

Barbara Jeanne Rowland passed away on Sunday, March 3, 2024. She recently celebrated her 100th birthday and there was a big celebration with her family. She was so smart and funny and will be dearly missed by her family and friends.

Barbara was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma to Tom and Cathrene (McCollister) Beaver. Barbara's grandfather participated in the Oklahoma Land Run of 1889. He and his uncle later owned a butcher shop in the center of downtown Oklahoma City. After Barbara's father died when she was very young her mother married Ray Norris in 1937.

Barbara attended Colorado College in Colorado Springs where she often spent summers with her mother. She earned a BS in Mathematics and moved back to Oklahoma City after graduating. She met Richard (Dick) Rowland at Sunday School and they married in 1949. They eventually found themselves back in Colorado Springs where they raised their three daughters.

Barbara worked many places throughout her life – including 23 years at First Presbyterian Church in Colorado Springs as a minister's secretary. Barbara was loved by the members and her coworkers for her kindness and her love for our Lord. After she retired, Barbara and Dick moved to Bullard in East Texas.

Barbara volunteered with Child Evangelism Fellowship in Tyler, Texas and was Assistant Treasurer of the Friends of the Bullard Community Library. She remained a member of First Presbyterian Church in Colorado Springs and attended Bethel Bible Church in Tyler.

Wherever she lived Barbara enjoyed gardening, birdwatching, cheering for the underdogs at sporting events, spending time with her family, and getting to travel with her Aunt Peggy. Her love of baseball was shared with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Barbara is survived by her daughters Ruth (Ken) Shaw of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Kathy (Bruce) Rollins of Bullard, TX; and Janice (Dave) Burch of Casper, Wyoming. Her grandchildren are Rev. Kenny (Sarah) Shaw; Virginia (Matt) Rollins Alexander; Danny (Hannah) Shaw; Connie (Jon) Burch Schroder; and Adrian Shaw. Her great-grandchildren are Madeleine, Henry, Eliana, Liam, Violette, Oliver and Alice.

There is also a fund for the Get Set preschool program at First Presbyterian Church in Barbara's memory.