



## Essie Henry

March 11, 1928 - August 4, 2019

In Celebration and Memory of the Life of Essie Henry A wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, great-great grandmother, sister, aunt and friend to many. Her sisters and brothers called her “Doll Baby”. Today, we honor Essie Henry and her life with love. Essie was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, and came to California when she was a young child. Essie was 91 years old and married to Hosea Henry, Jr. for 57 years. From this marriage, a “blended family” with 7 children united as one—Mary Carr (Roger), Tommie Partee, Leroy Partee (Gloria), Ellen Hill (Donald), Charles Thompson (Vonda), Rhonda Hosey (Anthony) and Keith Henry (who preceded her in death). She was also loved by her 15 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild, 4 sisters, 3 brothers and a host of nieces and nephews. In her earlier years, Essie loved to entertain others with an abundance of food, dance and just plain “ole” good fun. Her smile would light up a room, and her growl face would make you run for cover. Underneath it all, she was just being Essie and Mom. Where she lived, some of the neighbors dubbed her as “The Mayor” of Edgemont Way, as she “ran” the block. She was also known for her beautiful clothes which included, hats, furs, jewelry, matching shoes along with other ensembles. She loved participating in fashion shows for her Happy Wanderers motorhome club which included dressing up on Halloween and Christmas holidays. Boating and camping were another favorite past time, as she and Hosea went to great lengths to expose the kids, family and their friends to these activities. At times, there would be almost 50 family and friends camping and boating within their group. Yes, she even tried water skiing! I know, just shake your head! Additionally, she always cooked more than needed in order to share with others at the campsite. Oh, she adored all of you in the “Happy Wanderers RV Club”, and she shared the greatest memories and fun that she experienced. Representing one of her favorite campsites at Allensworth, Tulare, California, she would participate as a mascot, dressing up in western attire including a bonnet, waving to all who entered. A devoted motorhome enthusiast, “RV girl” is on her Jeep license plate and “4 Essie” is on their Country Coach motorhome. She loved driving her motorhome, even when she would damage a mirror, etc., she would call a dealer on the road to have the part ready, at their next stop! One day, she even painted the curbs on the street red where it was stored in order to maneuver it out easily onto the street without cars in the way. We always

wondered if she would get arrested one day. – That was Essie. Fishing, there wasn't a fish that she couldn't catch. Once she caught a leopard shark over 6 ft. long. She would stay up all night fishing from her boat and if others wanted to join her for the all-night experience, she welcomed them to tie up alongside of her. On occasion, it was nothing for her to swing a hammer and assist with construction or remodel of their rental properties. She worked diligently alongside her sons and Hosea for many years. She was a faithful member of Progressive Missionary Baptist Church, located in Berkeley, CA, for 42 years. During her illness, she received a call, a sort of offer you can't refuse, for an appointment from which she will not be returning. This call came requesting a re-union with family and friends that she has not seen in a long time. We love you Essie and Mom! Although we were not ready for you to leave us, we will meet again, joyfully on the other side and we know that you will be waiting with open arms for us all. Acknowledgement The family of Essie Henry wish to say...perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers, we saw sitting on the coffee table and food tray. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all and just thought of us on a particular day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much for whatever your part was.

# Comments

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“ Written by: Renata Williams/Happy Wanderers RV Club??????On behalf of the Happy Wanderers RV Club — In Loving Memory of Ms. Essie. We're gonna miss the ROCK of our club, the QUEEN of our club, our very own, Ms. Essie. She was a Phenomenal woman, who left a huge impact on all of us; she was SO inspirational! We will forever be grateful to have been a special part of her life. We thank Ms. Essie from the bottom of our hearts for her dedication, her loyalty, and all that she gave and all that she represented for our RV club. It was so AWESOME to see this beautiful woman drive her own 40 foot motor home to our club camp outs. She was the brightest light in our club and the sharpest dresser. Such a classy, classy woman, with an infectious smile — Rv'ing was the love of her life, and we all LOVED our Ms. Essie — We're gonna miss you our dear friend; we will NEVER forget you! ???????? May God Rest her soul.

**Renata Williams/Happy Wanderers RV Club** - August 13, 2019 at 02:13 PM

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“ What a Wonderful Life. Leroy, Mary Louise, Bob, Ellen and Charles, I pray that you find comfort in your mother's longevity, the life she led and your memories. May God comfort you all. Love, Donald and Debbie

**Donald and Debbie Thompson** - August 12, 2019 at 08:26 PM

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“ Ellen and Big Don, you are in my thoughts and prayers. Love you!!!! Malinda

**Malinda Swoope** - August 12, 2019 at 04:20 PM

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“ What a wonderful life. We pray that God continue to shower his love and blessings upon the family.

**James and Gwen Davis** - August 10, 2019 at 06:54 PM

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“ Ms. Essie May is what I called her. She was my very dear friend. I will miss her so much. I have so many loving and fun memories stored in my ?? heart. She was funny, kind, caring, giving and straight forward (lol).. One of her favorite sayings was: “That’s what I’m talking about”. I loved to hear those words from her and we would just laugh and laugh. Ms. Essie May love to shop and was a very classy lady. She would flash that beautiful smile on you and just melt your heart. She loved my little dog Scooby and he loved her. She would walk him sometime at our campouts. Gonna miss you my dear friend, but I will see you again.??Rosalind

**Thomas and Rosalind Williams** - August 10, 2019 at 04:00 PM