



Phyllis Bertsch

February 15, 1926 - July 3, 2008

PHYLLIS MERLE (DEUSINGER) BERTSCH, 82, died July 3, 2008, in Little Rock, Arkansas. She was born February 15, 1926, in Arkadelphia, to William Frederick and Jennie Marie (Simms) Deusinger. She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister, Wanda Marie Deusinger-Thilsted, of Stillwater, Oklahoma, and her brother, Frederick Deusinger, of Conroe, Texas.

The Deusinger family moved from Arkadelphia, Arkansas to Alva, Oklahoma when Phyllis was 10 years old. After graduating from Alva High School in 1943, she earned her Bachelor of Science degree at Northwestern State College, in 1946. She moved on to the University of Southern California (USC) and then to Columbia University, in New York City, where she received her Master of Science degree, in 1950. She was proud to have a diploma signed by Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Phyllis' passion was duplicate bridge. She was a member of the Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club and the American Contract Bridge League and had earned the status of Silver Life Master. She played duplicate bridge in Little Rock and Jacksonville for over 25 years. She also enjoyed gardening, reading and classical music and her beloved dog, Queenie.

She is survived by her only daughter, Jiki Bertsch-Betts, of Kneeland, California. The family would like to thank the doctors and nurses of Baptist Health SICU, in West Little Rock, for their heroic efforts and compassionate care.

A private burial ceremony took place at the family plot July 15, 2008.

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