



## Ruth G. Branum

August 16, 1909 - September 18, 2015

Ruth (Gawf) Branum went home to be with the Lord on Friday, September 18, 2015, at the age of 106. She was born in Oktaha, Oklahoma, on August 16, 1909, and lived most of her life in Muskogee. Ruth and her husband Victor Branum were married in 1928 and were grocers for 30 years, opening their first store in Muskogee in 1929.

As a Christian woman, she saw the beauty of God's world in people, flowers and nature. She was a faithful member of the Church of Christ in Muskogee, serving as an elder's wife, mentor, children's Bible School teacher, and host to the loveliest wedding and baby showers. She was known for her gracious hospitality and beautiful gardens and strong faith. Ruth blessed friends and family with flowers, plants and produce for decades. She and her husband Vic were strong promoters of Oklahoma Christian University, where Vic was one of the original incorporators and Trustees.

Ruth was an active volunteer, dating from her days making bandages for soldiers during WWII. She volunteered at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, Volunteers of America and Muskogee Regional Medical Center, as well as serving faithfully as a member of the Chandler Road Church of Christ.

During the last year of her life, she was not only loved by her family and friends, but also by her new friends and caregivers at Aberdeen Heights Assisted Living, Seasons Hospice, and at Clarehouse.

She is survived by her son, Richard Branum of Fort Smith, Arkansas, and daughter Eleanor Miller and her husband Dan Miller of Tulsa, Oklahoma;

grandchildren Richard Dale Branum, Melissa Branum, Monna Miller Gilpin and husband James, Mike Miller and wife Holly Rosser Miller, and Matt Miller; great-grandchildren Andrew Gilpin, Meghan Gilpin and Annie Miller; sisters Rubye Cox, 111 years of age, of Bristol, Rhode Island, and Rose Shloss, age 102, of Sarasota, Florida, sister-in-law Thelma Gawf of Omaha, Nebraska; nieces and nephews Betty Cox Gilbert, Carlyle Cox, Carol Shloss, Jan Shloss, Pat Foster, Ed Gawf and wife Sue, Dave Gawf, Ron Poole and wife Marilyn, Rosemary Schumacher, and Jay Gawf.

Ruth was preceded in death by her husband of 46 years, Victor Austin Branum; by her parents John and La Nora Belle Rodgers Gawf; by brothers Laverne, Elmer and J.C Gawf; and by sister Frances Gawf Rogers; by nephew Dan Gawf; and nieces Rosalind Stenson and Jan Foster.

Friends and family will celebrate her life with services at 2:00 p.m., Friday, September 25, 2015, at Chandler Road Church of Christ in Muskogee with Minister Harry Fitzgerald, Minister Jimie-Wray Mead, Minister Ken Tackett, and Minister Donnie Branscum officiating. Interment will follow at Greenhill Cemetery in Muskogee with Michael Miller, Matthew Miller, Richard Dale Branum, James Gilpin, Carlyle Cox, and Andy Stotts serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will be Ira Boss, Gerald Tackett, Wesley Miller, Bob Stiles, Tim Harris, James Treadway, David Davis, Alan Hutchins, Bill Johnson, Bob Hendrex, Carl Cole, Charles Learned, Ron Lashley, David White, Bill Lytle, Carl Frazier, Mike Daniels, and Tony Nichols.

Memorials may be made to Hope Harbor Children's Home, P.O. Box 1047, Claremore, OK 74018 and In Search of the Lords Way, P.O. Box 371 Edmond, OK 73803.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenhill Cemetery

1500 N. York Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **22**. 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM (CT)

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

## Visitation

SEP **23**. 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM (CT)

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

## Visitation

SEP **24.** 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Service

SEP **25.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Chandler Road Church Of Christ  
3507 Chandler Rd.  
Muskogee, OK 74403

## Visitation

SEP **25.** 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth G. Branum*

October 23, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *Wonderful Christian lady. Very loving kind, great visitor. When we were very young if we missed church she was there to visit us with Vic. So glad we got to be friends for 60 yrs. always helping others. God bless her precious family. She did bring joy in our lives.*

**Deloris Branch** - September 24, 2015 at 09:31 PM



“ *Wonderful Christian lady. Loved by everyone. So glad she was in my life for over 60 yrs. great visitor, loving ,caring person. Sorry for her precious family. God bless all of you*

**deloris branch** - September 24, 2015 at 09:17 PM

GK

“ I was a young preacher in Muskogee the Chandler Rd Church of Christ (1985-1990) and Ruth was always on my side. I often received cards, notes, and personal care from Ruth and she took interest in my children. When you went to her house for a visit or dinner, she always served you with attention to every detail--a "hostess with the mostest." When you were in her presence, it was all about you. You knew she was one special woman of God. She was always clothed in dignity and grace with a contagious smile.

*Such a joy to have known her and look forward to seeing her again because HE lives!*

*101. Good genes? Yes! God's grace in the flesh! Absolutely!*

*Grady King*

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**Grady King** - September 24, 2015 at 09:24 AM

BJ

“ My sympathies to Ruth's family.. So many of us share in your loss. As we mourn our loss, I can only imagine the receiving line, celebration, and homecoming party that she is enjoying in heaven.

*So many have bask in the warmth of her beauty, love, joy for life, and grace. She was a testimony to her God's majesty. We can only hope to follow her light until there is no more darkness.*

*Ruth was the most mature, and the sweetest, fruit of the Spirit that I have known.*

*It was a pure joy to love her and to be loved by her.*

*Bill G Johnson*

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**Bill Johnson** - September 22, 2015 at 02:16 PM



*Ruth Branum was one of the sweetest and kindest ladies I have ever known. I loved visiting with her in her store on Denison as a teenager in the neighborhood in the '50s and '60s. My thoughts and prayers are with this lovely lady's family.*

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**Mikie Huff** - September 22, 2015 at 08:15 PM



*.Glen and I loved Ruth as a second mother during our time in Muskogee. She was the most giving and loving person I have ever met.... and she was the best cook ever. We will miss her, but we know that she had a wonderful life and touched a multitude of lives. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.*

*Carol Strickland*

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**Carol Strickland** - September 23, 2015 at 11:15 AM



*Aunt Ruth was an amazing women. I have great memories of her as a child visiting every summer. Please know you are all in our thoughts and prayers. Lisa Gilbert*

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**Lisa Gilbert** - September 25, 2015 at 12:26 PM