

Velma Louise Hill Tapp

Velma Louise Hill Tapp left our earthly confines to meet her Lord on Friday afternoon, Aug. 16, 2002. She and her music will be greatly missed by all who knew her and heard her play the organ.

The funeral mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, Aug. 20, at 2 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church with the Rev. Kenneth Armstrong, rector, as celebrant assisted by the Rev. Steven Mallory, deacon. Her final burial will be in the Chapel of the Resurrection at Grace Episcopal Church. Arrangements are under the direction of the Trout Funeral Home.

Velma was born on May 31, 1928 in Castle, Okla., to John Lewis and Ada Mae Osburn Hill and was raised in Osage County. She attended Braden school and graduated from Ponca City High School. She studied music at Southwestern College in Winfield, Kan., under the direction of Dr. James H. Strand. Velma L. Hill and John A. Tapp joined in marriage on Oct. 11, 1945. While John served his county overseas, she began her career with Continental Oil Company where she worked for 35 years before retiring.

Her interest in church music began due greatly to the influence of her grandmother who was a church organist. Before becoming a member of Grace Episcopal Church, Velma served as organist with several local churches. At Grace Episcopal, she had blessed the congregation with her music for over 25 years. Besides being the full-time organist, she also was the director of both the adult and youth hand bell choirs. She was a member of the American Guild of Organists and the Ponca City Community Concert Association where she served in numerous capacities.

She is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Larry and Faith



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Tapp of Ponca City; her father, John L. Hill of Ponca City; and a grandson, Scott A. Tapp of Denton, Texas.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John; a son, Jerry Lee; and her mother, Ada Hill, who have anxiously awaited her arrival in heaven.

Casket bearers will be Everette Van Hoesen, Bill Hamilton, Ed Schmauch, Charles Cole, Glenn Cassity, and Cameron Fleming. The honorary casket bearers will be Kenneth Holmes, Bruce Evans, Bill Winterrowd, Kenneth Matheson, Gary Davis, and members of the American Guild of Organists.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to Grace Episcopal Church, 109 N. 13th St., Ponca City, Okla. 74601.

The family will be at 208 N. 12th.

Friends may call at the Trout Funeral Home until noon Tuesday.

paid obituary