



Betty Jo Semmelbeck

July 3, 1929 - August 10, 2025

Betty Jo Semmelbeck, 96 of Houston passed away August 10, 2025. Betty was born July 3, 1929, in Joplin, Missouri to Kimball and Bessie Denham. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband of 71 years, Bill and her daughter, Nancy. She is survived by her son, Mark Semmelbeck and wife Roc'C in Houston; grandchildren, Sharee Pope and husband Nathan of Houston, Chris Semmelbeck and wife Meridith of Dallas, Kelli Dowd and Kevin Dowd of Amarillo and great-grandchildren Margot Semmelbeck, Calvin, Scarlett, and Benji Pope.

Betty grew up in Delaware County Oklahoma and graduated from Grove High School and attended Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. Following her freshman year of college, she went to visit a friend in Tulsa. Her friend convinced her to get a job there in the city and she decided not to return to college. She was a meticulous bookkeeper and that trait served the family well through her husband's many years as business owner and entrepreneur. She met Bill Semmelbeck while out with friends. After turning him down for a date several times, they finally went out and started dating. They were engaged shortly thereafter and married later that year in September 1952.

Shortly after their marriage, Betty and Bill moved to Amarillo Texas. Their daughter Nancy was born in 1956 and son Mark in 1961. Betty was active with in PTA and various kids' activities. She started painting when the kids

were older and became quite an accomplished artist. She enjoyed creating stained-glass art and polished rock art before settling on painting. Betty was a friend and mentor to several people during their time in Amarillo. In particular, she and Bill had a close and important relationship with John and Laurie Navarrete.

A Memorial Service beginning at 11:00 AM will be held Monday September 29, 2025, at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church at 11612 Memorial Dr. Houston, TX 77024 with reception luncheon to follow. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a charitable contribution to His Voice Global (www.hisvoiceglobal.com).

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP **29**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church
11612 Memorial Drive
Houston, TX 77024

Tribute Wall



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Betty Jo Semmelbeck.*



September 18, 2025 at 05:08 PM



“ *I am so sorry about Betty. She and Bill were such special people. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Sharon Denham*



Sharon Denham - August 25, 2025 at 11:51 AM



I miss you grandma everyday

Kelli dowd - February 02 at 08:06 PM



“ *Betty and Bill Semmelbeck with Alice Marie Denham. On their wedding day.*



William denham - August 19, 2025 at 08:33 PM