



## Billie Vadine Kissinger

December 9, 1945 - September 11, 2016

Billie Vadine Goforth Kissinger was received into the arms of her Lord and Savior on September 11, 2016, after fighting a courageous battle with cancer. Billie was born to Bill and Vada Goforth on December 9, 1945 in Lancaster, Texas, where she and her brother Ramon Earl Goforth grew up. She was a member of the Lancaster Drill Team graduating from Lancaster High School in 1964. Upon her graduation, Billie went to Baylor University to earn a B.S. degree in Elementary Education in 1968. There she developed her lifelong love of the Baylor Bears. She was immediately hired as an elementary teacher and began her career in Dallas area public schools. While teaching full time, she returned to school earning her Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling from North Texas State University in 1972. After receiving her M.Ed. in Counseling, Billie spent the 1972-1973 school year as a school counselor at Misawa AFB, Misawa, Japan. It was from her classroom at Dan D. Rogers in 1986 that she was recruited by University Park Elementary principal Charles Cole to develop an elementary counseling program for the Highland Park ISD. At first, she served as counselor for both University Park and Bradfield elementary schools. Her pioneering work in elementary counseling would eventually lead to a full time counselor being assigned to each of the district's elementary schools. Later, Billie assumed the full time counseling position at University Park Elementary. On HPISD's counseling team, Billie was instrumental in establishing a comprehensive guidance program that incorporated many innovative

strategies designed to serve young children, strengthen their families, and foster life-long relationships. She took great pride in her professional work through continuous learning and leadership in both the North Texas Counseling Association and the Texas Counseling Association. She retired from University Park in HPISD in May, 2014 celebrating a legendary 46 years as Texas Educator and Licensed Professional Counselor. For her 28 years of exceptional work at UP, she was honored as a lifetime "Pawsitive Panther" by the many children, families, and colleagues who loved her. Billie's impact over more than four decades literally touched the lives of thousands of people. Billie is survived by a daughter Kathryn Lynn Kissinger of Dallas, Texas, a brother, Ramon Earl Goforth and wife JoAnn of Desoto, Texas, a niece, Nannette Pope of Bryan College Station, Texas, and, a nephew, James Goforth of Desoto, Texas. She is also survived by Kathryn's father Donald Lynn Kissinger and a host of friends who loved her so much and will miss her warmth, wisdom, wit, style, caring heart, listening ear, mentoring, friendship and love for children. Among her favorite roles was honorary grandmother to Mallory and Mary Green, to whom she was and will always be Bibby! May her memories be beautiful and eternal!

Memorial contributions may be made, if desired, to The Kathryn Lynn Kissinger Discretionary Special Needs Trust at 9802 Victorian Court, Dallas, Texas, 75243.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP **20**. 11:00 AM (CT)

The Chapel at First Baptist Church  
305 E. Third Street  
Lancaster, TX 75146

# Tribute Wall

NF

“ Nancy and George Theriot and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Billie Vadine Kissinger.



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**Nancy and George Theriot and family** - September 19, 2016 at 10:38 AM

TR

“ Billie was a good friend of my sister, Cindy. She lived with my sister when Cindy passed away. So sorry to hear of Billie's passing. Peace and comfort to the family.

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**Trudy Taff Riquemire** - September 18, 2016 at 07:37 PM

LM

“ Love, Darlene, Scott and Austin Murrell purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Billie Vadine Kissinger.



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**Love, Darlene, Scott and Austin Murrell** - September 17, 2016 at 11:18 PM

JW

“ Billie was the first friend I made when we moved to Lancaster. We met at the roller rink. We remained close and had many conversations about Baylor. Peace of Christ be with us as we celebrate her life. Sorry I can't be at the service.

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**Judy Williams** - September 16, 2016 at 03:02 AM



“ *Divine Light was purchased for the family of Billie Vadine Kissinger.*



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September 15, 2016 at 11:38 PM



“ *I am so heartbroken to hear of such a wonderful person as Billie passing. She was an amazing person. I truly enjoyed working with her at UP. She cared for the students and staff so much. Billie's friends and family are in my prayers.*  
*Phyllis Provan*

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**Phyllis Provan** - September 14, 2016 at 02:11 PM



“ *I was just one of her students that was privileged to have her as my 4th grade teacher. She was just starting her journey. I will miss you Ms. Goforth. Edye Cummins McQueen*



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**Edye Cummins McQueen** - September 12, 2016 at 11:39 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Billie Vadine Kissinger.*



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September 12, 2016 at 08:25 PM

PC

“ We will never forget Billie's time spent with friends traveling, sharing silly Christmas gifts and game nights!

Pat Cole - September 12, 2016 at 07:29 PM

DL

“ Diane Mayo, Jason Mayo and John Lewis purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Billie Vadine Kissinger.



Diane Mayo, Jason Mayo and John Lewis - September 12, 2016 at 02:06 PM

CC

“ So sorry for this loss. I remember Billie from 1st Baptist Church Lancaster; her mom & mine were friends.

Caril Atkinson Clarke - September 12, 2016 at 01:54 PM

JW

My strong, sweet friend and co-worker. You will be greatly missed.

Jane Ayers Walter - September 12, 2016 at 03:46 PM

TT

So sorry to hear of Billie's passing. She and my late sister Cindy were the best of friends, so I've known her for a long time.

Tim Taff - September 12, 2016 at 09:41 PM

AH

Billie was so good to me. She was a dear friend. She loved my children and looked out for them. Billie was kind, friendly, funny, smart, stylish and the best person to have in your corner. My heart goes out to all who loved her and will miss her. May she rest in peace. Much love.

Anne Hatch - September 12, 2016 at 09:48 PM

LH

*I ENJOYED KNOWING BILLIE AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AND LOVED HER AND THE ENTIRE GOFORTH FAMILY. SO VERY SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS AND PRAYING FOR THE FAMILY THAT THE LORD WILL BE VERY NEAR TO YOU.  
LOVE, LOIS HOLMES*

**LOIS HOLMES** - September 13, 2016 at 06:45 PM

GH

*Billie left an imprint on the lives of thousands of families and colleagues in HPISD. What a wonderful legacy!*

**Gail Hartin** - September 15, 2016 at 09:03 PM

EA

*Billie touched so many lives in such a positive way. It was a privilege to work with her at U.P. May her family be comforted by God's grace, mercy, love and provision.*

**Elenora Asbury** - September 17, 2016 at 03:05 PM

GM

*Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, Love leaves a memory no one can steal. (Irish verse) Grawnea McGrail*

**Grawnea McGrail** - September 20, 2016 at 01:20 PM