



Gaylia "Gay" Ann Hawthorne

December 18, 1938 - July 9, 2025

Gaylia Ann Clift Hawthorne (Gay) passed away peacefully on July 9, 2025 at the age of 86 in Searcy, Arkansas. She was born December 18, 1938 in Malvern, Arkansas to James Carl and Mary Agnes Clift.

Gay was preceded in death by her husband and the love of her life, Darrell Hawthorne whom she married in 1960. She was also preceded in death by her parents, one brother, Calvin Clift, and two sisters, June Carver and Katie Speer.

Gay was a proud graduate of Glen Rose High School where she played basketball and always followed the "Beavers".

Gay and Darrell built a loving family that she leaves behind to carry on their legacy. She is survived by son Mike (Leigh Anne) of Searcy, grandson Andrew (Maegan) and her very special great-grandson John Michael of Byhalia, Mississippi who will miss "Meme" dearly.

She is also lovingly remembered by her brothers Noel (Sandra) Clift, Norman (Joyce) Clift and sister Dottie Bailey and brother in law Junior Speer all of Malvern, numerous nieces and nephews, as well as dear friends Charlie and Judy Keen and Mike and Theresa Hurley and many other loving family members and friends.

After Darrell's death, Gay moved to Jackson & Company Luxury Senior Living where she was living when she passed. There she had very special caregivers who became family. She loved Dee Maddux and Joy Miles and they loved their "Peach". The family would like to thank these and the other special caregivers at this home for their amazing care and experience.

Gay was a devoted member of Park Avenue Baptist Church where she was active in her Sunday School Class and enjoyed baking pies and cakes for the youth fundraisers. She was a business woman and enjoyed her time working. Gay served on the board of trustees for Central Baptist College and worked and served on other boards during her working years.

Gay was a strong Christian woman who loved her Lord, her family, and her church. She leaves a legacy for all who loved her as a strong, loving woman. She will be greatly missed by all.

Gay's life will be celebrated at a service on Monday, July 14, 2025 at Powell Funeral Home in Searcy. Visitation will begin at 11 followed by the service at 12 noon. Burial will take place at White County Memorial Gardens following the service.

The family extends heartfelt thanks to all of the caregivers at Jackson & Co and the amazing nurses, aides and other special people with Gentiva Hospice for their exceptional care and service.

In Lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Park Avenue Baptist Church at 211 East Park Searcy, Arkansas.

Arrangements are entrusted to Powell Funeral Home of Searcy. www.powellfuneralhome.net

Cemetery Details

White County Memorial Gardens

Eastline Road
Searcy, AR 72143

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 14. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services (Searcy)
2602 W. Beebe-Capps Expy
Searcy, AR 72143
(501) 268-7220
searcy@powellfuneralhome.net
<https://www.powellfuneralhome.net/>

Funeral Service

JUL 14. 12:00 PM (CT)

Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services (Searcy)
2602 W. Beebe-Capps Expy
Searcy, AR 72143
(501) 268-7220
searcy@powellfuneralhome.net
<https://www.powellfuneralhome.net/>

Interment

JUL 14 (CT)

White County Memorial Gardens
Eastline Road
Searcy, AR 72143

Tribute Wall

LB

“ *What a beautiful lady she was and she had the smile of an Angel. Her and Darrell loved everyone and everyone loved them. They loved Park Avenue Baptist Church and they always had the kindness word for everyone. They never met a stranger and we loved them so much, we will miss them, we know they are with God. We are praying for the family and friends and for Bro Keith, we know it is certainly hard on him. We are sending our love and May God Bless you all! John and Lynda Bailey*

Lynda Bailey - July 13, 2025 at 07:02 PM

LB

“ *Lynda Bailey lit a candle in memory of Gaylia "Gay" Ann Hawthorne*



Lynda Bailey - July 13, 2025 at 06:46 PM

GB

“ *Glenn & Karen Beasley purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Gaylia "Gay" Ann Hawthorne.*



Glenn & Karen Beasley - July 11, 2025 at 11:26 PM

PM

“ *When I became a part of the Park Avenue family, Bro Darrell and Ms Gaye was most welcoming. We were in the same Sunday School class until she couldn't attend because of her health. We lost a special person but I will always keep her in my memories as she was the one that signed my and Leon's marriage certificate back in 1979. Memories are special.*

Paula Mulherin - July 10, 2025 at 03:47 PM