



Opal Louise Butts

March 3, 1929 - December 20, 2025

Opal Lousie Butts (Johnson/Purcella) passed away on December 20, 2025. She was a resident at Sunset Villa and a previous resident of Peachtree Retirement Village in Roswell. The family would like to thank all the staff at Sunset Villa for making Opal comfortable and for the care they provided for her. We would also like to thank the staff at Peachtree for assisting Opal during her eight years there. Both places provided excellent care.

Opal Butts was born on March 3, 1929, in Roswell, NM, to Miller and Elza Johnson. Opal was raised by Frank and Edna Purcella at Tinnie, NM. The Johnsons were struggling pig farmers in Roswell. Frank and Edna stopped by to visit Miller and Elza, Frank's niece, when they noticed that Opal was very sick. Doctors were hard to come by at that time. Edna asked if she could take Opal home with her and keep her until she was well. Frank and Edna raised Opal on their sheep ranch in Tinnie. Opal attended school in Tinnie and Hondo, NM.

Opal met George Butts when he was traveling through the Hondo valley after being discharged from the Navy. George and Opal were married on December 24, 1947, in Big Springs, TX. Frank Purcella became ill, and Opal and George returned to live on the ranch in Tinnie, in 1951. George and Opal raised four children in Tinnie.

Opal is preceded in death by husband, George, and sons, Harlan and Dale. Opal is survived by son Frank (Lynette) of Corrales, NM and daughter Janet (Clark) Taylor of Capitan, NM. She is survived by grandchildren, Doug

(Victoria) Butts of Alabama, Jarett Butts of Houston, TX, Clint (Dominique) Taylor of Artesia, NM and Ray (Michelle) Taylor of Lubbock, TX, Sarah Butts and JoLynn (Steve)Kniffin of Corrales, NM and numerous greats.
Opal's burial at Tinnie Cemetery will take place later.

Tribute Wall

AN

“ I worked with Opal at Sunset Villa. She was always so kind to me and I really enjoyed being with her. I am so sorry for your loss.

Anonymous - January 07 at 11:03 PM

RH

“ Opal was my roommate at Sunset Villa, she did not stay in bed waiting for God, she would walk the halls sharing hellos. She maybe couldn't remember me but she said hello like I was an old friend she was feisty and beautiful



Ruth Maria Hoskins - December 25, 2025 at 11:34 PM

CR

“ My condolences to Opal's family. She was married to our grandpa Russ and always treated us like family. I remember going to her house in the mountains and go going climbing with our cousins. She was a wonderful woman and Lord has called her home. Love you Opal - Cissy Ray



Cissy Ray - December 24, 2025 at 07:05 PM