



## Lillian Ann Rice Harper

January 27, 1922 - April 12, 2024

Lillian Ann Rice Harper, 102, passed from this life on Friday, April 12, 2024 in Abilene.

She was born in Temple on January 27, 1922, the oldest of 7 children born to Emil Simek and Frances Pechal Simek.

Visitation will be held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, April 18, 2024, prior to the funeral service at 10:30 a.m., at Winters Funeral Home with Manuel Arellano of Midland officiating. Burial will follow at Lakeview Cemetery.

She married Raymond Rice on November 20, 1939. They later moved to the Winters and Wingate area, where they raised their 5 children. He preceded her in death in 1957.

She married Jeff Harper on July 22, 1963 and moved to Midland, where she resided for the next 53 years. In 1971, she became a charter member of the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW #7208 in Midland, where she held various offices, one of which was treasurer for 40 years.

She loved spending time with her family. Friends and family loved to partake of her home cooked meals where everyone was always welcome. She was also a talented and skilled seamstress.

She was a longtime member of Bellview Baptist Church in Midland.

She moved to Abilene in 2016, where she resided until her passing.

Ann leaves behind a legacy of wisdom, hard work ethic, family unity, creativity, and patriotism. She will be greatly missed.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husbands, granddaughter Lori

Ogle, grandson Michael Jacobs, daughter-in-law Lucille Rice, son-in-law Bill Jacobs, brother Alvin Simek and sisters Loraine Garden and Geraldine Henry. Her survivors are sons: Gene Rice and wife Bonnie of Abilene and James Rice and wife Martha of Midland; daughters: Sara Jacobs of Midland, Carolyn Ogle and husband Gary of The Woodlands, and Doris Wilkerson and husband Rodger of Clyde; as well as 10 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and 17 great-great-grandchildren; brother Albert Simek; sisters: Marjorie Harper and Corrine Dykowski; and several nieces and nephews.

The family wishes to thank the doctors and staff of Wisteria Place and Hendrick Hospice for their loving care.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **18**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Winters Funeral Home  
120 State Street  
Winters, TX 79567