



## Betty Perkins Simmons

June 12, 1935 - October 2, 2017

Betty June Simmons of Willow Springs passed away Monday, October 2, 2017, while at Ozarks Medical Center in West Plains due to natural causes. Born on June 12, 1935 to John Thomas and Anna Isabel (Dunning) Bridges in Austin, MO; she was 82 years old.

Betty grew up and attended school in Archie, MO. She was married to Eli Perkins on September 11, 1950 in Eureka Springs, AR and to this union five children were born. She worked for many years at the local factories: Rawlings, Conaway-Winter and Brown Shoe Company as a floor lady. She also helped Eli in the logging business where she would cut and skid the logs; in fact, she did all aspects except using a chain saw. One year she and Eli won the Jack and Jill Crosscut Saw contest on Food and Forest Day, beating other teams comprised of men. Betty accepted the Lord as her Savior at the age of 27. She loved the Lord and she served in several capacities at the First Baptist Church in Willow Springs. She not only did custodial work, but also taught the 10-12 girls' group for many years. She loved singing in the choir, and also was a soloist on many occasions.

Betty was also an accomplished seamstress. She made quilts for every member of her family. She had many enjoyments in her life. She loved to garden, grow beautiful roses, and do landscaping. It was said that she loved to sing while she did her household chores. She would sing while she cooked, while she mopped the floors, and knew thousands of songs. If you gave her a word, she could sing a song with that word in it. She also loved to attend

sporting events that her children participated in, and she was 100% behind their efforts.

Preceding Betty in death are her parents; her husband, Eli; a son, David Eli Perkins; four brothers: Tom, Chester, James, and Joe Bridges; and four sisters: Mary Mathews, Myrtle Bridges, Elma Perkins and Patty Matta.

She is survived by her children: Ollie Isabel Taylor; Daniel J. Perkins and his wife, Sandy; Karen Sue Perkins, and Dwight Perkins, all of Willow Springs.

Also surviving are her grandchildren; Rachel Marie Ellison of Willow Springs; Joseph Ellison and his wife, Sarah, of Sparta, MO; David Taylor and his wife, Ashley of Fayetteville, AR; Joel Taylor and his wife, Lindsey of Prairie Grove, AR; Keturah Stewart and her husband, Dan of Fairview, MO; Jemima Huerta and her husband, Jaime of Springdale, AR; Jamin Ellison of Ft. Smith; Timothy Perkins and his wife, Malina; Matthew Perkins and his wife, Amanda of Willow Springs; Chanda Lopez and her husband, Miguel of Overland Park, KS; David Hoisington of Houston, TX; Nakita Walser and her husband, Kyle of Oklahoma City, OK; and AFC Joshua Perkins of Presidio, CA. Further surviving are twenty-seven great-grandchildren and counting.

A family night/visitation for Betty will be held Friday, October 6, 2017 from 6-8 pm at Willow Funeral Home, located at 106 E. Third Street in Willow Springs.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 3:00 PM at Willow Funeral Home, with Pastor John Colbert officiating. Interment will be at Howell Memorial Park Cemetery. The family has requested in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Betty's memory to Willow Funeral Home to help defray funeral expenses.

Arrangements are under the direction of Willow Funeral Home. On-line condolences may be left at [www.willowspringsfuneralhome.com](http://www.willowspringsfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Howell Memorial Park

5604 US Hwy 63  
Pomona, MO

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 6. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Willow Funeral Home, LLC  
106 E 3rd St  
Willow Springs, MO 65793  
(417) 469-3141

## Service

OCT 7. 3:00 PM (CT)

Willow Funeral Home, LLC  
106 E 3rd St  
Willow Springs, MO 65793  
(417) 469-3141

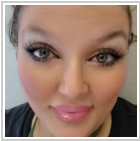
# Tribute Wall

TP

“ *The other night I had a dream that Grandma visited me to tell me how much she loved me and my family. The next morning, Chanda Bleau called me to tell me that Grandma had visited her in her dreams that night to tell her that if she didn't clean her house there would be some explainin to do. I guess Grandma was checking in on us and I passed and Chanda well better luck next visit. We both agreed that we seldom have dreams and even more seldom is Grandma in them. Must have been a visit.*

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**Tim Perkins** - January 06 at 10:28 AM



“ *Now I know Why I love to sing while cleaning! I miss you Grandma. You are so loved and I will see you on the other side:D*

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**Jemima Huerta** - February 11, 2023 at 06:28 PM

CL

“ Her voice, her hugs, her love... they were all rough (lol) and always given with gusto.

If you had a good bruise, she would poke it and ask if it hurt. She was so ornery. I still can't resist to do the same.

She loved to bake. For my birthday, I've always preferred blackberry cobbler. She would make one and mom would make one. Grandma would say that mom's was too tart. Mom would say that grandma's was too sweet. I didn't care, I would get two cobblers out of their competition. I might have even sided with both in secret, so I could keep getting two cobblers. ;)

When eating out, Grandma could somehow get pizza sauce on the back of her ear. It was pretty amazing.

Grandma liked really crunchy, dark toast. I used to adjust the toaster to a lighter setting and she'd complain about who kept doing that.

Grandpa Eli said I made the best toast. LOL. I never told on myself until now.

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I miss her so very much. <3

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**CHANDA BLEAU LOPEZ** - October 05, 2018 at 01:45 PM

JK

“ She was the best of the best when it came time to picking blueberries. I never saw someone so hard working. I will miss my special picker.

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**Jean Klapmeyer** - October 10, 2017 at 02:59 PM

MM

“ Mary Sue Meal lit a candle in memory of Betty Perkins Simmons



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**Mary Sue Meal** - October 05, 2017 at 10:29 AM

MM

*Had many little visits, when we were out an about, she told me how to grow, different flowers, etc. Very interesting lady. Mary sue Meal*

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**Mary Sue Meal** - October 05, 2017 at 10:34 AM

DD

*“ To the Family. Betty was a wonderful friend and neighbor to me when living by me at Senior Housing. Her and I sure loved visiting long hours and many of those hours were spent laughing pretty loud. Will always remember her as a wonderful and loving person. My Thoughts To All, Donita Davis*

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**Donita Davis** - October 04, 2017 at 08:12 PM

BB

*“ Aunt Betty would faithfully come get me as a young girl on Sunday mornings to go with her family to church. I came to know the Lord as my Savior as a result. I have so many other memories but that is the one that means the most to me. R.I.P. Aunt Betty spread your wings and sing with the angels.*

*Your niece,  
Bonnie Bridges Burtchett*

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**Bonnie Burtchett** - October 03, 2017 at 10:58 PM