



## Mary Lou Beckham May

June 15, 1929 - September 5, 2016

### Mary Lou Beckham May

Mary Lou Beckham May, 87, passed away on September 5, 2016, under the tender care of the nursing staff of the Lubbock Heart Hospital. Her daughter, Sharla Diane May, was a loving companion and help to her mother in her latter years and especially during the last few days.

Lou was born in Brownsboro, Texas, June 15, 1929 to Ernest and Clara Beckham. She graduated in 1949 from North Texas State University with a degree in journalism. There she met the love of her life, Kenneth May, former Associate Editor of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal. The couple moved to Lubbock in 1949, where Kenneth died in 1989.

Lou, or as many knew her, "Mama Lou Lou," was always the life of any party. Her clever wit and optimistic spirit brightened even the dullest business meetings and made the world a brighter place. As one friend commented, "A meeting without Lou May would be like eating Mexican food without jalapenos!"

Lou never met a stranger. Whether you were a disabled individual, a patient in a hospital, a resident of a nursing home, or a clerk at the supermarket, she would engage you in cheery conversation. She had a deep compassion for

the handicapped especially and demonstrated this through her work on the Board of Directors of Marian Moss Enterprises since 1998. She also served in numerous other organizations, including the Board of Directors of Goodwill Industries, the Volunteer Council of the Lubbock State School, Board of Directors of the Women's Division of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, Lubbock County Society for Crippled Children, and the Lubbock Women's Club. Texas Governor Bill Clements also appointed her as a member of the State Board for Continuing Special Education.

After teaching at Roosevelt ISD from 1949-1952, Lou devoted her life to her husband and children, Mark Beckham May of Lubbock, Cheri Gail May Hoke of Kampala, Uganda, and Sharla Diane May of Lubbock. Other surviving family members include her son-in-law, Rev. Timothy Hoke; grandchildren, Andrea Burger and James Hoke; great-granddaughter, Harmony Burger; brother, Patrick Beckham, and beloved nieces and nephews.

Lou was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth May; sister, Christine Unger; and brother, Jake Beckham.

Services are scheduled from 1-2 p.m. on Monday, September 12, at Providence Presbyterian Church, 3301 34th St, Lubbock, TX 79410. A brief burial service will follow at 3:00, at the Resthaven Mausoleum Chapel, 5740 West 19th Street, Lubbock, TX 79407.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to be given to Marian Moss Enterprises, [www.marianmoss.com](http://www.marianmoss.com), in honor of Lou May. We are so grateful to God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, for the life of this amazing woman.

# Cemetery Details

## Resthaven Memorial Park

5740 West 19th. St.  
Lubbock, TX 79407

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP 12. 1:00 PM (CT)

Providence Presbyterian Church  
3301 34th St  
Lubbock, TX

## Entombment

SEP 12. 3:00 PM (CT)

Resthaven Memorial Park  
5740 West 19th. St.  
Lubbock, TX 79407

# Tribute Wall

GO

“ Grace Bible Church Oklahoma City, OK purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mary Lou Beckham May .



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**Grace Bible Church Oklahoma City, OK** - September 11, 2016  
at 09:41 PM



“ My husband Richard and I send our heartfelt sympathy to Cheri and Tim at this sad time. Our prayers are with all of you. From Richard and Juliana L'Heureux Topsham, Maine

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**Juliana L'Heureux** - September 11, 2016 at 04:21 PM

LL

“ Lou was my go to for vintage finds. I loved to shop for old things with Lou. She also could tell me great ideas about making my "finds" sparkle and shine. Throughout the hunt, Lou would entertain with her sense of humor. She will be missed.



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**LaNita LaFon** - September 10, 2016 at 11:21 PM

AD

“ Lou was a very special person who will be missed by her many friends and family.  
Ann Drake, Dallas

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**Ann Drake, Dallas** - September 10, 2016 at 04:32 PM