



Mildred Bales

February 20, 1925 - January 16, 2021

On Saturday, January 16, 2021, Micki Bales passed away at the age of 95. Micki was born on February 20, 1925 in Knoxville, TN. On September 14, 1947, she married Rubin Bales of Gatlinburg. Micki worked alongside her husband Rubin at Town and Country Motel, which they built and managed together for forty years. She made dear friends with guests who came and visited yearly. Even though she never attended high school, she earned her GED and took accounting classes at the University of Tennessee.

Micki was also a devout Christian, whose beliefs were always enriched by her actions. Wherever she lived, she was a devoted churchgoer who relished being a part of her church's activities and charity. That giving spirit pushed her to volunteer at East Tennessee hospitals and work with hospice care while living in Florida. She also raised money for the American Heart Foundation for many years.

Micki was always learning something new, including playing the organ, making candles, clogging, welding, embroidering, and sewing. She was also the inventor of the sport of wogging - a cross between walking and jogging. When she wasn't home, you would find her on a cruise ship exploring the world with her husband.

Generous, loving, outspoken, and strong-willed, this self-proclaimed "tough

old bird" will be missed dearly. She loved a good story, a good laugh, gospel music, and dancing.

Micki is survived by her son, William Bales (Nicole), grandchildren Noelle Smith (Greg), Christopher (Kelly), granddaughter in-law Marsha, great-grandchildren Kali and William Bales III (Autumn), Hailey and Maggie Smith, Lyra Bales, great-great grandson Matthew Bales, and devoted niece Teresa Mantooth (Dan), and her children Valina, Jenna, Austin, and Shania. She also leaves behind four sisters, Marie McCarter, Mamie Sprouse, Luria Fritts, and Joyce Howell, and many nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her husband of 70 years, Rubin Bales, grandson William Bales Jr., and sister, Mary Ruth White.