



Ruth P. Licking

February 16, 1921 - September 29, 2018

Ruth P. Licking, 97, of Bluffton, passed away on Saturday afternoon, September 29, 2018, at River Terrace Estates in Bluffton.

Ruth was born on February 16, 1921 in Marion, North Carolina to William E. & Sallie (Pyatt) Cooper. She graduated from Marion High School and honorably served her county in the United States Army. It was there that she met her husband, William H. "Bill" Licking, and they were married on February 17, 1945 in Bexar County, Texas. They moved to Bluffton in 1954, and together owned and operated Licking Menswear in downtown Bluffton for many years. Ruth was a member of the First United Methodist Church where she was active in the United Methodist Women.

Ruth has lived at River Terrace for the last 13 years, where she enjoyed playing cards and spending time with her many friends.

Survivors include 4 children; Linda (Gary) Gerhold of Norcross, Ga, Betty (Edward) Gatke of Fort Wayne, Jacqueline (Bill) Vall of Hendersonville, NC and Tom (Brenda) Licking of Golden, Co, along with 9 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren and a sister Patsy Bernhardt of Hamilton, Ohio.

Ruth is preceded in death by her parents, her husband Bill and 4 sisters and 2 brothers.

A Celebration of Life Service will take place at 2 P.M. on Sunday (October 14, 2018) in the Chapel of River Terrace Estates. Pastor Jerry Qualls will officiate. In Lieu of flowers, please consider making a memorial in Ruth's memory to River Terrace Estates – Resident Activity Fund.

A family graveside service has taken place at Elm Grove Cemetery in Bluffton. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at www.thomarich.com.

Cemetery Details

Elm Grove Cemetery

3500 East State Road 124
Bluffton, IN

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

OCT 14. 2:00 PM (ET)

River Terrace Estates Chapel
400 Caylor Blvd.
Bluffton, IN 46714
(260) 824-8940
<http://www.riverterraceestates.net/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth P. Licking*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *I just loved Ruth. I have known her for many years as Tom's mother but Even more so as a long time regular customer at Richards restaurant in Bluffton where I would see her many day I was there and all Sundays I was there. She was a wonderful person, always upbeat and cheerful. While I have seldom seen her since I retired I think of her with warm memories. She has a wonderful family and will be missed.*
Natalie Milholland

natalie Milholland - October 05, 2018 at 02:52 PM



“ *Ruth you slipped away rather quickly from us and yes you will be missed. I had no idea that you were 97 as you could walk faster than I could. Now that is saying a lot as I am a spring chick as you would say. You had a crusty way about you but I know that came from being in the military and it was just you. But inside there was a heart of gold which a lot never saw. To the family I say she will be remembered by her folks at River Terrace as she was there a long time. We only got to know her for the 5 years we were at River Terrace and saw her mostly had supper time in the dining room. May the memories of her live on in your hearts. Carol Lochtefeld*

Carol Lochtefeld - October 02, 2018 at 09:29 AM

BC

“ Dear Tom and Sisters so very Sorry for your loss of your Mother Ruth! I remember the days when I worked for Masterson’s Men’s Clothing Store with Adrian Sprunger and Bill, Ruth, and Tom was my rivals at Licking Men’s Wear! Your Mom was such a sweet lady inside and out! May God grant u Peace and Grace during your time of Grieving! Our Prayers are with u all! 🙏 God Bless! Love, Barry and JoEllen Crosbie! ❤️



Barry Crosbie - October 01, 2018 at 10:28 PM