



Rita Jean Myatt Radley

January 14, 1925 - March 15, 2026

Our beloved, Rita Jean Myatt Radley, made a peaceful transition Home on March 15, 2026, at the grand age of 101. If ever there was a reason to celebrate one's life instead of mourning it, may this be your example.

Born on January 14, 1925, to Jesse Lee and Minnie Mae Myatt, she was the third of four girls. She and her sisters forged a close bond as they were raised in a loving yet stern environment with a forbearance of argument amongst them. This connection persisted throughout their adult lives. She would fondly recall summers spent at the bay with her mother and sisters, and pictures from that era attest to those happy memories. Her parents were exceptionally hard working, yet nurtured Rita and her sisters during the tough years of the Great Depression. In fact, in later life she remarked that it was not until she was older that she fully understood the significance of this chapter in our nation's history as her parents had continued working just as hard as they had always done whilst lending help to those less fortunate.

This work ethic and persistence rubbed off on Rita. She graduated from El Campo High School in 1942 then relocated to the University of Texas to attend college. There, she met and ultimately married Robert 'Bob' Meyer Radley. Her schooling was cut short as Bob was commissioned as an Air Force pilot during World War II. Expecting their first child, she welcomed Jessica while Bob was still serving overseas. Upon his arrival back home,

they relocated to Overton, Texas, before moving back to El Campo where she would live out the remainder of her life in the community she adored.

Along the way, they welcomed two more children, Gary and Craig. Being a mother did not stop Rita from continuing to push forward to better herself, her family and her community. She would go on to own/operate a children's boutique, The Dollhouse, help establish the BEES (Beautify El Campo Extension) as well as become the first female president of the local Chamber of Commerce, chief of the local Elk's Lodge and serve as Chair of the Lower Colorado River Authority board. She held various other positions with different economic development boards locally and beyond. Later in life, she was pivotal in helping secure a refuge for the city's senior citizens with the opening of the Heritage Center turning an abandoned school cafeteria into a place for elders to maintain social and physical health. This feat was accomplished at 84 years of age and subsequently earned her recognition as one of Jenny's Heroes.

She was a devout member of the El Campo Presbyterian Church though she was not born in this religion. Though Methodist by birth, she converted to Presbyterian at the age of 10 after attending church services there alongside her friend whose father was the preacher at the time. She must have been a convincing force because soon thereafter several family members, including her mother, joined the Presbyterian congregation. She was a proud member for 91 years.

Age nor complexity deterred her from achieving her goals. She was honored by the Texas Legislature (89th Session) in 2025 on her 100th birthday for her lifetime of service. She was quoted on her centennial birthday celebration as encouraging others to 'Keep reading, and you will learn something new' and to "Be stubborn until you get what you want.' This was Rita's advice for a meaningful life, and she put these philosophies into action time and time

again. She had great vision and cared about the present while looking ahead to the future of not only our small community but also of our great nation.

Relationships remained a constant in Rita's life and nothing would elicit a bigger smile on her face than to speak of her family. She had an especially soft spot in her heart for her grandchildren, great and great-great grandchildren. They brought her immense joy, especially as she aged, and her eyes would sparkle as they visited or when they were spoken of in her presence. She lived a full life on earth not just by quantity of her years but by the quality of them.

Rita was preceded in death by her husband, Bob Radley, parents, sisters Mary Lucille "Cele" Hancock and Leola Mae Ramsey.

Rita is survived by her children Jessica Radley, Gary Radley and wife, Susan and Craig Radley and wife, Debbie; 10 grandchildren, Tina Mehrens, Terri Jones and husband Michael, Ginger Crawford and husband Tres, Clint Radley and wife Jane, Heath Radley and wife Cori, Taylor Radley and wife Jessica, Brooke Radley Dorotik and husband Chad, Cody Radley and wife Allison, Cade Radley and wife Nicole and Coy Radley; 19 great-grandchildren (4 great-great grandchildren) Radley Jones and wife Monica (Allie and Leila), Lindsey Rosales and husband Cody (Blake and Quinn), Aubin Powell, Meredith and Madelyn Radley, Owen and Claire Radley, Tristyn, Taylor and Gunnar Radley, Myatt, Lyndon, William and Adeline Dorotik, Ava and Casen Radley, Cole, Charlee and Camden Radley and sister, Patricia Elliot.

