Lucille Wemple, 1931-2015

Lucille Wemple died Friday, Aug. 28th, at a local hospital after a long illness. She was 84.

Born in Midland on July 24, 1931, she was the youngest child of Midland pioneers Fred A. and Edith Wemple. Among his many civic achievements, Mr. Wemple served on the State Board of Education and was chairman of the Texas Highway Commission, a forerunner of today’s TXDOT.

Lucille was the first homecoming queen at Midland High School and graduated from MHS in 1948. She graduated from Hockaday Junior College in Dallas and attended Southern Methodist University, where she was active in Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.

She was a secretary at First State Bank and an office manager at the First National Bank until 1974. She was named Secretary of the Year in 1971 and served as president of the local chapter of Professional Secretaries International (formerly the National Secretary Association).

She was active in the Midland chapter of the Zeta Tau Alpha alumnae association.

Returning to school, she received a bachelor of arts degree in Mass Communication from the University of Texas of the Permian Basin and a master of business administration degree, also from UTPB. For many years, she was an instructor in business classes at Midland College.

Following her retirement, she lived for a time in Paris, Texas. She returned to Midland in 2015.

She was predeceased by her parents and a brother, Allen Wemple. Survivors include her brother, Fred W. Wemple and wife Georgann of Odessa; two sisters, Edith Wemple Avery of Austin and Evelyn Wemple Allen of Austin; nephews, Allen Wemple Jr. of Midland, Scott Wemple and wife Alana of Spring, and Cliff Avery of Pflugerville; nieces, Diane Wemple Lorusso and husband Gary of Palmer, Alaska, Susan Wemple Courtney and husband Kevin of Midland, Andrea Avery and husband David Shackelford of Pflugerville and Ginger Avery Dixon and husband Jason of Round Rock; and numerous grand-nephews and grandnieces.

Graveside services are scheduled at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 3, at Resthaven Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to Methodist Children’s Home of Waco or to a favorite charity.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

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