



Betty Abi Lenhardt

February 16, 1921 - November 8, 2011

Betty Abi (McDow) Lenhardt, 90, a resident of Eunice Smith Home died at 12:55 a.m. Tuesday, November 8, 2011. The daughter of Ray Hardin and Mildred (Dixon) McDow, she was born February 16, 1921 in Alton. She married Robert Theodore Lenhardt on June 14, 1947. Her husband preceded her in death on February 9, 1985 in Fort Myers, FL. She is survived by her daughter, Linda Lenhardt Bryant of St. Petersburg, FL, her granddaughter, Elizabeth (Carl) Wooten Reschke of Tampa, FL, a nephew, Terry (Becky) Close of Dorsey, a great niece, Heather, a great nephew, Andrew, a cousin Joanne Perkins Lenhardt, her caregiver, Karen Gunter, and many loving friends. She attended Alton public schools, and Shurtleff College graduating with a degree in Music Education in 1942. She was employed as an Admissions Counselor for Shurtleff College and for Western College For Women in Oxford, Ohio. She later was a teacher at Blair Elementary in East Alton and then taught the homebound and hospitalized for the Alton public school district completing 35 years as an educator before retiring. An accomplished musician, Betty served as Choir Director in several Alton churches as well as a soloist. She also appeared as soloist with The Alton Community Concert Association and Munny Band. She was elected a lifetime member of the board of The Greater Alton Concert Association. Betty was a lifelong member of St. Paul's Episcopal Parish of Alton where she was a Lay Reader, a member of the St. Francis Guild, attended Bible Study and was active in Leisure Friends. She had the privilege of completing one of the

needlepoint canvases that depict scenes of Alton and adorn the kneelers at the Communion Rail. Proud of her heritage, Betty was a 50+ year member of Ninian Edwards Chapter, NSDAR. She served the Chapter, District and State in many offices and as committee chairs. She was elected as the first Honorary Regent of her chapter in 1976. Betty was a longtime member of the Upper Alton Women's Club where she gave many book reviews and musical programs. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her sister, Doris McDow Close. Visitation will be from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton. Graveside services will be at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, November 10, 2011 at Upper Alton Cemetery. Father David Boase will officiate. Memorial gifts may be given to St. Paul's Episcopal Parish of Alton Liturgy and Arts Fund. A celebration of life Mass will be held at a later date at St. Paul's Episcopal Parish.

PDF Printable Version

Tribute Wall



“ *Betty Abi Lenhardt*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Betty Abi Lenhardt*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *Linda mom& I were so sad to read this news. We remember your mom & dad fondly. Mom used to go to breakfast with them alot at Village & we met them for dinner there too.
I live inKansas City; came here for college & been here ever since!
Mom had a stroke in Dec 2001. Moved her here to KC in 2002. She lives in nursing facility mile from my house. She cried when I told her but is watching me type this message. Hope you are doing well & again so sorry to hear the news.*

Kitty & Jeanne Boone - February 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ I am grateful for Betty's presence in my life. She was a source of encouragement, laughter, and faith when it was needed for both my folks as well as for me.

I am so sorry for your loss. Through the difficulties of this time, the memories and even the laughter will prevail.

I have an image that some folks who haven't seen each other for so long are getting ready for breakfast on Saturday morning.

From Marilyn in Chattanooga. Much love to you, Linda and Elizabeth

Marilyn L. Smith - November 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.

May Your Memories Bring You Comfort....

Mabel Charlene Gill

Mabel Charlene Gill - November 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM