold (and family), Your mother was so beautiful. As a 4 year old child, I met her when Denise was a new baby. We lived across the street on Park Haven Lane You were between 12 and 14(I guess) and my sister, Jimmie Lou and I thought you were just wonderful. We both loved Odette and enjoyed visiting with her through the years. I have not lived in Memphis since I married in 1962. She and our mother, Louise Garrison, were great friends. They were quite the pair! I also enjoyed visiting with Odette when she was at the Parkview and I was in town to see mother. They lived very full and vibrant lives. They both lived to be 96. Odette left an imprint on the Garrison family and she will always be in our memory as mother's beloved friend. Our thoughts are with you and your family. She left a wonderful legacy. She will always be remembered as a bright spot with lots of laughter and humor. She was such a strong woman and good role model. I love this picture of her. Even in her older years, she was very beautiful. Remembering your family with thankfulness, Bonnie Sue Garrison, Brown Spring Hill, Kansas

June 4 at 4:49 PM

AS

Arnaud Somveille October 26 at 2:15 PM

En faisant des recherches sur les anciennes élèves du Lycée Marie-Curie de Sceaux (France), j'ai découvert que Odette LOURDIN, épouse MATTHEWS, y avait été scolarisée en 1938-1939. Et j'apprends ici qu'elle a eu une belle vie, longue et heureuse, entourée d'une grande famille qu'elle a construite avec son mari. Arnaud Somveille, Vice président du Musée du Lycée Marie-Curie de Sceaux



Memories only last if you share them

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



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