

Velma Johnson Long Brown was born on October 25, 1913. She lived for 101 years, 7 months, and 11 days, her time with us ending Friday, June 5, 2015.

She turned over the odometer.

Henry Ford implemented the line in 1913. Woodrow Wilson became President. The income tax was first implemented, so Velma signed more tax returns than anyone you know. She grew up with veterans of the Civil War. And many more to come.

She lived, learned, and loved.

She married Bill in 1938 and Charlie in 1976. She knew their love and endured their loss. They gave us five generations of an enduring legacy:

Sister, brother, and family:
Betty, George, Shirley, Jean

Children and family: Don and Marcille. Ruth Ann and Tommy. Lanell and Neil. Charlie and Jan.

Grandchildren and family:
Jay, Ken, Deann, Wayne, Kristi, D'Lynn, Jayson

Great grandchildren: Ashley, JD, Emma, Jack, Drew, and Carson.

And she met great-grandson Everett just a couple of weeks ago.

She joins Lance with the Lord.

She professed her faith in Jesus at an early age. She lived out the principles of her faith as a life long Baptist, and a member here for 60 years. She taught Sunday School and Bible School for most of her life, tag-teaming kids in faith with Mary Margaret Norman. She also worked for Post ISD, teaching kids who needed extra help learning what a joy it is to read.

That means that there are countless kids who learned about faith and life from Velma, and they will never forget what she taught them.

Or maybe it was the home made donuts, snickerdoodles, and jelly well cookies they'll always remember. And caramel pie? I don't know what that is, but I know for sure I'd like to try some.

Velma lived her life in low key, simply, decently, and kindly following a couple of simple rules we've all been taught make us better people:

Waste not want not.
Cleanliness is next to Godliness.

Tend to feeding and nourishing, sewing and mending.

Never forget that everything you have, and all that you are, come from God and are precious gifts. Take good care of your things; take best care of those you love.

And at the end of your days, you will hear what she came to know last Friday:

Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Inherit the Kingdome prepared for you.

Amen.