



## Elizabeth Lee Pruitt

August 27, 2016

Elizabeth Lee Peters Pruitt of Ozark went to meet her creator on August 23, 2016. She was a beloved wife, daughter, mother, cousin, grandmother, great-grandmother and teacher. Elizabeth Pruitt came into this world on December 18, 1933 in the White Rock Community, to her parents George Thomas Peters and Frankie Arminda Nixon Peters. She had many adversities as a child, but overcame them and graduated from Ozark High School. She married her husband Robert Henry Pruitt on May 31, 1964. Elizabeth had three children prior to their marriage, Arthur Franklin, Jackline Lynn and Rebecca Lee, which Robert later adopted. She went on to further her education by attending Sparks Nursing School where she obtained a nursing degree and went on to obtain the highest score that year on the State Board Exam. She began working as a nurse at the local hospital. Many people remember her helping them. She would tell so many stories of being in the delivery room when whomever she may have been speaking with was born. In 1969 she was hired to become a nursing instructor at what is now Arkansas Tech University. She enjoyed her job and was a force to be reckoned with when it came to her program or her students. She was always trying to obtain higher education. Over several years she went back to college. In July of 1970 Alice Elizabeth was born to Elizabeth and Robert. Elizabeth has served on many boards and non-profit organizations over the years, but her biggest gift was of her unselfish devotion to her students and to make sure they succeeded. Many of you are "Her Nurses" as she called you. Elizabeth was known all around for

her accomplishments after almost forty years of students. Her memory and legacy will continue through her students. How many lives has she touched? It is countless and will never be forgotten. In this setting many knew her simply as "Pruitt". Her career of teaching stopped when she retired in 2006. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband. She is survived by one son Author Pruitt of Alma; three daughters, Jackie Roberts , Becky Davis, and Alice Pruitt all of Ozark; nine grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. Funeral service will be held at 10:00 AM Saturday, August 27, 2016 at Shaffer Funeral Home in Ozark with Brother Jim Matson officiating and burial at Highland Cemetery under direction of Shaffer Funeral Home of Ozark. The family will visit with friends from 6:00 until 8:00 PM Friday, August 26th at Shaffer Funeral Home, 2315 W. Commercial Street in Ozark. There is an account set up under Alice Pruitt for Robert and Elizabeth Scholarship Fund @ The Bank of The Ozarks in lieu of flowers or you can donate to the Alzheimer's Association.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Elizabeth Lee Pruitt*

January 30, 2023 at 02:28 AM



“ *I had the honor of being one of Pruitt's Students. I can never say enough wonderful things about her. I found out just after starting class in 1986 that I was going to also become a mother and attend nursing school. Mrs. Pruitt along with some wonderful classmates stayed by my side and together we stayed together and finished that year. I had my son in April 1987 and had to go back and finish up a semester in order to graduate...Mrs. Pruitt and my Best Friend Marnita were with me from the beginning to the end. I don't know anyone who didn't Love her and I am one of those who was blessed to be deeply loved by her and loved her back with all my heart ??  
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**Michele Henson White** - September 24, 2016 at 09:47 AM



“ *I was honoured to give her a plaque upon her retirement. I wrote a speech for her and I got to see her blush with pride. She was a great teacher and even better person. I was privileged to take care of her ever so briefly while in Paris. Ms. Betty you changed my life, I am proud to have been one of your students. My prayers for the family and friends. She was a legend in this industry.*

**Teresea Cale** - August 27, 2016 at 07:56 PM

CT

“ I had the pleasure of being "one of hers." Pruitt was a wonderful teacher and person with a passion for nursing like no other. My mother was also one of Pruitts many students. I remember she used to tease me all the time about calling my mom! She would laugh and say "be have or I will call your momma, she's one of mine!" A few years ago she was In the hospital at Paris where I worked and though she did not remember me she must have liked something I did because she smiled and said "Uou must be one of mine." That made me feel so goo. She was a beautiful person and will truly be missed. Prayers for the family. Rest in peace and love Pruitt!!

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**Christy Terry** - August 27, 2016 at 07:56 PM

HG

“ Just another nursing student... we were all so lucky to spend time with this wonderful LADY. We learned so much more from her stories than we could ever get from the books. Even when she was in pain she would find a way go get though to us as she moved about, trying to find a comfortable position in which to teach. My class was a lucky bunch !!!! A group of us went to Lexington for Nation Competition. I shared a room with her and Miss Emma-- I will always hold that time is special-- Her at the Piano Bar.. She took it all in stride as they sang to her. I to had her as a patient several years ago, I kept expecting her to reach out and cover my hand with hers and say "BREATH"--- after all the years of taking care of people I did not feel ready for that patient... Prayers for everyone that loved her.. I know she is smiling that wonderful smile of hers looking down at all of her success stories.

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**Hope Grissom** - August 27, 2016 at 07:56 PM

DM

“ I loved this woman. She was an awesome teacher and so devoted to her students. I graduated from her LPN class in 1987. Prayers and thoughts to her family, that God give them peace. Wonderful lady.

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**Debra Million** - August 27, 2016 at 07:56 PM

P1

“ May God bless and keep you in your time of sorrow! Pruitt was the best! She helped me become the nurse I am today. She really made a difference in my life. Thank you for sharing her with me. Pruitt will be greatly missed.

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**Paula (Crumpton) Corley class 1995** - August 27, 2016 at 07:56 PM

JA

“ Alice and all siblings. Elizabeth 'Betty' as I knew her, was such an amazing woman. She knew her goal in life and she continually worked harder to reach it, then another. Her mind was always at work. She had a head for business that few women possessed. It was hard to see that brilliant person recess into a person we did not know. She will always be a friend in my mind. God's peace is there for comfort and His wisdom for your seeking. Love you all.

