



## Billie Adkins Laird

September 17, 1937 - July 3, 2022

NATCHEZ – Billie Rustin Adkins Laird, 84, of Natchez, MS, passed away peacefully in her home, surrounded by loving family, on the morning of Sunday, July 3, 2022. Billie was a valued and long-standing member of the Natchez community, Trinity Episcopal Church, Pilgrimage Garden Club, and Daughters of the American Revolution.

Billie was born September 17, 1937, in Jones County, MS, first born daughter of Bilbo and Ada Belle Blu Rustin. She is preceded in death by her parents, Bilbo and Ada Belle, husband Roy Eddie Adkins in 1973, husband Charles M. Laird in 2012, and daughter Sherie Adkins Haygood in 2008.

She graduated from Sandersville High School at 16 years old and began working for Blue Cross Blue Shield as a computer programmer for the beginning stages of their database development. She became a Licensed Funeral Director in the State of Mississippi and helped in the success of both Adkins Funeral Home and Laird Funeral Home, founded by both her late husband Eddie and Charles, respectively. She was also a key contributor in Family Security Life Insurance. She was a member of the Mississippi Funeral Directors Association and attended conventions annually.

Billie loved the Lord and spending time with her family. She was a devoted mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend. She was

always loyal and saw the good in everyone. She also enjoyed traveling abroad with husband, Charles, having fond memories of an African safari, European Cathedrals and all the crystal in Italy. She was a true Southern Belle that loved decorating for Great Mississippi River Balloon Races, Fourth of July at Lake St. John, and Christmas for hosting beloved family and friends.

Billie is survived by her children: Anthony “Tony” Edward Adkins and wife Kay of Flower Mound, TX; Dicky Laird and wife Diane, Gene Laird and wife Laura, all of Natchez, MS; Jenny Lynn Petty and husband Benny of Hattiesburg; grandchildren: Suzanne Adkins, Hunter Adkins and wife Mary Ashley, Rian Johnson and wife Chelsea, Regan Stephenson and husband Jordan, Ryan and Lori Haygood, Isaac and Hope Haygood, Dixon Laird, Abby and Brittany Laird, Peyton McNair and husband Jason, Sara Smith and husband Josh, James Petty and wife Katie; six siblings: Barbara (Spurgeon) Smith of Jackson, TN; Nancy (Elwood) Litzkow of Branson, MO; Bill Edwin (Janet) Rustin of Laurel, MS; Sandra Pospical of Huntsville, AL; Gregory Dunn Rustin (Teodie) of Laurel, MS; LaDonna (Mickey) Riles of Ridgeland, MS; sixteen nieces and nephews, and many great-grandchildren.

Please join Father Len Ritter on Friday, July 8th, 2022, at 11am in Trinity Episcopal Church, 305 S. Commerce St. Burial will follow at Natchez City Cemetery where she will be next to Eddie, Charles and Sherie. Visitation will also be at Trinity preceding the service, from 9am – 11am, along with open Reception after graveside services. Stringer Family Funeral Services in Crystal Springs is handling arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to her favorite charity, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, [stjude.org](http://stjude.org), to Trinity Episcopal Church or your favorite charity. Online condolences may be made at [stringerfuneral.com](http://stringerfuneral.com).

The family would like to thank her long time family friend and caretaker

Regina Reed.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 8. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity Episcopal Church  
305 S. Commerce Street  
Natchez, MS

## Funeral Service

JUL 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity Episcopal Church  
305 S. Commerce Street  
Natchez, MS

# Tribute Wall



“ *Billie Adkins Laird*

January 28, 2023 at 04:45 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Billie Adkins Laird.*



July 07, 2022 at 04:52 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Billie Adkins Laird.*



July 07, 2022 at 02:06 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Billie Adkins Laird.*



July 07, 2022 at 10:55 AM

SU

“ Our “meeting” spot to go spend time with Meme as kids was half way between Jackson and Natchez, at the Cracker Barrel in Brookhaven, MS. Unfortunately we don’t have pictures there as kids, but we continued the tradition, this time in 2017.



Suzanne - July 06, 2022 at 01:16 PM

DG

*Beautiful*

Don Golden - July 07, 2022 at 02:11 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Billie Adkins Laird.



July 05, 2022 at 05:46 PM

SE

“ I’m saddened about the loss of sweet Billie. Sending prayers for comfort and strength to the whole family. She was a kind and gentle spirit who would do anything for you, and she loved her family passionately. I have many fond memories of her and Charles. She taught me much about life in my early adulthood, and I will never forget her. Blessings and love to her family.

*Susan Evans*

Susan Evans - July 05, 2022 at 03:32 PM

SU

“ *Forever in our hearts* ❤️



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**Suzanne** - July 05, 2022 at 02:29 PM