



*Mona Virginia Britton Plunk*

February 17, 1925 - October 1, 2023

A lifelong respected and admired resident of Silsbee, Mona Virginia Britton Plunk, passed away on Sunday, October 1, 2023, at the age of 98, in Elgin, Texas. Mrs. Plunk was the daughter of Necy and W.C. Britton. She was born on February 17, 1925, in the original family home on Fourth Street. In many ways, Mrs. Plunk became the historian of Fourth Street, where so many of the early families and business developers of Silsbee lived and prospered.

She was a fascinating storyteller of the early days of growing up among her friends and neighbors, swimming at Baby Galvez and going to Silsbee schools. Many of the boys in her graduating class of 1942, left school to join in WWII and for many years, she would gather her classmates together in reunion at her home. Mrs. Plunk was very much a part of the greatest generation, a pillar of strength and a force of character and strong of will. Many affectionately knew her as “Miss Mona.”

After her children, Britt and Mary, reached school age, Mrs. Plunk went to Lamar Tech, getting her degree in Elementary Education and began her teaching career in First Grade at Kirby Elementary School. She had a passion and talent to teach and taught a generation of students the basics and love of reading while directing their “seat work” on their red Big Chief tablets with their jumbo yellow pencils. She had a gift for making her students feel special, loved, important, and successful. When schools had no music teachers, Mrs. Plunk was known to break into song at any moment during class time with “Wheels on the Bus” and “Bluebird Through My Window” for the delight of the boys and girls.

Mrs. Plunk devoted her time and talents to the children’s Sunday School ministry for many years at First United Methodist Church of Silsbee. Many memorable community events happened at the Britton Parlor, where she was instrumental in honoring her parent’s devotion to the church and community and their fondness of the Reverend Eugene Jonte. She was a guiding member of The Silsbee Literary Club and devoted time to their programs and projects. She taught the Adult Literacy program sponsored by the Literary Club and delighted when older adults learned reading skills they had not had the opportunity to learn as children. She was known for her Christmas parties where she would display her collection of Christmas Snow Village houses and serve her amazing Wassil.

She supervised and mentored over twenty student teachers through the Lamar University education degree plan. Because of her impressive teaching and leadership skills and strengths, she was honored by being named a Regent of Lamar University, having been sworn in by her son, The Honorable Judge Britton E. Plunk, a joyful experience for her as his mother. Having Mrs. Plunk as a supervising teacher changed the lives and careers of those she taught to teach. She challenged, mentored, and motivated others to give their best, leading by her example.

After Mrs. Plunk's retirement from teaching, she became very focused on the daily management of Britton-Cravens Lumber Company and building the cattle business on Britton Farm. From the days of her childhood, her father had spent countless time developing her business sense as he modeled the traits of a good businessman. She never lost her devotion to her parents and making them proud of her. After the closing of the lumber yard, her daily routine of driving to the Silsbee Post Office, then to Brookshire Brothers for their lunch special, brought her joy in talking to the Silsbee residents and hearing the details of their lives.

She was very involved in the Resthaven Cemetery Care Association. Mrs. Plunk loved the years spent at her Bolivar beach house. The beach fed her soul and many delighted in an invitation to join her for great food, great company, and hours of giggling with Minnie Trotti, her longtime family housekeeper.

Mrs. Plunk had a long exemplary life, well lived. As the years passed on for her and her health began to decline, she was saddened that so many friends and family had passed on long before and she found comfort in telling stories of them all.

Mrs. Plunk is preceded in death by her parents, Necy and W.C. Britton; her husband, Eddie R. Plunk; her brother, Perry Britton and his wife, Lou; and her beloved son, The Honorable Judge Britt Plunk. She is survived by her daughter, Mary Plunk; her daughter-in-law, Jan Ford Plunk; granddaughter, Catherine Plunk Mauer and her husband, Patrick; and her great-grandchildren, Britt Mauer, Carolina Mauer, and Marina Mauer.

One of Mrs. Plunk's favorite scriptures is Matthew 19:14...Jesus said, *"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."*

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
He leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul:  
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;  
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:  
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.*

### **Graveside Service**

Friday, October 6, 2023 2:00 p.m.

Resthaven Cemetery

Silsbee, Texas

Reverend Brian Waddell

### **Honorary Pallbearers**

Bill Bellinger

Steve Eppes

Joe Clark

Scott Clark

Gehrig Brown

James Loftin

Pete McKinney

Will Neyland

### **Memorial Contributions**

Resthaven Cemetery Care Association

P.O. Box 805

Silsbee, Texas 77656

First United Methodist Church

670 North 5th Street

Silsbee, Texas 77656

Or to an Organization of One's Choice

*Broussard's*  
Established 1889

Please sign Mrs. Plunk's guest book and share your memories at

**[broussards1889.com](http://broussards1889.com)**