



## Betty Austin

August 27, 1937 - September 8, 2021

Betty Austin, 84, of Mt. Vernon, passed away at 2:10 a.m., Wednesday, September 8, 2021, at Mt. Vernon Healthcare Center.

She was born at home in Hanes Township on August 27, 1937, the daughter of Elza Elmer and Mary Edith (Burge) Byars. On July 23, 1955, at her parent's home, she married Lavern Austin, and he survives.

She attended Charter Oak School, Kell Grade School, and graduated from Salem High School. Betty worked alongside her husband Lavern as co-owner of Austin's Restaurant. She was a faithful member of Panther Fork Baptist Church, where she served as pianist for many years, and also taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School.

In addition to her husband, Lavern Austin, she is survived by two children, Steven Austin and wife Holly of Mt. Vernon, and Sondra Caldwell and husband Mark of Texico; five grandchildren, Jana Mullinax and husband Rodney of Mt. Vernon, Marci Sherwin and husband Dean of Texico, Adam Caldwell and wife Erin of Terre Haute, Indiana, Kane Austin and wife Ashley of Inman, Kansas, and Adrian Austin and friend Quest Newberry of Brenham, Texas; seven great-grandchildren, Quinton Mullinax, Alexia Sherwin, Elias Mullinax, Walker Sherwin, Violet Caldwell, Milo Caldwell, and Asher Caldwell; one brother, Edgar Byars of Texico; one sister-in-law, Sheila Byars; and one brother-in-law, Chalon Austin and wife Effie Mae of Mt. Vernon.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Henry Byars; sisters-in-law, Janet Byars, Velma Ullery, and Patricia Connaway; and

brothers-in-law, Bert Austin, Waymon Austin, and Marvie Austin.

Funeral services for Mrs. Austin will be held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at Panther Fork Baptist Church, with Rev. John Ashby officiating. Burial will follow at Panther Fork Cemetery. Visitation will be held Tuesday, September 14, 2021, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the Osborn Funeral Home in Dix. Memorial gifts may be made to the Panther Fork Cemetery, and will be accepted at the service, or by mail to the Osborn Funeral Home, P.O. Box 130, Dix, Illinois 62830. Online condolences may be made at [www.osbornfuneral.com](http://www.osbornfuneral.com), or on the Osborn Funeral Home Facebook page.

# Cemetery Details

## Panther Fork Cemetery

Texico, IL 62889

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **14**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Osborn Funeral Home  
322 North Main Street  
Dix, IL 62830  
(618) 266-7231  
office@osbornfuneral.com  
<https://www.osbornfuneral.com>

## Funeral Service

SEP **15**. 10:00 AM.

Panther Fork Baptist Church

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sincerest sympathy to our good friends Steve, Holly, Kane, Adrian and all of Mrs. Austin's family.* ”



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**Gayle Schafer** - September 23, 2021 at 10:37 PM



“ *Our Deepest Sympathy to the family.  
Kiwana Ferguson  
Dustin Ferguson  
Grant & Amanda Kriese  
Terry Hayes* ”



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**Kiwana Ferguson** - September 23, 2021 at 08:32 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Betty Austin.* ”



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September 11, 2021 at 05:35 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. She is now preparing a place for you. I loved working for the Austin's. They are a Beautiful family and She always had a smile on her face. She will be missed...* ”

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**Valorie Heinzmann** - September 11, 2021 at 03:50 AM

MZ

“ *Lavern, My very sincere sympathy. I never knew Betty, but I always heard good things about her. My prayers for peace and comfort for you and your family. Martha Rosenberger Zimmerman*

Martha R Zimmerman - September 10, 2021 at 08:55 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Betty Austin.*



September 10, 2021 at 06:54 PM

NH

“ *Our Deepest Sympathy an Prayers to all of you. I have known an worked for Betty & Lavern a long time ago. She was a very special lady . She will be Missed . Norma ( Donoho) & J.R. Hofstetter*



Norma (Donoho) & J.R. Hofstetter - September 10, 2021 at 04:56 PM

LM

“ *Pure Love and respect. Thank you for being such a wonderful woman to look up to beautiful soul. Thank you Austin's for all the loving memories made in my younger years. I'm stronger for knowing you and watching you live. You will always continue to teach me in my head. I thank God for letting me learn near you 🙏*



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**Libby McDermott** - September 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

LB

“ *We loved Betty. She was such a sweet Christian lady. Wish we could come to her visitation but are out of town.*

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**Larry & Patty Bethard** - September 10, 2021 at 07:56 AM

PD

“ *Our deepest sympathy. Petey Dobbs and family*

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**Petey Dobbs** - September 09, 2021 at 07:56 PM

RV

“ *Betty was a beautiful soul inside & outside. I loved working for her & Laverne for 9 years when I first moved to Salem from Missouri. I respected both her & Laverne.  
My deepest sympathy to Laverne & all family!  
Grace & Randy Vanausdall*

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**Randy & Grace Vanausdall** - September 09, 2021 at 06:07 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Betty Austin.*



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September 09, 2021 at 02:12 PM



“ *So very sorry for your loss! Betty was one special lady! We still talk of Austins and all the good meals we had there! Our prayers are with you all! Danny and Jacque Morgan*

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**Jacque Morgan** - September 09, 2021 at 08:35 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss ! She was one of the sweetest most genuine ladies I ever met . Always a kind word & listening ear for everyone .*

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**jennifer donoho** - September 08, 2021 at 10:09 PM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Betty Austin.*



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September 08, 2021 at 09:10 PM

DH

“ She was the most pleasant lady you will ever meet - she would always greet you with that beautiful smile of hers . I'm am so glad that she was part of our lives.she was such a wonderful blessing to us all.

Darrel Hungate and DeLinda Hungate - September 08, 2021 at 08:46 PM

CH

“ Steve & Holly, Kane & Adrian, So sorry for your loss. Betty was such a wonderful person. She will be dearly missed. Thoughts and prayers to the whole family.  
Jimmy & Chris Hayes

Chris Hayes - September 08, 2021 at 08:23 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Betty Austin.



September 08, 2021 at 07:43 PM

LW

“ We will always have fond memories of Betty who was so hardworking and always had that beautiful smile. Proud to have had her as a neighbor and friend. May you Rest In Peace Betty.

Lyle and Dorothy Wood - September 08, 2021 at 06:30 PM