



## Beverly Ann Porter

July 12, 1928 - September 7, 2025

Beverly Porter, beloved wife, mom, grandma, great-grandma, and aunt, passed away peacefully on September 7, 2025, after a long, healthy, and happy life. She was born on July 12, 1928, in Bartlesville, OK, to William and Ruth Krider, the youngest of two sisters. Beverly attended Bartlesville High School until her family moved to Oklahoma City before her junior year of high school.

When Beverly and her roommate Shirley were freshmen at Oklahoma State University (known then as Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College), they attended a dance class at the advice of a mutual friend “because there are lots of cute guys.” One of those guys, a WWII veteran attending college on the G.I. Bill, first danced with Shirley. He asked if she knew a nice girl from Oklahoma City and Shirley pointed to Beverly and said, “My roommate.” A romance was born between Beverly and Phil Porter, who became the love of her life. They married on September 5, 1948, and moved to Veterans Village on campus. Phil took engineering classes while Beverly worked as a secretary in the industrial engineering department. After the first semester, Phil’s grades were not good and Beverly was in tears; to help, her boss moved Phil to industrial arts education, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1951. He later earned a master’s degree in vocational education. Beverly joked that she earned an MRS degree.

After Phil graduated, he and Beverly moved to Goodwell, Ok, for his first teaching job at Panhandle A & M. The couple started their family with the birth

of their first child and only son, Mike. In 1952, the Porters moved to Muskogee, where Phil taught at Central High School for 16 years and then the Oklahoma School for the Blind, now known as Parkview. Their family grew to include daughters Kathy, Paula, and Becky.

Beverly was Mother of the Year at St. Paul Methodist Church in 1968 and a dedicated mother in the truest sense. She had an extraordinary talent for sewing and made beautiful clothes for her daughters for many years. Her baking was epic: She baked dozens of cookies for Phil's school events and for her children's lunches and teacher gifts, but her apple dumplings were the stuff of legends at annual family reunions. Beverly's recipes are cherished to this day.

Beverly was the PTA President of Whittier Elementary School, where she made many close friends, and worked at Lakeland Florist for 20 years. She enjoyed family outings to Greenleaf Lake, refinishing antique furniture, reading "The Digest" (Reader's Digest), and traveling with Phil. On their 40th wedding anniversary, they traveled to Hawaii, and during their retirement took many bus trips around the United States and had a ball. The Porters remained married for 57 years.

Bev loved her pet cat, Alvin, and tolerated the family pet blue jay, who loved popcorn (hence, his name), mashed potatoes, and hiding shiny things.

Beverly had a big, loving heart and gave blood regularly—a total of eight gallons—as payback for the many blood transfusions daughter Kathy had during her illness as a young woman. Bev and Phil were very active in their church, First United Methodist, and volunteered at the Garden of Lights at Honor Heights Park and rang bells at Christmas for the Salvation Army.

In her 97 years, Beverly had a great sense of humor. As her eyesight failed, she drove to and from doctor appointment on the backroads of Muskogee.

One day, she bumped a parked delivery truck on Arline as the driver was getting out. He wasn't hurt and the homeowner offered Bev a chair and some lemonade while waiting for the police to arrive. Bev decided not to tell anyone. That is, until a co-worker of Paula's at the hospital saw her mom's picture in

the newspaper (must have been a slow news day). Mom was busted. There was the time that Bev met Mike's girlfriend, quietly sat next to him on the front porch and warned, "If you let her go, I'll kill you."

Beverly is preceded in death by her beloved husband, Phil, her parents, sister Norma Adams; and grandson-in-law, Robert Stewart. She is survived by her devoted children: son Mike Porter and wife Brenda of Edmond; daughter Kathy Kummers and husband Mike of Muskogee; daughter Paula Tarkington and husband John of Muskogee, and daughter Becky Hanna and Jack of Lewisville, TX. Other survivors include granddaughter Sarah (Tarkington) Stewart of Muskogee; grandson Ben Hanna and wife Laura of Merritt Island, FL; grandson Matt Hanna and wife Cheryl of Denver, CO; granddaughter Katie Hanna of Lewisville, TX; great-grandchildren Kade and Ryken May, Riordan Stewart, and James Bannister; nephew Steve Smith of Norman, and some extended family.

Beverly's family sends heartfelt thanks to the loving staff at Country Gardens and Rivercross Hospice for their outstanding care. "Get a Dr. Pepper and some M&Ms on your way out!" was her way of saying thanks. The family also thanks Thelma Whittinghill for making Mom's transition to Country Gardens flawless and the Sunday morning crew at Domino's pizza for making her weekly pizzas with lots of love.

