



Betty Araxie Stevens

NOV 23, 1927 - SEP 9, 2021



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Betty Araxie Stevens

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Betty Araxie Stevens, 93, a resident of Lee County since 1973, passed away peacefully surrounded by family into the next life on Thursday, September 9, 2021. She was born on November 23, 1927, in Plovdiv, Bulgaria to parents who had been on opposite sides in the First World War (a Serbian mother and Bulgarian father). Following a devastating earthquake in 1928, the family moved to Paris, France, which became the dominant culture of her formative years. There, her family lived under Nazi occupation during WWII. For several years during those dark times, Betty and her older sister Danielle, were sent for safety to a convent school in the countryside. Betty later spoke with excitement about the liberation of Paris in 1945

As a young girl, Betty admired all the culture that was going on in the United States, a huge fan of Disney and the famous movies, Betty wanted to make a life with new opportunities in the United States. She sailed from France on board the Ile De France and immigrated thru Ellis Island in 1950, at the age of 22.

Betty moved to Washington D.C and went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology at George Washington University in June 1957. After graduation, she met the love of her life, Douglas Stevens, Sr., and they married on March 29, 1959. They had 2 boys, lived in the metropolitan area of D.C., and in 1973, she and her family relocated to Fort Myers, Florida.

Betty loved to cook, bake, and entertain with friends and family. She enjoyed the arts, movies, Broadway productions, dancing, volunteering to many organizations (including the Optimist club and French club), tutoring French at the local schools, enjoyed the holidays, and the beaches of SW Florida.

After her husband died in 1986, Betty finally learned to drive a car and went on to get her Real Estate license, working until she turned 75. Betty's greatest joy now was spending time with grandchildren and watching all their activities in sports, music, and school events. Betty was their biggest fan.

Betty was an honest, genuine women, always giving, who loved people, lived life to the fullest and always made people laugh. She had the biggest smile in the world.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, Parnac and Jivka Krikorian, her husband, Douglas Stevens, Sr., and her sister, Danielle Gantz.

She is survived by her two loving sons, Douglas Stevens Jr. (Cortney) of Fort Myers, FL, Mark G. Stevens of Fort Myers, FL, four grandchildren, twins Tyler and Brandon Stevens, Justin and Rachel Stevens, and many nieces and nephews who all adored her.

A visitation will be held from 12:30 – 1:00 PM, Saturday, September 25, 2021 at Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Funeral Home, 1589 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers, FL. A Funeral Service will be celebrated 1:00 PM, Saturday, September 25, 2021



Obituary

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at the funeral home. Interment will follow. at Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

For those who can not join in person, you can join through live stream by clicking the link below.

<https://www.econdolence.com/join-viewneral?>

[jc=10000:w4Tm6qwMX9P1b79xG7JjibCMZXZnH0Lt:lgCFJKOot6qE0BXB2adMa==:KZCZ8b90GITPd64vCdxlLg==](https://www.econdolence.com/join-viewneral?jc=10000:w4Tm6qwMX9P1b79xG7JjibCMZXZnH0Lt:lgCFJKOot6qE0BXB2adMa==:KZCZ8b90GITPd64vCdxlLg==)




Events


Betty Araxie Stevens

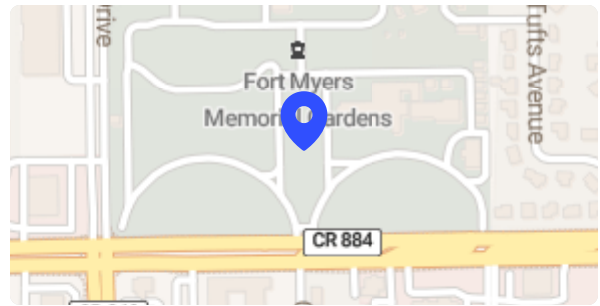
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Visitation

 **Saturday**, September 25, 2021


 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM ET


 **Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Funeral Home**
1589 Colonial Blvd, Fort Myers FL 33907

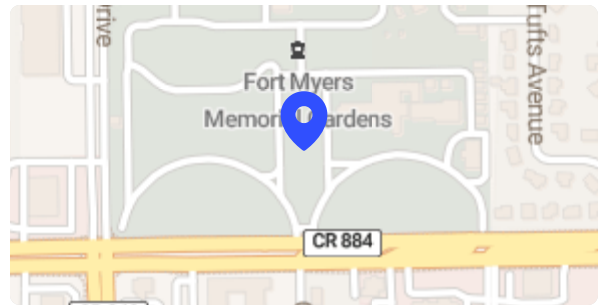


Funeral Service

 **Saturday**, September 25, 2021

 1:00 PM ET

 **Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Funeral Home**
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Tribute Wall

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CH

Cheryl Hill posted:

Some of my fondest memories as a child were of going on vacation to Florida to visit ChiChi and Big D at the big yellow house. She taught us grandkids a few words, songs and how to count in French and some other languages. I am glad Mom and I and Auston had to opportunity to see her last year for a visit and to do her hair. You will be missed ChiChi. I know you had a wonderful life and that you are happy to be with Big D. Prayers always. Much love, Cheryl

September 25 at 2:32 PM

JO

J. D. Owens September 30 at 9:19 AM

I first met Mrs. Stevens in the mid 70's. I lived in NFM and guys from my neighborhood would play football against Doug and a bunch of guys from Fort Myers. She was always nice and caring as was Mr. Stevens. I moved to Fort Myers in 1977 just down the street and became good friends with Doug, Mark, Dad and Mom. I joined the Air Force in 78 and would visit when I came home. She was as sweet when I was in my 20's as when I was a teenager. I'm sorry I did not see her after I started my own family but I will forever remember her kindness and smiling face.

TR

Tracy Rummans posted:

Betty was a very important part of my younger years. She helped me decide to take the leap to start a career in the medical field. She took me for my first facial, and opened my heart to theater. She was so fun to talk to and made the best homemade spaghetti sauce. I was lucky to see her periodically in my office where we could catch up. She loved her family so much and was so proud of all. She will be missed. She will always be loved. Prayers for Doug, Mark and all the family during this difficult time. XO Tracy Mohr Rummans

September 20 at 4:25 PM



Tribute Wall

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MS

Mark Stevens posted:

My MOM was the best person and Soul I have ever met, she is my best friend. I Love You Mom always and forever. You raised me the best I could ever want and more. I Love you BIG, that's what we say to each other. I'm sure I will have more posts, miss and I know GOD has you so close to him now. You are the greatest Mom in this world and after World . LOVE MARK G STEVENS YOUR LOVING SON

September 20 at 12:23 PM

BL

Britt Lawrence September 20 at 7:10 PM

Thank you mom/mimi for many wonderfilled years together. I'm Sorry I never got to kiss n hug mimi/mom n talk to her before she passed. She knows the deep love that will forever stay with her and us. She lived an incredible awe inspiring LIFE. Until we meet again in a peaceful place Amen. She's with her loved ones in the most Beautiful place watching over all her loved ones. Sweet love. I love you mom/mimi always. AMEN



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Betty by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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