



## Mrs. Clara Pauline "Polly" Benton

May 29, 1921 - December 15, 2022

Clara Pauline (Polly) Benton, 101, of West Union, SC, passed away on Thursday, December 15, 2022, at Cottingham Hospice House. Polly was blessed with a long life shared with a loving family and many friends. She loved telling stories of her wonderful and interesting life.

Polly was born in Dayton, Ohio on May 29, 1921. She was the only child of Master Sergeant Wiley Brown and Stella Ferguson Brown. She is survived by her three children: Wylie Lipchik and husband Joseph of West Union, SC, Peggy Kennedy of Springfield, OH, and Christopher Benton and his wife, Kathy, of Red Lodge, MT. She also has surviving grandchildren: William Silver, Karina Silver, Abbey Yancy, Alicia Lowe, Kelsea Jacobs, and Hannah Benton. She is also survived by ten great-grandchildren: Clark Silver, Christian Silver, Jade Silver, Peyton Silver, Shawn Kennedy, Xavier Lowe, Shala Lowe, Marcus Lowe, Rhett Jacobs, and Piper Jacobs; and six great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a grandson: Patrick Kennedy.

Polly worked for Wright Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) in Dayton, OH for almost 30 years as a professional stenographer and even flew on planes to take dictation for a couple of the astronauts. She worked on the first space shuttle as well, and personally knew Neil Armstrong and John Glenn. She was in the hometown parade in Wapakoneta, OH, celebrating Neil Armstrong's first walk on the moon. Polly was also proud to know the country western

stars, Little Big Town. She lived in Hardy, AR for many years where Phillip grew up and knew him personally. She was proud to be invited backstage at their concert in Greenville, SC and had her picture taken with them when she was 98 years old!!!

Polly and Herman Benton met at Ft. Thomas Army Base, Ft. Thomas, KY, and were married in 1941 until he passed in 2003 at the age of 86. She was supportive throughout the marriage with his work at WPAFB as a government contracting inspector, and New Carlisle, OH Masons, Lion's Club, and various bowling leagues where he taught bowling, and his many other endeavors.

After they both retired from WPAFB, they moved to Hardy, AR where they had a successful second career selling antiques at their own Mr. Christopher Shop. They moved to South Carolina in 2002. They loved travel, playing solitaire, rummy, and crossword puzzles.

Polly was adventurous, an example was chasing poisonous snakes with a lawn mower and a shovel!

All her children and grandchildren appreciated her strong, tenacious opinions! Quite a legacy! Her granddaughter, Karina Silver, helped care for her for the last four and a half years of her life and Polly was so proud and grateful to her. They really enjoyed each other's company!! Lots of laughter!

She had a wonderful, full life enjoying exercising at Curves, playing golf, bowling, and driving her yellow Volkswagen Bug with the long eyelashes until 96 years old. Polly was known for her ornery sense of humor, which will be missed by family and friends. God Bless you, Mom and dear friend! Your children were always so proud of you and Dad.

Polly and Herman will be buried in New Carlisle Cemetery, New Carlisle, OH, along with their son-in-law: Dale Kennedy; and grandson: Patrick Kennedy, at

a later date, to be announced.

The family requests that memorials be made to Agape Hospice, 145 Thomas Green Blvd., Suite 209, Clemson, SC 29631

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Clara Pauline "Polly" Benton*

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January 28, 2023 at 01:03 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this sad time.*



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**Patricia Holcombe** - December 19, 2022 at 11:08 PM



“ *Thank you for reminding me to enjoy the sunshine and blue skies. I will remember you always greeting me on the porch sitting in the sunshine and smiling. You are now in never ending sunshine, and I look forward to seeing you again one day.*

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**Mary Beth** - December 18, 2022 at 07:59 PM

JC

“ Dear Benton family, I do not know you, but I saw Miss Clara's picture with the eye lashes on her car and I just had to read about her. She moved into the area long after I had moved away, but I am so sorry that I never ran into her when I visited my father.

Your notice was so personal and I even chuckled out loud wishing I had been able to experience her winning personality for myself. I am so sorry for your loss and yet, she sounds like a woman who met life head on and I don't believe that she had regrets other than she had to leave her family for a while.

Being 81 myself, it may sound far out to say, when I grow up, I want to be like Miss Clara. I know she has brighten up the days of heaven for sure. What a lovely, real, personal, heartfelt obituary. It certainly touched my heart.

Joanie Miller Clute  
Charleston, SC

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Joan Miller Clute - December 17, 2022 at 11:37 AM

MD

“ Miss Polly, as we called her, was, in a few words, a real hoot. She always had a story to tell and it was always a funny one. We both drove a yellow Volkswagen Beetle and just lived one house away. I remember when I sold the VW for a larger vehicle that would accommodate 4 people comfortably, she looked me straight in the eye and asked me why I would do something like that because with the new car I wouldn't know where everything was on the dashboard! I remember thinking to myself what a silly thing to say. Well till this day I still don't know where my windshield wipers are!! My husband Mo and I will miss her quick wit and beautiful smile.  
R.I.P. Miss Polly. Fondly, Mo and Mary Ann Draper

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Mary Ann Draper - December 17, 2022 at 10:11 AM

MJ

“ I met miss Polly last year while working at Belvedere Common's she had the sweetest smile and told me about her military days.As I cared for her over this past year I looked forward to seeing her she had a beautiful heart. It was an honor to care for her RIP miss Polly you will be missed. ♡

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**Maria Jones** - December 16, 2022 at 10:17 PM

TS

“ Teresa Sills lit a candle in memory of Clara Benton



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**Teresa Sills** - December 16, 2022 at 06:09 PM