Funeral services will be at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 29, at Cornerstone Funeral Home, 1830 N. York St., Muskogee. Her burial will be at 1:30 at Fort Gibson National Cemetery. Public viewing at Cornerstone is scheduled Sunday, Sept. 28, from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

# Cemetery Details

## Fort Gibson National Cemetery

1423 National Cemetery Rd.  
Fort Gibson, OK

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 28. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Funeral Home & Crematory  
1830 North York Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403  
(918) 682-1500

## Celebration of Life

SEP 29. 11:30 AM (CT)

Cornerstone Funeral Home Chapel  
1830 N. York St.  
Muskogee, OK 74403

# Tribute Wall

GB

“ I grew up knowing Mrs. Porter as she was my memas next door neighbor! (Virginia Tutt). Mrs. Porter was always so kind, shed smile at my cousin Jacoub and I and give us a gentle wave hello. When was my son 1, maybe 2, I took him to say hello. He picked her some flowers on the Short little walk and had nothing but a diaper and a t shirt on, I'm sure he looked wild but Mrs. Porters eye sight was leaving her, I apologized for his clothing and explained who we were and she knew who I was when I said my memas name. Im so glad we stopped by (206-2017). We've always loved Mrs. Porter and will miss her sweet heart!  
To her family, I'm very sorry for your loss!

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**Ginny Bebee** - September 27, 2025 at 10:33 PM



“ Our second Mom will be missed not forgotten she loved her Church and family.  
Our prayer are for the family may they be comforted that so many people care. Love from the Slaughters

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**John Slaughter** - September 26, 2025 at 07:40 PM

KS

“ Kay and John Slaughter purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of Beverly Ann Porter.



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**Kay and John Slaughter** - September 26, 2025 at 07:37 PM

SJ

“ Dear Paula. Thinking of you and your family at your time of loss. Susan Durland Julian



Susan Durland Julian - September 26, 2025 at 06:01 PM

LS

“ Love Keith and Storm planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Beverly Ann Porter.

Love Keith and Storm - September 25, 2025 at 05:45 PM

LS

“ Love Keith and Storm purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Beverly Ann Porter.



Love Keith and Storm - September 25, 2025 at 05:45 PM

JC

“ I will miss the calls and visits we had over the years. She was such a fine lady and a very dear friend of our family--Thomas and Katherine Cook and their children. (Only Nancy, Kathy and myself remain.) Bev and Phil even went to Alaska to visit Tom and Mary Lee and their children. Bev talked about that trip often. We also had such good talks about the history of Muskogee and the current status of the world. Bev had a good mind and with her good mind some poignant recollections. Needless to say, I will miss her dearly, but the good memories will remain. Sincerely, Jonathan.

Jonathan Cook - September 24, 2025 at 08:57 PM

NC

“ Nancy Drake, Kathy Womack, and Jon Cook purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Beverly Ann Porter.



Nancy Drake, Kathy Womack, and Jon Cook - September 24, 2025 at 05:52 PM

TA

“ Terry and Barb Adams purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Beverly Ann Porter.



Terry and Barb Adams - September 23, 2025 at 11:59 AM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Beverly Ann Porter.



September 23, 2025 at 08:50 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Beverly Ann Porter.



September 22, 2025 at 03:27 PM

VE

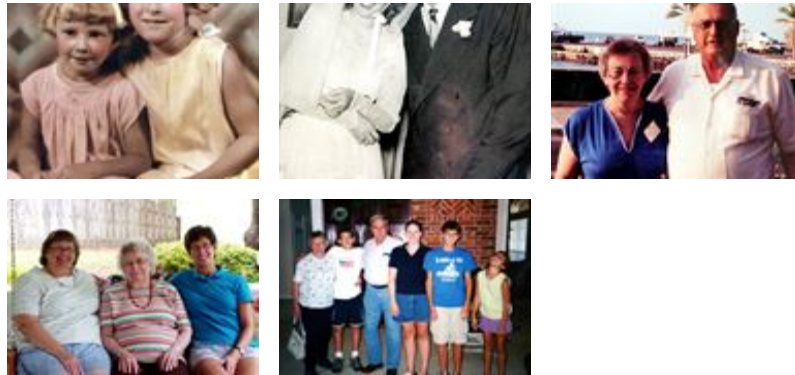
“ Vickie E. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Beverly Ann Porter.



Vickie E. - September 17, 2025 at 06:18 PM



“ 90 files added to the album Life Tributes



Cornerstone Funeral Home and Crematory - September 16, 2025 at 11:16 AM

JB

“ Jeanie beavers lit a candle in memory of Beverly Porter



Jeanie beavers - September 08, 2025 at 09:42 PM