



## Mary Dean Miller Graves

December 8, 1932 - August 30, 2020

Mary Dean Miller Graves, age 87, of Roswell, NM, went home to be with her Lord and Saviour on Sunday, August 30, 2020. Please take a moment and share a fond memory or thoughtful expression of sympathy for Mary's family at [www.andersonbethany.com](http://www.andersonbethany.com).

Mary Dean Miller Graves was born in Lincoln, NM, on December 8, 1932. She was the last of eight children born to Mary Irene Miller and Ira Ripley Miller. Mary attended Hondo schools and then moved to Roswell, NM, where she attended school and graduated from Roswell High School in the class of 1950. She met her husband, Cecil Gene Graves, and fell deeply in love. They united in marriage on September 8, 1951, in Roswell, NM. She was very active in the churches she attended, and she had a great love for children and music. Mary served as a pianist and organist for many churches in the Roswell area. She gave her all to God and to the children she loved and taught in Sunday school and church training. Mary realized that she, herself, was not saved, and sought and accepted the Lord at the age of 30. She finally knew peace, and she embarked on a lifelong mission of showing the love of Jesus to everyone she came in contact with. Mary always wanted everyone to be sure that they were saved and going to heaven. She had a true servant's heart, and I'm sure when she saw God, he told her, "welcome home, my good and faithful servant." Mary taught piano, and she loved sharing her passion for music with hundreds of students who studied under her. Later, she became a

postal star route carrier, and again became loved and looked for daily by the people on her route. Mary was always on her CB radio and was known as "Broom Hilda." She always loved joking and teasing. Mary loved the outdoors as well as hunting, fishing, and camping. She truly loved life and her family and was the sister and daughter who cared for her family. Mary was the rock that the family gathered around and depended upon, until their passing. She was the last survivor of her immediate family.

Mary was preceded in death by her father, Ira Ripley Miller; mother, Mary Irene Miller; brothers: R.A. Miller, William P. Miller, Woodrow W. Miller, George A. Miller, Hurald I. Miller, Dr. Glen R. Miller; and her sister, Doris Miller.

Mary is survived by her loving husband, Cecil Gene Graves; two sons: Gary Wayne Graves and spouse Irish Janile and Larry Gene Graves and spouse Matilda L.; one grandson, Tyler Gene Graves, who she was very proud of and loved with all her heart. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

Mary will be missed greatly on this earth, but if she could speak today, she would tell everyone to prepare so that you will be with her in the glory of heaven.

A memorial service for Mary will be conducted at Anderson Bethany Funeral Home Chapel on Tuesday, September 08, 2020, at 10:00 AM. Larry Gene Graves will be the officiating pastor. She will be inturred at General Douglas L. McBride Veterans Cemetery Columbarium that is located at South Park Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please donate in Mary's name at Anderson Bethany Funeral Home. The money will be donated to the Iglesia Apostolical de la Fe en Cristo Jesus Church.

A reception and meal in Mary's honor will be held the Iglesia Apostolical de la Fe en Cristo Jesus Church following the service at South Park Cemetery. The family will appreciate your presence.

Mary's tribute was beautifully written in her honor by her son, Gary Graves.

# Cemetery Details

## General Douglas L. McBride Veterans Cemetery

Between S Main St and SE Main St (US 285)  
on E Jaffe St, in Roswell, at the north end of  
South Park  
Roswell, NM 88203

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP 8. 10:00 AM (MT)

Anderson-Bethany Funeral Home and Crematory  
2609 South Main  
Roswell, NM 88203  
(575) 622-5888  
[abfh@andersonbethany.com](mailto:abfh@andersonbethany.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Dean Miller Graves*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *Truly one of the orneriest ladies I've ever known but she also had a heart of gold. I worked with her at the Post Office for about 20yrs and she never missed a day to shake her finger at me and tell me God was watching me so I had better behave myself or he'll get me and then she'd laugh.*

*I will miss her.*

*Lyle.*

**Lyle McClelland** - September 20, 2020 at 03:05 PM



“ *One of my favorite people... who knew what to say, and how to say it!*

*My deepest condolences to the entire family!*

*I can hear your laugh! RIH my friend !*

**Almetra Strange** - September 11, 2020 at 08:12 PM



“ *Dear Family,  
I am so sorry to see this. Prayers for peace and comfort. I know she is playing an organ somewhere meticulously with curled fingers!  
In Christ, Kellie Chrisman Adams*

**Kellie Adams** - September 02, 2020 at 12:03 PM