



## Helen Marie Corlett

September 22, 1925 - February 14, 2023

On Tuesday, February 14, 2023, Helen Marie [Davis-Bradbury] Corlett, loving mother and grandmother passed away at the age of 97. Preceding her in death were her husbands James T. Bradbury and Leroy E. Corlett, her daughter and son-in-law Minalou and Frank Martin, her parents Sabra and Murray Davis, brother Murray, sister Marjorie Green, and 2 grandsons. She is survived by four daughters and two sons.

Helen earned a bachelor's degree in education and spent the first half of her life as an elementary school teacher in San Benito, Texas. While working full time she raised four children with James Bradbury: Sabra, Minalou, Jamalee and Karla. She was also active in her church as a Sunday School teacher and choir member. She was a consultant in migrant education with the Texas Education Department, observing migrant programs in the Oregon school system. Helen had a love of travel and provided her children with the education that can only come through experiencing life in other places. As a result, to her delight and also to her dismay, most of her adult children traveled to and settled in different parts of the United States far from Willard, MO.

After the passing of her first husband, Helen moved to Southwest Missouri, her ancestral home since the latter half of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Settling in Ash Grove initially, she met and married Leroy Corlett, a local dairy farmer. Their families blended, adding bonus children for Helen: John, Kathy,

and Wesley Corlett. She taught school and was the school librarian at Bois d' Arc Elementary for several years.

After retiring from education, Helen developed an entrepreneurial spirit. She enjoyed finding treasures at auctions and sales and opened a collectibles booth. She became a collector of vintage quilts and attended the Paducah Quilt Show in Paducah, Kentucky for many years. She displayed and sold the vintage quilts, needlework and collectibles that she found throughout the year. She developed and sold the "Round to It" a personal quilting stand, shipping them internationally as well as nationally for a number of years.

In her later years she enjoyed immensely her role as grandmother and great-grandmother and, at last count, had 17 surviving grandchildren, 35 great grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild.

A celebration of her life will be held on Friday, March 10 at 2pm at Renew Church, Willard, MO. In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund is set up at the church in her name.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAR 10. 2:00 PM (CT)

Renew Church  
304 Farmer Rd. PO Box 87  
Willard , MO 65781  
[renewumc@hotmail.com](mailto:renewumc@hotmail.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Helen Marie Corlett*

October 08, 2023 at 10:52 AM



“ *Helen Marie Corlett*

October 06, 2023 at 01:12 AM



“ *Helen Marie Corlett*

October 05, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *Helen Marie Corlett*

October 05, 2023 at 01:54 AM



“ *What an amazing lady! Lots of great memories with she and mom.  
So sorry for your loss. Sending hugs to all- Karla Kay.*

**Karla Schmitt** - March 07, 2023 at 09:59 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers go out to all family members and friends.  
Gail and Duane Maphies*

**Gail Maphies** - February 23, 2023 at 01:37 PM

RE

“ *She and Leroy were the first neighbors to introduce themselves when we moved in. I spent a lot of time visiting with her over the years. My Sympathy to the Family*

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**Regina Eckley** - February 22, 2023 at 06:18 PM

KB

*I know she believed in getting to know new neighbors and to make them feel welcomed. She loved living on the farm and she loved making so many new friends. She always wanted to be of help to her community and to be a positive influence in the world. Some of the conversations we had as adult child and mother included her questioning and wondering if she made a difference in the world. I always reminded her of what she taught me- to be an example of Christ's love to the world. Her welcoming smile and an offer of friendship was the natural expression of love given to us by the creator. According to the Christian scriptures - there were "gifts of the spirit" and "the greatest of these is love."*

*We discussed how not everyone will be noticed for the grand accomplishments but that bringing love and kindness to the world was the most important accomplishment of all.*

*I hope that she will be remembered by others as a someone who made them feel accepted and cared for.*

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**Karla Bradbury** - February 23, 2023 at 10:06 PM

CF

“ *I remember Mrs. Bradbury, I was fortunate enough to have been in her third grade class at Fred Booth Elementary in San Benito, TX. She was kind, caring and a wonderful teacher that I've never forgotten. Rest in God's heavenly kingdom sweet lady, you are admired always.*

*My heartfelt condolences to the families and may she rest in God's heavenly kingdom.*

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**Celeste Falcon** - February 19, 2023 at 09:07 PM

KB

*Thanks for sharing your memory of having mom as your teacher. I remember talking with her about teaching and raising a family and all the challenges she faced working full time. She mentioned how sometimes she would feel so tired when she didn't have recess duty she would lay her head down on her desk and take a nap. She was dedicated to her students and always wanted to do a better job, and like some of us working moms she would have periods of self doubt about whether she really made a difference. She told me she remembered you and knew you were smart and capable with a good future ahead.*

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**Karla Bradbury** - February 23, 2023 at 09:41 PM

LI

*“ Karla, What a wonderful life lived! It is always wonderful to know what the parents of our friends did with their life; as childre we don't think about those things! Your Mother's was well lived. I know she is rejoicing in heaven and that is something to be celebrated. God bless you all as you celebrate and mourn her.*

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**Lisa** - February 19, 2023 at 08:51 PM

RH

*I never got to know Karla's but I do know, that she was a fine lady. Seeing that how turn out to be one of the finest lady her self. We at our age tried to prepare ourselves for this day, but never really ready for it. I know how much I miss my parents and find myself thinking about them everyday. Sending my angel to Karla and the family.*

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**Rick Hall** - February 20, 2023 at 12:23 AM



*Mrs. Bradbury was my third grade teacher at Fred Booth in San Benito, Tx. Only fond memories come to mind even after all these years. She made a lasting impression on me of what an ideal teacher is like, caring and devoted to her profession!*

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**Alex Quezada** - February 20, 2023 at 12:01 PM

KB

*Alex, she definitely remembered you and how smart and interested in school that you were. She said that having students like you helped make all the hard times worth it.*

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**Karla Bradbury** - February 23, 2023 at 09:45 PM