



Eleanor A. Hill

November 30, 1925 - September 29, 2023

Eleanor Ann (Solms) Hill of Peoria, Arizona passed away at home, Friday afternoon September 29, 2023, at the age of 97. She was born in Bisbee, Arizona on November 30, 1925, to Earl Oliver Solms and Grace Eleanor (Purnell) Solms. Eleanor was a schoolteacher for 21 years for the Pendergast Elementary School District, retiring in 1991. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Peoria, Delta Kappa Gamma (Alpha Iota Chapter) and the Cochise County Historical Society. Eleanor loved to travel, sew, and had a special interest in genealogy. On June 20, 1946, she married her husband Eugene Cosby Hill, Jr, who preceded her in death on November 14, 1980. Eleanor is survived by her sons Ron (Leslie) Hill of Yuba City, California and Larry Hill of Worland, Wyoming. Also surviving are her grandchildren Rick Rodriguez, Wendy (Troy) Sundin, Lori (Toby) Faccio, Karen (Christopher) Scott, Kerri Hatler, Erica Mills, Amy Taylor, Travis (Melissa) Hill, Lawrence (Joy) Hill, Kari (Kim) Barr, Kami (Rance) Neighbors, Dustin (Kristin) Hill and Caleb (Esmeralda) Hill and 26 great grandchildren and 10 great great grandchildren. Preceding her in death was her husband Eugene, her son Curtis Earl Hill and daughter Janet Louise Rodriguez, a granddaughter Robin Rodriguez and 3 sisters. A Funeral Service will be 2:00 pm on Thursday, October 5, 2023, at the First Presbyterian Church of Peoria, 10236 N. 83rd Avenue, Peoria, AZ 85345 with viewing one hour prior to the funeral. Graveside Services will be at 1:00 pm on Friday, October 6, 2023, at Evergreen Cemetery, Bisbee, Arizona. Contributions may be made in her

name to the HART Pantry (Helping at risk teens) at the First Presbyterian Church of Peoria website under the Charity/outreach link.

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Cemetery

Bisbee, AZ 85603

Previous Events

Viewing

OCT **5**. 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM (MT)

First Presbyterian Church of Peoria
10236 N. 83rd Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345

Funeral

OCT **5**. 2:00 PM (MT)

First Presbyterian Church of Peoria
10236 N. 83rd Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345

Graveside

OCT **6**. 1:00 PM (MT)

Evergreen Cemetery
Bisbee, AZ 85603

Tribute Wall

SJ

“ Our family is blessed to have come to know Eleanor as her neighbors and friends. She was so generous, kind, and authentic. She always had time for ice cream or other special treat she made, a card game, or stories. We send our love and condolences to her family. Thank you, Eleanor, for allowing us to be a small part of your beautiful life. - The Johnson Family

Stacey Johnson - October 19, 2023 at 12:04 PM

SH

“ I remember Gene, Eleanor and cousins on our grandparent's farm -- chasing, playing, and 'riding' their huge draft horse Joop. In between we picked big green worms off the tomato plants and helped sell truly organic vegetables at their farm stand. Eleanor was a cheerful presence, making sure we kept (somewhat) in line.....LOL

Later in life Kent and I got better acquainted with her after we settled in Phoenix. By then, Eleanor had been through a few rough spots, as we all have. But even as she lost two children, she kept an even keel, and we learned a lot about gracious acceptance and resilience. And especially joy.

Joy in finding and meeting long-lost relatives; in writing interesting histories about people she knew; in editing and publishing historical books in close collaboration with cousins and friends. Joy in parties, but also in simple conversations with only one or two of us. Joy in having a dozen different kinds of ice cream in her freezer, and cookies on the counter. Joy in her garden and watching hummingbirds outside her windows.

I babysat her kids, and her grandkids; and she was lovingly cared for by them as she slowly slipped away, reluctant to leave them behind. No wonder.....she also found so much happiness in her great-grandkids and their families. Such a life.....!!

Sharon Hill (niece) and husband Kent Davies

Sharon Hill - October 05, 2023 at 11:31 AM

LA

“ Love always, Ardell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eleanor A. Hill.

Love always, Ardell - October 04, 2023 at 11:43 PM

LA

“ *Love always, Ardell purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Eleanor A. Hill.*



Love always, Ardell - October 04, 2023 at 11:43 PM

“ Notes about Eleanor from Nancy McBride Chaboya Crowley

I have various memories about Eleanor when I was younger: visiting her and my cousins in Sahuarita, Arizona and going swimming at the community pool; seeing her pull out a freshly-baked cookie sheet of her powdered sugar-glazed oatmeal cookies; tasting her delicious scalloped potatoes at family dinners; and visiting her at the little house on my grandparents farm when it still had an outhouse.

