



## Betty E. Winland

August 26, 1931 - June 1, 2017

Betty E. Winland, 85, of Mentor, passed away June 1, 2017, at her home. She was born August 26, 1931, in Laing, West Virginia.

Betty was above all, a loving homemaker to her husband of 58 years and her four children. Betty was a coal miner's daughter, who lived through the Great Depression. As a girl, she loved playing with friends, reading, and collecting pictures. She graduated from East Bank High with aspirations of becoming a nurse. Soon after graduation, she began working at a hat shop in Charleston, West Virginia, and then began working in the men's department at J.C. Penney. She was heavily pursued by her future husband at the local drug store soda fountain until she finally agreed to a date.

Jake and Betty were married in 1953 and immediately moved to Cleveland, Ohio. They wasted no time building a loving family, having Sonny nine months and one day after being married. John was then born three and a half years later. During the earlier years of marriage, Betty and Jake endured many lean times living in apartments in Cleveland, but they also met lifelong friends, Doris and Lothar Alley, during this era. Betty would often tell stories of how she and Doris would discuss what ingredients each had so that they could prepare a joint meal to share.

After eight years of apartment living, Betty and Jake decided to buy a house,

and in 1960, they purchased the newly built Mentor home in which they spent their entire lives. She also instilled the value of good money management in her children by often telling the story of how Jake was laid off for almost a year immediately following the purchase of their home. However, with frugal living and Jake's apple-picking side jobs, the couple survived and kept their home.

Betty and Jake settled nicely into their home and added daughters Tracey and Susan. With their family complete, their home surroundings became ideal with the building of an elementary school and ball diamond immediately outside their backyard. Betty enjoyed sitting at the kitchen table and watching all of her children play on the playground or ball diamond throughout the years.

Betty's world focused on raising her four children in a loving and happy home. She supported her children's interests, whether they be sports, music, or fishing related. Indeed, Betty and Jake were their children's biggest fans, especially when it came to baseball and softball. Although she never played, Betty developed a keen interest in the sport and knew it better than most fans. In later years, she and Jake were fixtures in their lawn chairs and ball caps at every one of Tracey and Sue's games, travelling all over Ohio and out of state to every single game. Having your parents be your biggest fan is something you will never forget. It is also a lesson that Betty's children have passed onto their children, loving and supporting them in all endeavors.

Betty's four children soon began producing children of their own, and she was blessed with a steady influx of eight grandchildren over the years, followed by four great-grandchildren. Betty enjoyed telling others about her large family and how proud she was of each of them. In addition, she lovingly displayed each of their photos in her "Hallway of Fame."

In later years, Betty also fancied visiting the casinos, especially enjoying her yearly trips to Las Vegas with Tracey. Furthermore, Betty was an avid Indians

fan and is still patiently waiting for the next World Series victory. Exceptional neighbors, John and Dei, kindly befriended Betty and looked out for her. Betty also was blessed with very uplifting visits in her last weeks of life from West Virginia family, Neil and Karen Bright, and Cindy and Jo Bright.

Whether known as Betty, mom, mother, grandma, great-grandma, or friend, Betty was a woman who loved her family and God above all else. She will be greatly missed, but her legacy will live on through the unconditional love and kindness she exhibited to everyone.

Survivors are her children, John (Kathy) Winland, Tracey (David) Cooper and Sue (Bart) Steigerwald; grandchildren, Shannon, Shelly, Joe, Karen, Kelly, Jessica, Sarah and Wil; and great grandchildren, Ethan, Noah, Sara and Kaden.

Betty was preceded in death by her husband, Harland "Jake" Winland Sr.; son, Harland "Sonny" Winland Jr.; her parents, Acie and Minnie Bright; and her brothers, Teddy and Acie Gene.

At Betty's request private family services were held.

In memory of Betty, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of the Western Reserve, 17876 St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland 44110-2602, donate online at [www.hospicewr.org](http://www.hospicewr.org).

Arrangements are entrusted to the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060. Please offer condolences at [www.brunners.com](http://www.brunners.com)

# Tribute Wall

JW

“ *Mother, we never were a hug/kiss oriented family, but we were there for each other through small battles and large ones. We argued, held to our convictions, but cared about each deeply and still do. You just fought the hardest battle of your life knowing you couldn't win it, and showed what true courage and faith is. I told you a couple of nights before you passed that I loved you, I only wished we could have both done that far more while we were both able to enjoy it. I will make sure to learn a lesson from this and do it far more with the people around me today. I think about you, Dad and Sonny everyday and know that at least all three of you are in a better place and not in pain anymore.*

*Love ya!*

*John*

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**John Winland** - October 18, 2017 at 03:36 PM

LS

“ *Here's to the red hot sevens in the sky. Hope you hit the big one up there. May you find all of my friends in the Heavenly Casino and I will always remember the fun times and your funny demeanor. I always enjoyed being around you. My deepest condolences to the family as I know they will dearly miss you; however, you left many lasting memories for them to hold dear in their hearts.*

*Liz Sartain*

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**Liz Sartain** - June 06, 2017 at 04:48 PM

BE

“ *Thank you Betty, for 57 years of friendship.....  
Always in spirit, your friend,  
Betty Eslinger*

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**Betty Eslinger** - June 06, 2017 at 11:43 AM