

Clytell was born in Big Sandy, Texas the daughter of James E. and Ora Lee (Willoughby) Howard. Clytell and her family moved to Orange, Texas to work during WWII. She married George Brown in 1943, and twins, Anthony Lane and Anthoinette Elaine, were born in 1944. After the end of WWII and her divorce, she moved back to Big Sandy. She married Billy Blankenship in 1952, and lived in several places in Texas while he completed his education. She worked at several jobs including a chicken processing plant, variety store, and as a seamstress in a clothing factory. In 1960, they moved to Hobbs, New Mexico. Clytell went to night school and received her high school diploma from Hobbs High School in 1967, and enrolled in New Mexico Junior College in Hobbs to study accounting. She worked as a sales clerk in another variety store, credit union, bank teller, and her last position was in accounting with Texaco. She retired in 1989, and she and Billy moved to Willmar, MN in 2003.

She died peacefully at Bethesda Grand, her home for the past 6 years. She is survived by her children: A. Lane (and Yolanda) Brown and A. Elaine (and Jimmy) Widner; grandchildren: Cary (Victoria) Battishill, Amy (Claude) Verdugo, Lee Ann (Pablo) Rodriguez, and Jason (Heather) Brown; great grandchildren: Jacob Battishill, Blair Battishill, Maya Brown, Aidan Brown, Tyler Brown, Pablo Rodriguez, Andres Rodriguez, Kalei Verdugo, Madison Widner, and Zachary Widner; great great grandson, Paxton Battishill.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Billy, parents, brothers: De Narl, Aubrey, and J.H. Howard, and sister, Marcell Caviness; grandsons: Justin Widner and Brandon Widner, and great granddaughter, Cailyn Brown.

We extend our appreciation and gratitude to the Bethesda East Nurses and Social workers, CNA's, activities, culinary, scheduling and transportation, and maintenance staff for the wonderful care and concern for Clytell.

There will also be a memorial service at Croley Funeral Home, Gilmer, Texas on Aug 15.

Interment at Hoover Cemetery, Big Sandy, Texas.

## **Celebration of Life**

Saturday, August 10, 2019 – 2:00 pm  
Bethesda Grand Chapel, Willmar, Minnesota

**Officiant** – Minister Gary Simmons

### **Recorded Music**

*I Can Only Imagine*

by Mercy Me

*Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone*

by BYU Noteworthy

*Amazing Grace* by

Scottish Bagpipe Collection

**Special Music** by Norma Watson

*I'll Fly Away*

*Surely Goodness and Mercy*

### **Scripture Readings**

Romans 8: 35, 37-39; Philippians 4: 4-8

Zach Widner

### **Honorary Casketbearers**

Cary Battishill

Amy Verdugo

Lee Ann Rodriguez

Jason Brown

Justin Widner

Brandon Widner

Please join the family in the fellowship hall  
immediately following the service for  
dessert and refreshments.

### **Interment**

Hoover Cemetery, Big Sandy, Texas

***“If you could see me now”***

*Our prayers have all been answered  
I finally arrived  
The healing that had been delayed  
Has now been realized  
No one's in a hurry  
There's no schedule to keep  
We're all enjoying Jesus  
Just sitting at His feet*

*If you could see me now  
I'm walking streets of gold  
If you could see me now  
I'm standing tall and whole  
If you could see me now  
You'd know I've seen His face  
If you could see me now  
You'd know the pain is erased*

*You wouldn't want me  
To ever leave this place  
If you could see me now*

*My light and temporary trials  
Have worked out for my good  
To know it brought Him glory  
When I misunderstood  
Though we've had our sorrows  
They can never compare  
What Jesus has in store for us  
No language can share*

*You wouldn't want me  
To ever leave this perfect place  
If you could only see me now  
If you could see me now  
If you could only see me now.*

In Loving Memory of

*Clytell Blankenship*

January 4, 1929  
Big Sandy, Texas

August 2, 2019  
Willmar, Minnesota



*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*

*Philippians 4:4-6*