



Jane Pearce Norton

March 16, 1936 - October 5, 2023

Jane Pearce Norton, 87, of Searcy, Arkansas, passed from this life on Thursday, October 5, 2023, surrounded by her family. She was born to Bob and Faye Pearce on March 16, 1936 in Rising Star, Texas. Her parents moved the family to California when she was very young, and when she was in high school, they sent her to Abilene Christian High School, so she could have a Christian education.

She met her husband, Howard Norton, her first semester at Abilene Christian University, and they were married on May 31, 1956. They had three children, Laurie (Allen) Diles, Tom (Magaly) Norton, and Ted (Beverly) Norton. In 1961, the Norton family moved to Sao Paulo, Brazil where they served as missionaries for churches of Christ until 1977, when they moved to Edmond, Oklahoma. Jane taught Portuguese at Oklahoma Christian University and co- led many summer mission trips to Brazil. In 1998, the Nortons moved to Searcy, Arkansas and again Jane taught Portuguese at Harding University. In their 70s, the Nortons moved to Tegucigalpa, Honduras for 3 ½ years, before returning to Searcy to retire.

Jane hosted hundreds if not thousands of people in whatever home she lived, from the barracks at Abilene Christian to the President's home at Baxter Institute in Honduras. She knew how to make people feel welcome at her table.

Jane is survived by her husband and three children; seven grandchildren, Harrison (Jessica) Norton, Pearce Norton, Wil (Lacey) Norton, Rachel (Victor) Maitland, Jordan (Colin) Dean, Andrew and Luke Diles; and ten great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother, David (Barbara) Pearce and sister-in-law Donna (Terry) Roberts, as well as a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to a Southern Christian Children's Home, P.O. Box 649, Morrilton, AR 72110 or World Bible School, P.O. Box 2169, Cedar Park, Texas 78630. A joint memorial service for Howard and Jane Norton will be held Friday, October 27 at 2:00 at the College Church of Christ.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **27**. 2:00 PM (CT)

College Church Of Christ
712 E Race Ave
Searcy, AR 72143-4421
(501) 268-7156