



## Elizabeth Tullis

August 22, 1943 - January 9, 2019

In peace I will lie down and sleep, for You alone, LORD, make me dwell in safety. Psalm 4:8

Beloved cousin, teacher, friend, and sister-in-Christ, Beth Tullis is now dwelling in safety in her Heavenly home following a determined fight against ALS. She passed on January 9th at her Fort Payne home.

Beth was born in Gadsden, AL, to Ida Thurman Tullis and Ray Tullis, grew up in the Pine Ridge community, graduated Fort Payne High School as Valedictorian in 1961, and completed her B.A. degree in 1965 at Jacksonville State in secondary education with English and sociology majors. Her career as an English teacher was in Plainview, Sylvania, and Geraldine high schools.

In 1970 she received a school librarianship degree from the University of Alabama and returned to Plainview High School as the librarian. While there, she organized the Devotional Club for students. Many PHS alumni lovingly recall her guiding their reading choices with book recommendations and her positive influence as a Christian public school teacher.

Her Ph.D. in education was completed in 1978 with a major in supervision and curriculum development with minors in librarianship, supervision, administration, and secondary education. From 1978-1985, Beth continued post-doctoral studies with the University of Alabama. She received coveted recognition as a Denny Scholar.

Her career in administration began with the DeKalb County School System with supervision of the Title I program and coordination of staff development for the system. During this time she also served as an adjunct assistant professor for the University of Alabama Center in Gadsden.

In 1982 she began work with the Marshall County School System as Special Education

Coordinator before assuming a similar position with DeKalb County in 1985, which she held until retirement in 1994.

More important than these career achievements was her lifelong pursuit of being transformed into the image of Jesus Christ and reflecting His righteousness and spirit of generosity to a host of friends, family, neighbors, students, co-workers, and church family. True to character, Beth regularly presented carefully chosen gifts, books, notes of encouragement, and gift cards tailored to the recipient and meant for encouragement, spiritual development, financial help, or tokens of gratitude. Her heart's affections also included many cats, dogs, and the University of Alabama.

Beth's father Ray died when she was 22, and Beth continued as a devoted daughter who ensured that her mother never lacked anything for the 37 years until Ida's death in 2003. They both joined Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA, Fort Payne) in the early 1990s. There, Beth served as a teacher; a leader in Women in the Church, most recently as President; and a long-term member of the Missions Committee.

Survivors include many cousins from both sides of her family. Special acknowledgement goes to devoted caregivers Sibie Bryant, Melissa Kerley, Carla Potter, and Ashley Tipton as well as AlaCare hospice nurses.

The funeral service will be at 11:00 Saturday, January 12, at Grace Presbyterian Church, 5760 Gault Ave. NW, Fort Payne, with a reception following at the church. Officiating will be Rev. John Mathieu with eulogies by Rev. Spencer Traffansted and Dr. Bill King.

# Cemetery

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**Glenwood Cemetery**  
1002 Grand Avenue SW  
Fort Payne, AL, 35967

# Events

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|            |  |                |
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| <b>JAN</b> | <b>Funeral Service</b>                           | <b>11:00AM</b> |
| <b>12</b>  | <hr/>  |                |
|            | Grace Presbyterian Church                        |                |
|            | 5760 Gault Ave N, Fort Payne, AL, US, 35967-8174 |                |

# Comments

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“ Beth, thank you for teaching us what true meaning of kindness is. We have enjoyed the time we got to spend with you since our move to Alabama in 2005. We will miss you dearly.

**Mayumi and Hiroko Morimoto** - January 13 at 02:18 PM

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“ She will be greatly missed as a neighbor and friend.

Ken and Christy Vaughn

**Kenneth R Vaughn** - January 12 at 10:22 AM

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“ GOD places special people in our path thru life which leaves a lasting impact. For me, Beth was that person when I was completing graduate work at UA. From the first class, she wasn't just my teacher, she became my friend. I would meet her in Ft. Payne and ride with her to the Gadsden Center of Off-Campus Classes for Alabama. Her compassion for others was Heaven sent. Thank you to the family and staff who cared for Beth during her time of need.

Love & Prayers,  
Judy Pike



**Judy Pike** - January 12 at 08:18 AM

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“ Such a wonderful, caring woman. Blessed to have had her as a cousin. Pam Patton

**pam** - January 11 at 07:40 PM

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“ She touched a lot of lives through the Devotional Club at Plainview and also as librarian...only eternity will tell the impact she had for the Kingdom of God through those years of prayer, nurture and encouragement--Lynn Traylor



“ Beth Tullis was a wonderful woman who cared deeply for her friends and students. I remember her guidance when I was involved in the Devotional Club and her encouragement then, and in the years since (That’s a lot of years! I graduated in 1981.) I’m grateful for Beth’s steadfast witness to Jesus Christ and the way her prayerfulness shaped my own faith and ministry.

**Gregory C. Faulkner** - January 11 at 01:28 PM

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“ Beth was a sweet classmate of mine. She was so important to keeping us together and we will miss her. I had no idea how sick she was. Recently I sent her a message and didn’t get a reply, although I was surprised, I didn’t follow up. Beth was a blessing to many and I am so thankful I could call her, friend.

**brenda elmore** - January 11 at 10:10 AM

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“ I remember her being with us when we had the devotional club while I was in school. She had a lot to do with my walk with Christ. I still keep the small Bible she gave me at graduation in my toolbox at work. Great memories of her.

**Jeff Flarity** - January 11 at 09:43 AM

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“ She was such a smart, dear girl in my English class my first year of teaching. I will never forget her and have enjoyed having the facebook time to get to know her in the last few years. So proud of all she accomplished in her lifetime.

**Sarah Johnson** - January 10 at 05:47 PM

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“ Dr. Beth Tullis was truly an angel on earth. She was my first SPE Coordinator when I began my teaching career 33 years ago. As a beginning teacher I am sure I made many mistakes, but Dr. Tullis never once made me feel that I wasn’t THE Best. If I ever told her I needed something for my students, she always would tell me to get whatever they needed. She truly loved children and wanted every child to feel loved. She just had a way of encouraging me and making everyone she worked with love her. I am so thankful that God allowed me the honor and privilege of calling her Boss, but most importantly, Friend. I loved her dearly. Jill B

