

MOM

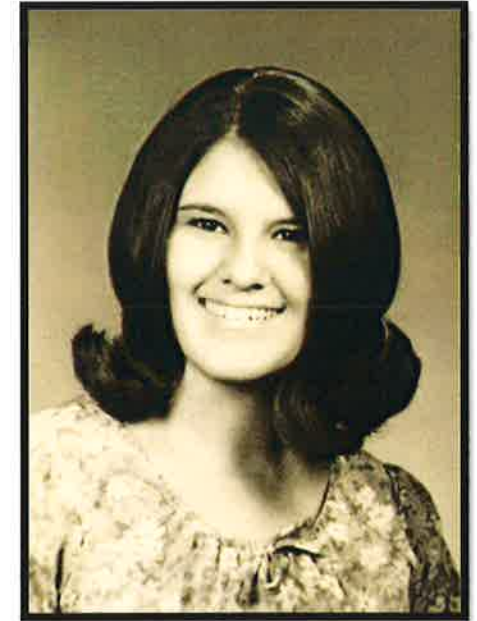
Watching my Mom sit in her recliner and cry day after day was the most difficult part of caring for her these past four years. I tried everything I could find to occupy her time. It occurred to me one day that no amount of game shows or Matlock could fill the need to be of service that she had cultivated over a lifetime. Her hobbies were holding babies and lending a helping hand. She regularly gave rides to strangers stranded in the rain. She bought bikes for the folks she saw walking to work. It broke her heart when there were no more arrangements to make, phones to answer, or children to babysit. She wanted to be in your corner, on your team, and to be an encouragement. Her joy came from parenting me and my brother, and caring for the children in her class at church and all the kids who called her, "Aunt Linda," or "Nana." She was thrilled to be a grandmother and could not wait to get down to Louisiana to see Ana, Seth, Cable, and Nathan. No activity or TV show could replace that after she got sick.

It embarrassed me to take Mom places during the last few years. I don't know how many times I had to tell her not to talk to or touch children she didn't know, and then explain Mom's illness to their parents. Every waitress, cashier, nurse, who came across her path were showered with complements. Every stranger who would talk to her got a kind word. Mom never had to ask, she always knew that everyone was her neighbor. After it cut away her outer façade and erased the social awareness that governed her public interactions, Alzheimer's exposed the core of Mom's character and her core was kindness. Jesus said that you could differentiate his disciples from the crowd by the way they loved one another. There is no greater testimony that Mom could give than, when her illness had stripped everything else away, the last thing she had left was her unflinching love.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that you make a donation to River City Ministries. Mom's legacy of kindness is best served by passing it along to share a meal, put a coat on someone's back or find shelter for those that don't have a home to call their own.

1921 Main Street
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72114
(501) 758-1170

In Remembrance



Linda Garner Blevins

March 31, 1950 - May 5, 2018


SMITH
NORTH LITTLE ROCK FUNERAL HOME
CELEBRATING LIFE


SMITH
NORTH LITTLE ROCK FUNERAL HOME
CELEBRATING LIFE

*Miss Me-
But Let Me Go*

*When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom filled room
Why cry for a soul set free?*

*Miss Me a Little - But Not Too Long
And not with your head bowed low
Remember the love that we once shared
Miss Me - But Let Me Go.*

*For this is a journey that we all must
take
And each must go alone
It's all part of the Master's plan
A step on the road to home.*

*When you are lonely and sick of heart
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows
in doing good deeds.
Miss Me - But Let Me Go*

**CELEBRATING
The Life Of
Linda Garner Blevins**

MEMORIAL SERVICE

*12:00 P.M. Wednesday
May 9, 2018
Levy Church of Christ
North Little Rock, Arkansas*

Officiating
Mr. Danny Dodd

MUSIC
*Director: Joe Chesser
"I'll Fly Away"
"Surround us Lord"
"He Keeps Me Singing"*

MEMORIALS
*River City Ministry
1021 East Washington Ave.
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72114*

The family of Linda Garner Blevins would like to sincerely thank you for honoring her memory by your presence today.

Linda Garner Blevins, 68, of North Little Rock, gained her heavenly reward on May 5. She was a nurturer by nature and served others in many capacities. Linda loved children! She would spend countless hours preparing lessons for the Bible classes that she taught in the nursery departments at her church. She even taught other people how to teach. Her legacy will continue and the materials she made will continue to bless children in the years to come. Linda loved being a Nana. Even before she had grandchildren of her own, she became Nana to 3 special boys Todd, Hunter, and Harrison, that brought much happiness to her life. When her first grandchild was born, she was on cloud 9. Linda was a hard worker. She took pride in working for the Hickingbotham family for over 30 years. They were like a second family to her. Linda loved big and, though we will miss her dearly, the love she gave lives in the hearts of those who received it.

Linda is survived by her sons, Robert Blevins of NLR and Jared (Mary) Blevins of Covington, LA; her pride and joy, grandchildren, Nathan Blevins and Ana, Seth, and Cable Owen; brother, Don (Nancy) Garner; special friend, Bob Blevins; 5 nieces and 2 nephews; 17 great nieces and nephews; 1 great-great niece.