



## Betty Harris

February 4, 2015

Heaven just got a little more beautiful with the arrival of Betty Harris on Wednesday, February 4, 2015, after living a wonderful life for 97 years. Betty was a well-loved New Mexico artist, art teacher, community volunteer and dear friend to the luckiest among us.

Art has been a part of Betty's life since childhood. After high school she studied at the Kansas City Art Institute and soon became a top fashion artist, drawing images of live models that were then used as advertisements in newspaper ads. It was no surprise that she would follow in the footsteps of her father, Frank Goodman, who was an artist and art editor of the Kansas City Star newspaper.

Her marriage to Jim Harris in 1944 led to world travels in the Air Force. They retired here in 1968 and soon Betty's oil paintings of New Mexico landscapes and sculptures of Native American Indians became well-known, winning many awards around the country. Her work was featured at the New Mexico Arts and Crafts Festival and the Weems Artfest. There was not an art medium she didn't master. Along with her mother, Helen Goodman, she created one-of-a-kind, hand painted and decorated eggs that are now collectors' items.

At the urging of her friend Jackie Fallis, Betty launched a new career of teaching oil painting, first in Jackie's Arts & Crafts Mart and then in her own home. Her classes continued until just recently, retaining some of her original students after more than 30 years.

As full as Betty's life was, she found a new passion in 1983: serving the

Albuquerque community through the Assistance League of Albuquerque. One of her greatest joys has been using her God-given talents alongside her friends as they make Albuquerque a better place to live. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Assistance League of Albuquerque, P.O. Box 359010, Albuquerque, NM 87176.

Betty is survived by sons, Jamie Harris of Los Lunas, Vaughn Harris and Kym Couture of Salt Lake City, and Bill and Deborah Harris of Albuquerque; grandchildren, David Harris in Utah and Emily Harris in Florida; and cousins, June and Joan Short of Independence, MO, and Bill and Gerry Short of Arlington, TX.

She loved her fellow members at Central United Methodist Church where she worshiped for many years. A closed casket service will be held at her church on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 10:30 a.m., 201 University Blvd. NE.

Private interment will take place at Santa Fe National Cemetery.

Betty's contagious love of life and beauty will certainly be missed. Jesus said, "My Father's house has many rooms." Betty is now redecorating one of them.

FRENCH – Wyoming

7121 Wyoming Blvd. NE

(505) 823-9400

# Previous Events

## Services

FEB 11. 10:30 AM (MT)

Central United Methodist Church  
109 University NE  
Albuquerque, NM

# Tribute Wall

BF

“ My mother Lillian Frances Magness Boline was an artist and best friends with Bette. Jim and Bette, Eldon Boline and Lillian Boline all from Kansas were best friends. I am so very sad to hear that Bette has passed away. I have all her Christmas Ornaments she painted for my mom and dad. This news breaks my heart. She called me her little yellow chicken.

*I will forever miss her.. Barbara Boline Fairchild*

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**Barbara Boline Fairchild** - April 17, 2015 at 04:50 PM

HC

“ *Howard Connick and family*

*Ms. Betty, you will be missed. Thank you for being a my second mom, since I meet you you always showed me and my family so much love and kindness. You will always be in our hearts. Harris family I'm so sorry for your loss, and you will always be in my prayers. Thanks for sharing your (mom), Betty with us.*

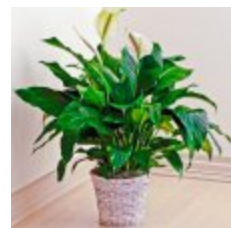


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**Howard Connick** - February 10, 2015 at 08:01 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Betty Harris.*



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February 09, 2015 at 02:41 PM

CC

“ Dear Harris Family....Sorry about your loss. We were neighbors close by and were always inspired by this kind, loving and talented woman. We still have decorations that she made some 20 years ago that still adorn our Christmas tree to this day. May you all be comforted by the wonderful memories you all shared with this beautiful lady. God Bless you all.....Love & Prayers, Charlie and Barbara Chavez

Charlie and Barbara Chavez - February 08, 2015 at 08:13 PM

JS

“ Betty was such a beautiful lady - inside and out. She had such a sweet spirit and it was such a privilege to be able to know her!

Jaime Sparkman - February 06, 2015 at 12:51 PM

JC

“ On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.

Joel Chavez - February 05, 2015 at 12:01 PM

MS

What Bette added to many lives certainly made her life full and beautiful.

Maryann Sokkar;y - February 08, 2015 at 12:42 PM

JB

Abby and I want to express of wonderful memories of Betty. She will be a splendid addition to those in her new life. Do you think she will create her beautiful Christmas tree up there? We wouldn't have known Betty if it hadn't been for Assistance League of Albuquerque. A fabulous addition in our town! Rest peacefully. Jeanne and Abby Botsford.

Jeanne Botsford - February 08, 2015 at 01:16 PM

PF

*What a wonderful friend Bette was and I have such lovely memories -- especially the "hat in the hospital". Her painting of the San Francisco Church in Golden, New Mexico which she gave to me will always be treasured. I miss her and will remember Bette always as a special friend.*

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**Pat Farnsworth** - February 08, 2015 at 04:31 PM