



## Vida Bess Byrd

May 19, 1938 - April 26, 2026

Vida Bess Byrd went to be with our Lord and Savior on April 26, 2026. We take great comfort knowing that she passed peacefully, in her sleep.

Vida was born on May 19, 1938, to William O. “Bud” Brown and Frankie Belle Brown in Kilgore, TX. Her family moved to Abbeville, LA when Vida was five. She remained there until she graduated from high school as valedictorian of her class in 1956. While in high school, Vida was the drum major of the band, as well as her church’s pianist. She was an accomplished dancer and baton twirler. She considered becoming a concert pianist, as she was sought after to do so, but she decided that she didn’t want to live a life on the road.

Vida attended Baylor University where she majored in music and religion. Whilst there, she met the man who would become her husband of 64 years. She married Joe Larry Byrd in 1959 and began her life of adventure as an Air Force wife, moving around the country at least 12 times during his career (living her life on the road!) She was active in every church they joined in all of those moves. Vida taught Sunday school to every age range from teenagers to senior citizens. She was also the church pianist at multiple churches. Vida and Larry settled in Corsicana, TX in 1991 after Larry retired. She was able to spend many years with her mother and stepfather, both of whom she adored. Vida and Larry were active members of the First Baptist Church of Corsicana. She taught Sunday School and multiple bible studies until her

health no longer permitted it.

Vida's proudest accomplishments were her two children, whom she loved with every ounce of her being. She considered becoming a Precept Ministries Bible Study teacher as her next greatest accomplishment. Ladies in the area still talk about her bible studies – her biblical knowledge and ability to teach.

Vida was preceded in death by her father, mother, stepfather, and husband. She is survived by her son David Byrd (Marie) of Leavenworth, KS, daughter Laura MacGregor (Douglas) of Corsicana, TX, three grandchildren Katy Byrd, Mark Byrd (Helen) and MacKenna MacGregor and great-grandchild, Malcolm Byrd.

Visitation with the family will be held on Monday, May 4, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home. A funeral service will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home with Dr. Danny Reeves officiating. Burial will follow at DFW National Cemetery at a later date.

# Cemetery Details

## Dallas / Fort Worth National Cemetery

2000 Mountain Creek Parkway  
Dallas, TX 75211  
(214) 467-3374  
<http://dallasfortworthcemetery.com>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 4.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Corsicana  
1530 N. 45th Street  
Corsicana, TX 75110  
(903) 874-4774  
[info@griffin-roughton.com](mailto:info@griffin-roughton.com)

## Funeral Service

**MAY 5.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Corsicana  
1530 N. 45th Street  
Corsicana, TX 75110  
(903) 874-4774  
[info@griffin-roughton.com](mailto:info@griffin-roughton.com)

## Burial

MAY 15. 10:00 AM (CT)

Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery  
2000 Mountain Creek Pkwy  
Dallas, TX 75211  
(214) 467-3374

# Tribute Wall



“*Vida and I shared a very special bond from the first time we met when I attended a Bible Study she was teaching. We prayed, laughed and cried together! In 2000, we went to Israel with Kay Arthur Ministries. This was an incredible time of learning and bonding. "Holy Ground" became a special song for us. The song was so special that she and Lou sang it when James and I married. For years, we experienced special times on our birthdays. We could call each other day or night and always receive a wise response, prayer and/or just listen. I will miss our times together...even just taking crackers to feed the ducks at lake.*

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**Marilyn Schmidt** - May 04 at 06:32 PM



“*Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vida Bess Byrd.*



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May 01 at 06:19 AM



“*A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Vida Bess Byrd.*

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May 01 at 06:19 AM

PR

“ *Vida was the sweetest lady. Loved our friendship. She is happily reunited with the love of her life and others. Praying for comfort for her family.* ”

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**Pam Richards** - April 30 at 10:14 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vida Bess Byrd.* ”



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April 29 at 03:45 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Vida Bess Byrd.* ”

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April 29 at 03:45 PM