

CELEBRATING THE LIFE & MEMORY OF
Alta Bennett Gulon

DATE, TIME & PLACE OF SERVICE

Saturday, December 29, 2018 - 12:30 P.M.
Chapel at Cross Church
Springdale, Arkansas

ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Remarks and Prayer	Charlie Foster
Music	"In Christ Alone"
Eulogy	Steve Lamm
Message	Charlie Foster
Remarks and Reflections	
Closing Prayer	Charlie Foster
Concluding Music	"It is Well With My Soul"

GRAVE SIDE SERVICES WILL NOT BE HELD AT THE
CEMETERY. THE FAMILY WILL REMAIN AFTER
THE SERVICE TO VISIT WITH FRIENDS.

FINAL RESTING PLACE

Baptist Ford Cemetery

MEMORIALS

Samaritan's Purse or Gideon's International or
Broyle's Foundation

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self
is wasting away, our inner self is being
renewed day by day.

For this light momentary affliction is
preparing for us an eternal weight of glory
beyond all comparison,

as we look not to the things that are seen but
to the things that are unseen. For the things
that are seen are transient, but the things that
are unseen are eternal.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green
pastures: he leadeth me beside
the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for
his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for
thou art with me; thy rod and
thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the
presence of mine enemies: thou anointest
my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow
me all the days of my life: and I will dwell
in the house of the Lord for ever.

APPRECIATION

On behalf of the family, we wish to express their gratitude
for your many acts of kindness, and for your
attendance at the funeral service.

Luginbuel Funeral Home

Prairie Grove, Arkansas

online guest book, visit www.luginbuel.com



Alta Bennett Gulon

February 21, 1925 - December 24, 2018

Proverbs 31:28 - 31

Her children rise up and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praises her:

"Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all."

Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be
praised.

Give her of the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the gates.

Alta Bennett Gulon passed from this life December 24, 2018. Her enduring, consistent faith in God sustained her throughout her life and was a light for all who knew her. It is a joy to know that she is with the Lord.

Alta was born February 21, 1925 in Buckhorn, MO. She was preceded in death by her parents, Louis and Memphis Gipson, husbands W.L.(Bill) Bennett, and Paul Gulon, and 4 sisters and 2 brothers. She is survived by Gayla and Ron Ellenbarger, Janice and Tom Hughes, Pat and Ray Hadaway, Joy and Art Chadwick, 17 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren, 4 great great grandchildren, and a circle of dear friends with whom she shared life's adventures.

Alta had tireless faith, energy, drive, and vision throughout her life, working 2 and 3 jobs at a time during the war years, and afterward to support herself and her daughter as a single parent. Alta found that the way around barriers for progression and income for women in those years was to stay in fields in which she could be fully self-reliant. She met and married Bill Bennett in Dallas, TX in 1959, a fairy tale meeting of minds and hearts that endured until his death in 1977. Together, they blended 2 families, had 2 additional children, opened and operated 5 businesses, and bought land in northwest Arkansas for 'some day'. They made the official move to Arkansas in 1968, clearing land, building a home, planting a garden and orchard, raising cattle, dabbling in antiques, and living the life together they had dreamed.

Upon Bill's death, Alta sold the farm and started over, seeing possibility in a turn of the century home in Springdale. She had a vision of creating a place for her extended blended family to call home. It was lovingly restored, with Alta doing much of the physical labor herself. For 25 years, family and friends gathered there numerous times a year, often driving or traveling great distances to do so. There were Easter egg hunts among the trees and heirloom plants she nurtured, family baseball games and fireworks on the acre out back on 4th of July, and a Thanksgiving celebration that extended for days. Whatever the occasion, Alta's vision, tireless effort, warm welcome, great food, and unceasing prayers made it possible.

Alta committed to causes which were dear to her heart, especially programs through First Baptist Church of Springdale, and care for the elderly. She had a gift for entertaining and preparing amazing meals. At a time when most people would be considering retirement, she assumed responsibility for managing the kitchen for both the church and the then newly established Shiloh Christian School. There are those who still recall the best school lunches ever(!) and the stream of homemade pies proceeding from the school kitchen during her tenure. Alta and friend Olive Miller established the singles group at First Baptist, organizing activities and providing support for those who were going it alone - many of whom were women and were divorced or widowed. For many years, she was active in choir, and participated in every Living Christmas Tree presentation. With regard to care for the

elderly, Alta 'adopted' ladies at area nursing homes, visiting and advocating for them until they passed. She often remarked that it was so much easier to engage people's hearts about the plight of children, but that the elderly often had great need, and no one to care for them. Alta also helped with respite support for families who were caring for patients in hospice.

When it was time for Alta to tackle a new project, she began selling real estate with Windmill Realty. She excelled there as well, both in sales and in the enduring friendships she developed with co-workers and those for whom she was able to match with the right next home. For her, some of the most rewarding elements of that work came when she was able to help widows or others with fixed or low incomes find a way to secure loans and housing.

Alta began dancing, in her spare time, which opened up an entirely new circle of friends and activities, and eventually led to her to an introduction to a dear couple - Paul and Helen Gulon. After Helen's passing, she and Paul married in 1993 and she officially 'retired'. Paul and Alta traveled and danced their way across much of the US in those years, while welcoming an ever expanding group of grandchildren and great grandchildren to their home for family gatherings. When Paul had a stroke late in their marriage, Alta determined that she would care for him after his discharge from rehab, despite the doctor's assessment that it would be too much for her to handle. She adapted the house and car so Paul could continue to live at home and have the best possible quality of life. She was his only caregiver until his death in 2001.

It is important to note that Alta was equally at home in coveralls working on the roof as she was in heels and beaded dresses on the dance floor. One of the last tool purchases she made before she sold her house was an electric chain saw. She was delighted to have it. She was reminded that she had grandsons and sons-in-law who would be happy to help with being on a ladder and trimming trees. To which she replied: "One of these days I will be unable to do this, so while I can, I will. And you will not fuss at me about it". The only appropriate reply: "Yes ma'am".

Alta believed that as she had been blessed, it was incumbent on her to be both a good steward and to bless others, and she did that in countless ways large and small. Because she did not tell us everything - it was something she did, not something she talked about - we will never know all of the ways in which her life blessed others. However, we do have priceless examples of the power of doing the best of you can with what you have been given, of the power of determination regardless of circumstance, of the power of having vision, and most importantly, of the power of living life with an enduring faith and commitment to God.

Those of us who know her well know that if she was told something could not be done, her likely answer would be an impish grin with the comment "hide and watch".

She came from a generation who understood the power of doing. That part of her lives in each of us, whether friend or family. As we honor her today, think about what you will do to which you can say "hide and watch".

