



Ruby Arlene Whitson

April 30, 1942 - March 31, 2024

Ruby Arlene Whitson, 81, of Ozark, Arkansas, passed away, Sunday, March 31, 2024 in Fort Smith, Arkansas. She was born April 30, 1942 in Wilson, Oklahoma to Wesley Wiley Hester and Betty Geraldine Penn Hester. Ruby was of the Baptist faith and a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Ozark. She worked in the cafeteria for the Ozark School District for many years and was a charter member of the Trail of Tears Association.

Ruby is preceded in death by her parents; the love of her life, her husband of 63 years, Cletis D. Whitson; one brother, Wiley "Sonny" Hester; and three sisters, Carmaleta Grinstead, Joy Hester, and Debbie DeBord.

Ruby is survived by one daughter, Cheri Whitson Lopez of Ozark; one son, Ray Whitson and wife Sharla of Fort Smith, Arkansas; two sisters, Sheila Whitson and husband Ronnie of Yuma, Arizona and Mary Ann Morrison; one sister-in-law, Barbara Walker Garbiso and husband Earnest of Ozark; five grandchildren, Jody Sampley and wife Stephanie, Jason Sampley and wife Brittny, Josh Sampley, Levi Whitson and wife Jessica, and Abby Whitson; six great grandchildren, Annie Sampley, Holly Sampley, Noah Sampley, Josiah Sampley, Declan Whitson, and Owen Whitson.

Visitation will be 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M., Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at Shaffer Funeral Home, 2315 West Commercial Street in Ozark.

Funeral Service will be 10:00 A.M., Thursday, April 4, 2024 at Shaffer Funeral Home, with Brother Clayton Caldwell and Brother Evan Blackford with burial at Whitson Cemetery, Whitson Lane in Ozark, under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Serving as pallbearers will be Jody Sampley, Jason Sampley, Josh Sampley, Levi Whitson, David Young, and Noah Sampley. Serving as an honorary pallbearer will be Abby Whitson.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tennessee 38105.

Cemetery Details

Whitson Cemetery

Whitson Lane
Ozark, AR

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 3. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Shaffer Funeral Home
2315 West Commercial Street
PO Box 680
Ozark, AR 72949
(479) 667-4147
shafferfuneralhome@gmail.com

Funeral Service

APR 4. 10:00 AM (CT)

Shaffer Funeral Home
2315 West Commercial Street
PO Box 680
Ozark, AR 72949
(479) 667-4147
shafferfuneralhome@gmail.com

Burial

APR 4 (CT)

Whitson Cemetery

Whitson Lane

Ozark, AR

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album Slideshow



Byron Lasater V - April 16, 2024 at 05:49 PM



“ One of the sweetest ladies we've known. God chose a great angel. Prayers and comfort to the family and friends!!!!



Buzy Bee Flowers And Gifts - April 02, 2024 at 02:43 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Ruby Arlene Whitson.



April 02, 2024 at 01:25 PM



“ Becky Penland lit a candle in memory of Ruby Whitson



Becky K Penland - April 01, 2024 at 11:10 PM

PL

“ Pete Lopez planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruby Arlene Whitson.

Pete Lopez - April 01, 2024 at 08:53 PM

PL

“ Pete Lopez purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Ruby Arlene Whitson.



Pete Lopez - April 01, 2024 at 08:53 PM

PG

“ Ruby had a heart of gold. She was a wonderful lady. She was so proud of her family, and rightly so.

Patricia Hicks Gabbard - April 01, 2024 at 06:45 PM

MH

Ruby was one of the sweetest nicest woman I have ever know! We loved her and Cletis!! They were alway fun and funny to be around. Cletis always made sure Max had eggs and would have Ruby call him to come and get them, max would be gone for hours when he went to pick up the eggs, Cletis loves to talk and max sure enjoyed talking and visiting with him and Ruby. Will miss that sweet lady but glad her and Cletis are together ! Prayers for you all..❤️

Max and Kay Helmert - April 01, 2024 at 09:21 PM