



Martha Ann Pope

February 20, 1945 - August 26, 2025

Martha Ann Pope, age 80, of Muskogee, Oklahoma, departed this world peacefully on Tuesday, August 26, 2025. Born on February 20, 1945, in Hugo, Oklahoma, Martha was the beloved daughter of John Raymond and Loretta (Coburn) Bennett. From her earliest days, she embodied a spirit of kindness, perseverance, and grace that would become the hallmark of her journey through life.

Martha was educated in public schools, where she formed lasting friendships and nurtured the values that would guide her. Love blossomed in her youth, and on November 28, 1964, she wed her devoted husband, Clark Burl Pope, embarking on a partnership marked by mutual respect and unwavering support. Their union was a testament to enduring love, and together they built a family filled with warmth and laughter.

Ever driven by a passion for creativity and service, Martha later attended cosmetology school, where her talent and dedication quickly flourished. She found her calling as a cosmetology instructor, inspiring countless students over the years with both her skill and her gentle encouragement. Her classrooms were spaces of learning and transformation, and her influence continues to ripple through the lives of those she mentored. After a distinguished career dedicated to the beauty and confidence of others, Martha retired in 2017, leaving behind a legacy of artistry and compassion.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers, Donald Ballard and Robert Glenn Bennett; sister-in-law, Carla Bennett Wortman; brother-in-law, Larry Couch.

Martha's greatest joy was found in her family. She is survived by her loving husband, Clark; her son, Brice Pope and his wife, Natalie; and her cherished sister, Carolyn Couch; along with several nieces and nephews; and great nieces and great nephews. Their lives are touched forever by her steadfast love, wise counsel, and the countless moments of laughter and tenderness she shared.

Martha Ann Pope will be remembered for her gentle spirit, her devotion to her craft, and most of all, for the love she gave so freely to her family, friends, and students. May her memory be a blessing and a source of comfort to all who knew her.

The family will receive friends 1-3PM, Sunday, August 31, 2025 at Cornerstone Funeral Home Chapel.

A celebration of Martha's life will be held at 12:30pm on Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at the Cornerstone Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Bob Hancock officiating. Following the service, interment will take place at 2:30pm at Fort Gibson National Cemetery in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, where she will rest in serene dignity.

Rest in peace, Martha. Your beauty—inside and out—endures.

Cemetery Details

Fort Gibson National Cemetery

1423 National Cemetery Rd.
Fort Gibson, OK

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 30. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

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

Family to greet friends

AUG 31. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

AUG 31. 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 2. 12:30 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

DR

“ *I had no talent for hair or beauty, bur she encouraged me to keep going. She gave me convidence in myself at Virgils in the late 60s. I passed my boards and had my own shop for awhile. What she taught I have used all my life. Best thing I ever did for myself. I am so sad to hear of her passing. May God give you peace at this time.*
Betty Elbon Robertson

Donald W Robertson - August 31, 2025 at 04:41 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Life Tributes*



Cornerstone Funeral Home and Crematory - August 31, 2025 at 01:53 PM

EM

A life of devotion to students, Sunday School at Church and Virgil's Beauty College

Emmitt A Metcalf - September 01, 2025 at 04:46 PM

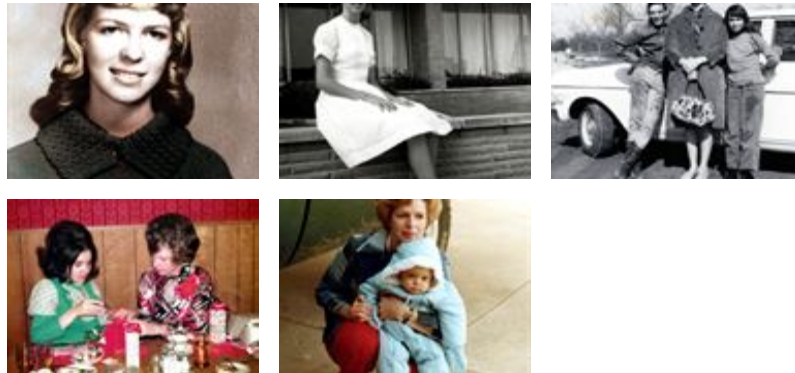
NB

“ *Loved Martha!*

Neal Brunson - August 29, 2025 at 11:17 PM



“ 39 files added to the album Life Tributes



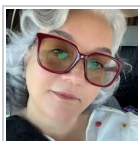
Cornerstone Funeral Home and Crematory - August 29, 2025 at 12:39 PM



“ She taught me a lot, I would get so irritated with pin curls and she just kept saying take your time. I can in fact agree that she was onry but definitely had a heart of gold! She will be missed by so many! Wishing her family peace in this time



Briana Michelle Raney - August 28, 2025 at 11:40 PM



“ Martha was an instructor like no other! She was there for my mom and myself at Virgil's! Great teacher great lady! She will be missed!

Bobby Harp Lewis - August 28, 2025 at 10:58 PM



“ I have been doing your work for 30 years and teaching your style for almost 20,, you are the reason I became an Instructor. You had such class and love for all your students. I will forever cherish you.

Candy Webb - August 28, 2025 at 07:31 PM

CA

“ Martha was a beautiful lady inside and out. I am so glad to have known her. She will be missed. Prayers for her family.

Carla - August 28, 2025 at 03:59 PM

CE

“ You were a very pivotal person in my life! Here I am doing what you taught me 28 yrs later! You loved me, my momma and aunt and I can't thank you enough! You always had such wise words, were incredibly ornery at times and had a heart of absolute gold! I'll love you always! ❤️

chrissey edgmon - August 28, 2025 at 02:46 PM

PC

“ PLEASANT VALLEY HEALTH CARE CENTER lit a candle in memory of Martha Pope



PLEASANT VALLEY HEALTH CARE CENTER - August 28, 2025 at 01:37 PM

AP

“ Martha is a Legion in the Cosmetology world, she taught and trained hundreds of students that became very successful. I'm honored to have received my education (basic cosmetology/Master Instructor) under Mrs. Martha and I also had the pleasure to work beside her. I will miss her dearly



Amie Perry - August 28, 2025 at 11:23 AM

MH

“ *Mrs Martha was a amazing person it was a true blessing to have known her*

mary hensley - August 28, 2025 at 02:01 AM



“ *She was one of the most caring and compassionate people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. She was a wonderful instructor and passionate about doing what she loved. Her family and friends will be in my thoughts and prayers.*

Erica Atkins - August 28, 2025 at 01:06 AM

SS

“ *My prayers and condolences to the family. She was the best beauty Instructor a girl like myself could have had. I always told her Virgil's should have been named Martha's Beauty College. Very outgoing and stayed on her toes about her students! She was definitely one of a kind and wished I could have seen her more after graduating! Rest in Love Mrs. Martha..*

Sharita Sanders - August 28, 2025 at 01:02 AM

JB

“ *Jeanie beavers lit a candle in memory of Martha Pope*



Jeanie beavers - August 27, 2025 at 09:41 PM

DE

“ *Martha always treated my Mother, Betty Taylor with such dignity and respect all her life. She will always have a special place in my heart!*

Desiree - August 27, 2025 at 08:04 PM

KS

“ *I new Martha when she was finishing school and the a instructor I was probably one of her first students,prayers for her family Katy Davis Smith*

katy Davis Smith - August 27, 2025 at 07:49 PM

BJ

I knew Martha for many years She taught me Instructors training. She was very special to me. Barbara James

Barbara James - September 15, 2025 at 11:07 PM