



Betty Jo Wilson

February 13, 1930 - July 17, 2021

Betty Jo Fryxell Wilson

Much loved, mother, wife, sister, grandmother, aunt, cousin.

Betty Jo Wilson, 91, passed away July 17, 2021, at her home in Pineville, N.C. with her daughters by her side. Jo was born February 13, 1930, in Fort Knox, Ky, to Anna Lee and Roy Fryxell. She is survived by her four loving daughters, Debby (Terry), Lorri (Dan), Lyndi (Rusty), and Libby (Sandy); eight grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; her loving sister, Ann Scott of Hillsborough, Calif.; a brother-like cousin, Tony Craver of Saint Petersburg, Fl.; and her beloved Pug, Gracie. She is preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, Jay. What a beautiful life they shared. Jo and Jay were high school sweethearts -- with Jay playing basketball for Fort Knox High School and Jo on the cheerleading squad. From there, decades of wonderful memories were made. Jo and Jay's journey took them from Kentucky, to Charlotte, N.C., to Conyers, GA., and beyond. Upon Jay's retirement from Liberty Mutual Insurance they moved to Reynolds Plantation, a golf community in Greensboro, GA, where they lived their dream. Both great golfers, they forged many life-long friendships in Reynolds. But, when Jo lost Jay, she moved back to North Carolina to live close to her daughter, Debby.

In addition to the love Jo had for her family, she was devoted to her Catholic faith. She was an active member of several parishes throughout her life – so devout that Jay, a Baptist by birth, converted to Catholicism.

Jo and her sister, Ann, grew up in a house on the Fort Knox golf course, which was close to the substation for Fort Knox's electrical grid. Their father was Fort Knox's head electrician, which made him responsible for a clandestine, national security project – wiring the Gold Vault. (Not so secret, however, to keep Jo and Ann from having stories about what's behind those walls.)

Jo was a homemaker like no other. She embraced taking care of her four daughters, ironing Jay's work shirts, and cooking family meals – EVERY NIGHT! And, all who knew her knew how much she loved Christmas, the religious aspect and warmth it brought to our home. Jo and Ann were the last survivors of a family of five siblings – their two brothers, Fred and Edward, and sister Sis, passed away several years ago. Those close-knit family ties extended to their cousin, Tony (sister Sis's son, but Jo and Ann's age) who

is like a brother to them.

Jo and Ann kept the entire family's memories alive despite the 3,000 miles that separated them. Weekly calls, cruises (including a two-month South American cruise) and family reunions kept their sisterhood one-of-a-kind and solidified generational love and forever relationships between cousins. The most recent reunion, held in Louisville, Ky in 2015, culminated in a horse race at Churchill Downs named the Ann Fryxell Scott and Betty Jo Fryxell Wilson Race!

There are so many people who came into Jo's life and stayed there! Her nieces and nephews are unmatched for their constant checking in and keeping her first and foremost in their thoughts.

For the past seven years, Jo lived in The Cottages community in Pineville, NC, where the friendships she made proved you're never too old to make new best friends.

And then, there are her pets – most recently, Gracie, Sofie, and Abby – who hit the dog lottery when Mom brought them home. The love, devotion, and company she provided to them – and they to her – was only surpassed by what she gave to all the people she loved. Jo's legacy of "family first" will live on through the close relationships bonded decades ago between the Wilson girls and their Scott and Wilson cousins.

The family would like to extend our deep appreciation and thanks to Kya, Christine, and Jill at Hospice, and Melanie of Visiting Angels who cared for our mom as if she was their own. The family also requests that any Gifts of Remembrance be sent to Hospice and Palliative Care Charlotte Region, P.O Box 470408, Charlotte, NC 28247.