More recently, my family still enjoys her “Crazy Cake” recipe. Each Christmas we would read her letters full of her wit and cheerful account of the year’s adventures. While visiting her in Peoria, it was fun to have a peek into two of her food preferences which must have held the key to her longevity!!! They were ice cream and daily milk with chocolate syrup. One night we decided to have ice cream. She proceeded to go to the freezer in the garage and brought back a stack of about 6 cartons stacked almost up to her chin! (see picture)

She wanted to enrich others with her writing. She used to write to soldiers in WW Two using the penname “Misty Miscellaneous” and wrote at least one biography for a friend. I appreciate the recent major contribution she made to me and my children in compiling the “Family Stories of the Double Adobe Community” along with Margaret Ellen Downs Bemis.

But what impresses me about her most is the way she met and overcame the losses, difficult transitions, and other challenges she experienced with optimism, courage, hope and a determination to persevere through whatever life presented. And in these last few years, I learned that she had placed her faith in Jesus as her Savior. And so it makes me happy to say, “I will see you again, Eleanor”!



Nancy L Crowley - October 04, 2023 at 04:51 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Eleanor A. Hill.



October 04, 2023 at 03:54 PM

HS

“ A little less light shines in our lives with Eleanor’s passing. First and foremost I want my cousins to know that I am filled with sadness for their loss. Losing such a beautiful and wonderful soul leaves a void that’s hard to bear. However, the sweetness of your memories and the love you shared really softens the hurt and eases the pain. Please know my love goes out to you.



It is tough to say goodbye to the last of the infamous Solms sisters. It’s through tears I let my thoughts turn to happier times. I can hardly remember elements of my childhood that didn’t involve Eleanor’s wonderful family gatherings. She had an amazing way of bringing together people from everywhere to celebrate. The food never was less than fabulous and plentiful. Everyone felt welcomed. We kids never wanted for much. I loved that she never seemed to mind if all us kids were covered head to toe in mud or chasing down rabbits for supper. My childhood memories with Aunt Eleanor are of love, family, fun, and adventure.

Sometime around age 12, I realized that keeping my aunt on my side against my mom might be useful. As Mom’s older sister, Eleanor’s opinion could pull some weight with her. At least that’s what I’d hoped. It seems adult sisters operate without the authority I could use on my younger sisters. Instead, I got a lesson in not trying to turn sister against sister. Thank goodness for the strong and intelligent women who didn’t let me get too big for my britches. Getting to know Eleanor as an adult brought me immense joy and led me to have a whole new level of respect for her. I owe so much of my professional outlook on what was imparted by my wizened teacher aunt. Of course I got my first contract position thanks to her connections. As one of their most respected teachers, I was encouraged to emulate her. Eleanor taught me the importance of meeting your students where they are and creating a safe and trusting environment in your classroom. Best of all, Eleanor encouraged me to take my personal passions and include my students in them. She brought in rock polishing and bread making and the students and parents loved it. It proved to be great advice

and likely kept me motivated for 42 years in the classroom. I'll be forever grateful that my Aunt Eleanor played such an amazing role in my life. I know her influences and contributions to all our lives was enormous. Eleanor Hill leaves a truly beautiful legacy. I'm going to miss her immensely.

Heidi Schneider

Heidi Schneider - October 03, 2023 at 07:33 PM

EN

“ *Eleanor's nieces & nephews purchased the Simple & Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Eleanor A. Hill.*



Eleanor's nieces & nephews - October 03, 2023 at 11:16 AM

RM

“ *At Pendergast we were a formidable twosome. When the boss saw us coming he knew we had a plan to help him do a better job. Eleanor even taught the maintenance crew how to paint the lines in the parking lot to best advantage. Eleanor's generosity and kindness were always in action. I am grateful that Wendy cared for my friend in such a beautiful way. I love you EI! Rorie. A poem by W.S.Merwin: Your absence has gone through me like thread through a needle. Everything I do is stitched with it's color.*

Rorie Measure - October 02, 2023 at 10:04 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Eleanor A. Hill.



October 01, 2023 at 02:30 PM



“ A grove of 3 </store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518>>Memorial Trees was planted in honor of Eleanor A. Hill.

October 01, 2023 at 02:21 PM