The family would like to extend a most sincere thank you to Rita's devoted care givers, including Rosalinda Carbajal, Rose Carriere, Blanca Guzman and Rachael Garza. Your devotion to Rita has touched our hearts.

Triska Funeral Home will be overseeing arrangements. Rita's celebration of life will take place on Tuesday, March 24th at 3:30 pm at the El Campo Presbyterian Church with Pastor Kristine Shultis officiating and Pastor John McCord assisting. After the service, the family would be honored with your presence at the El Campo Country Club for a true celebration of life "party". A private burial for the family will take place.

Pallbearers will be her grandsons.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to 1st Presbyterian Church.

Condolences may be shared online at www.triskafuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR **24**. 3:30 PM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
312 Depot Street
El Campo, TX 77437

Tribute Wall

LW

“ *Lisa Webb lit a candle in memory of Rita Jean Myatt Radley*



Lisa Webb - March 24 at 05:58 PM

VQ

“ *My thoughts & prayers are with you all that God will Comfort you in your loss. God bless your family & friends. RIP Rita ☐! She will be dearly missed by everyone who knew & loved her.*
Vicky Blair Ustynik Quijas



Vicky Quijas - March 20 at 05:05 PM

VQ

“ *Vicky Quijas lit a candle in memory of Rita Jean Myatt Radley*



Vicky Quijas - March 20 at 04:55 PM

MD

“ *Our condolences to the family*



Maria Delgado - March 20 at 09:11 AM

AH

“ Alan Heskamp purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Rita Jean Myatt Radley.



Alan Heskamp - March 18 at 08:44 PM

MS

“ Condolences to Mrs Radly's family. She was one of the nicest people I have ever met.



Martin Strarup - March 18 at 07:14 PM

CH

“ Ooo



Carol and Kin Halamicek - March 17 at 10:30 PM

AM

“ My condolences to the family at this difficult time.



Andrea McCann - March 17 at 06:28 PM

GS

“ *Gayle Shelley lit a candle in memory of Rita Jean Myatt Radley*



Gayle Shelley - March 17 at 03:00 PM

BS

“ *I was Blessed to be able to be a caregiver for Rita, she was very nice to be around and told me very many stories of her life , it was a Joy to know her . To her Family,I'm sorry for your loss. Praying for you all .*

Beverly Stockinger - March 17 at 02:29 PM

GC

“ *Gerri Chandler lit a candle in memory of Rita Jean Myatt Radley*



Gerri Chandler - March 17 at 10:59 AM

JS

“ *Julie Strnadel sent a virtual gift in memory of Rita Jean Myatt Radley*



Julie Strnadel - March 17 at 10:33 AM

AB

“ To the family of Mrs. Radley, I did not have the privilege of knowing her personally; however, reading her story was truly inspiring. She leaves behind a beautiful testimony of a life devoted to Jesus Christ. In her generosity, love, and charitable service, both in government and within the community. Her legacy is a powerful one, and she has certainly set an example that will continue to guide and inspire others. May God hold her gently in His arms, may the perpetual light shine upon her, and may she rest in peace. Augie & Terri Beltran



Augie & Terri Beltran - March 17 at 10:00 AM

LS

“ Leslie Schroder lit a candle in memory of Rita Jean Myatt Radley



Leslie Schroder - March 17 at 09:57 AM

KH

“ Kathy & Larry Hlavaty lit a candle in memory of Rita Jean Myatt Radley



Kathy & Larry Hlavaty - March 17 at 03:50 AM

SS

“ *Sandra Stary lit a candle in memory of Rita Jean Myatt Radley*



Sandra Stary - March 16 at 10:55 PM

PD

“ *Pat Dybala lit a candle in memory of Rita Jean Myatt Radley*



Pat Dybala - March 16 at 10:02 PM

AR

“ *Anita Roye lit a candle in memory of Rita Jean Myatt Radley*



Anita Roye - March 16 at 09:39 PM

LS

“ *Liz Staff lit a candle in memory of Rita Jean Myatt Radley*



Liz Staff - March 16 at 07:50 PM

KT

“ *Kenneth Trochta lit a candle in memory of
Rita Jean Myatt Radley*



Kenneth Trochta - March 16 at 06:33 PM