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**Judith Armstrong** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

AC

“ I didn't get the privilege of being Mrs Pruitt's students and becoming one of "her nurses," but my sister did and Amy father worked with her at the college. I got the please of meeting Mrs Pruitt when she became one of my patients at PH&R, she wasn't just a patient though, she taught me a ton, she gave me many laughs, and she inspired me to use the skills God gave me and not just be a CNA but become a nurse. She encouraged me to meet this goal, because of her I am now a licensed practical nurse after completing the ATU program so ultimately I also became one of her nurses! There will never be another woman as incredible as her! Love her so much and will miss her even more!

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**Alix Copsy** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

DB

“ She was the greatest teacher I ever had. The nurses that have graduated since her retirement, will never know the "greatness" of such a beautiful soul and the compassion she had for her patients and her students. She is truly awe- inspiring and will be missed by many.

*You will always be remembered and loved!*

*Deeanna Woodall Buckingham*

*Class of 1993-1994*

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**deeanna buckingham** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

KO

“ I was in one of her last LPN classes. She helped me to become the nurse I am today and told me to never give up my dreams. She will be missed. So Sorry for your loss.

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**Kelly ONeal** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

ST

“ So sorry for your loss, may God comfort and heal you and your family!!

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**STEPH** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

SF

“ So sorry to hear about Betty she was like a second mom as I was at her house a lot when Jackie and I were kids and as a nursing student. I have all you guys in my prayer. She is now with all our loved ones that have gone on before us having a good ole time Love you Betty

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**sharon farnam** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

BS

“ Alice and the Betty Pruitt family,

*Please know that Betty is valued for her excellence and long service to her former students and to the Arkansas Tech University - Ozark Campus family. Her legacy in nursing remains strong and is a truth which anchors our programs in health care today. The Ozark Campus family sends our sincere condolences.*

*Bruce Sikes, Chancellor*

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**Bruce Sikes** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

SC

“ I couldn't have asked for a better nursing instructor. Pruitt was an amazing woman and I am very blessed to have known her.

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**Shawn Churchwell(Whitson)** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM



“ Betty Pruitt - a great, strong woman whom I thought the world of. My all time favorite instructor !!! If she liked you, you were lucky, and she would fight for you tooth and nail!! Pruitt- you will be missed but never, ever forgotten &#128149;

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August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM



“ This is a little hard to write but Mrs Pruitt was the best person I could have known to teach me what I loved doing. I'm from the class on 1981. She was the best Thank you for allowing me to have ur mom as my teacher. I can't forget the day her back hurt and we all got to practice give a back massage. Lol. God bless you all. Love you Mrs P

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**Shannon Walker Rankin** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM



“ I'm sorry to hear of the passing of Ms Pruett. I was one of her many students. She was in my life for a year but I will always remember and love her.

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**Selma McGhee** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM



“ She is working still to help prepare a place for us. She gave such energy to us. She cared that we became nurses, the best nurses to represent Arkansas Tech. Are class watch her children growing up through teaching, Arthur was an encouraging factor in some conversations. Her praise about her daughters helping to maintain the house so 5hat she could teach. i have sat at her kitchen table as she cooked her families meal, doing math in order to pass State Boards. We both got Teacher & Student of the year 1985. I still to this day use her like Lawyer Daggit in True Grit.

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**Linda Brewer** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

KH

“ I was one of Pruitt's twenty two years ago. There will never be another like her. I walked away from her class with with so much knowledge, wisdom, courage, and ethics that she passed on to us. It always amazed me that no matter where she saw me, she knew exactly who I was many years after I graduated her class. I had not seen her in years but thought of her often and what she taught me. She is a legend in the nursing world that will live on through the many students she taught. Praying for peace and comfort for the family. I know she will be deeply missed by so, so many.

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**Kathy Hanson** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

PI

“ Sorry for your loss

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**Pam Ihle** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

PK

“ I too was one of her nurses, proudly speaking. She was 1 in a million and I loved her dearly like so many others, prayers for peace and comfort to all her family and friends...rest high on that mountain my dear friend!

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**Pamela Keeter** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

AS

“ Class of 1995

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**Annetta Mooney Smith** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

DD

“ God gave us a wonderful gift when he gave us Mrs Pruitt. I often tell stories of when she was my teacher and can still hear her encouraging me to be the best nurse I can be. Prayers and strength for the family. (Class of '93).

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**Dana Deen** - August 26, 2016 at 07:33 PM

SC

“ To the family of Ms. Betty Pruitt.  
I worked with Betty for several years at Arkansas Tech in Ozark and greatly appreciate her contributions to the students, our institution, and the nursing profession. Please accept my most sincere condolences for your loss. Sincerely, Sandra Cheffer

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**Sandra Cheffer** - August 26, 2016 at 01:35 PM

TR

“ So very sorry to here of pruitts passing, I guess I thought she would live forever, I loved her so very much, she was a great teacher, she was there for me always, hard when she needed to be, and so very caring when I needed her to be, even took me home after school a few times to help me. I know you knew how blessed you were to have her in your life. I am so very ashamed of myself, I told myself that I would go see her some day soon and thank her, but I never did, and now as I write this I cry, it's to late and so I tell you she really made a difference in my life, and I am a much better person because of her, thank you for sharing her with me. God bless you all

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**Trenna (Koch) ruloph** - August 26, 2016 at 01:35 PM