



Carol Jane Cole Wilson, 90, faithful wife, loving mother, sister, aunt, grandmother and great-grandmother passed away peacefully 30 May 2022 in her home surrounded by family in Flower Mound, Texas. Carol was born 24 June 1931 to William Bell Cole and Mary Lucile Vickers Cole at the farm owned by her great-grandfather Charles Donk, but farmed by her father, outside Ethan, South Dakota.

In 1934, when Carol was three and a half, due to the Great Depression and drought, her father sold his farm animals and equipment and moved the family in their Model T Ford to Long Beach, California. During her school years in Long Beach, Carol learned to play the piano and violin which she played in the school orchestra. Carol graduated from Long Beach Polytechnic High School class of 1949. Carol attended Long Beach City College one year and worked as a dental assistant.

Carol met her future husband Richard when she was 16 years old, attending a Methodist youth retreat at Camp Radford in Southern California. On her graduation day from high school, Carol became engaged to Richard Albert Wilson. They were married 3 March 1951 at the old First Methodist Church in downtown Long Beach. Carol and Richard were married over 71 years.

Richard's long career with Mobil Oil took the Wilsons around the world. Moving every two to three years from field offices around California to Connecticut, Louisiana, Texas, Iran, England, Colorado, Norway, Virginia and back to Texas where they retired in 1992. In Carol's words "The Lord showed me His world."

Carol always wanted six children like her grandmother and mentor Rosa Ella "Rose" Donk Vickers. Over a 25 year span the Lord gave Carol her wish, four boys and two girls. She had a fifth boy who died in childbirth in 1960. Most of Carol's life centered around keeping a home and raising her children. Carol's ever present joy in life was family.

Carol enjoyed several hobbies: knitting, sewing and handiwork were a few. She was proud of the fact that she had knit over 150 Christmas stockings for family and friends over the years. Her great passion was researching family history. Carol was diligent and serious about studying the family roots. Carol was not only hard at work studying the past, but was interested in all the living family members. She would be sure to call her relatives and friends on their birthdays and anniversaries, and attended as many of the weddings, reunions and other family gatherings as possible. A yearly Christmas letter "The Wilson Saga" was full of interesting and useful information about her own and her extended family.

Carol was predeceased by son, Kenneth William Wilson in 1960, brother Bruce William Cole in 1966, and son-in-law Anthony James (Tony) Paul in 2022. Carol is survived by husband Richard Albert Wilson of Flower Mound, Texas; sons: Thomas Lane Wilson (Rosalee) of Prineville, Oregon; Bruce Alan Wilson (Marilynn) of Grapevine, Texas; Steven Charles Wilson (Pilar) of Eules, Texas; James Andrew Wilson (Jennifer) of Bartlesville, Oklahoma; daughters: Elizabeth Anne Wilson Paul of Denton, Texas and Rebecca Dianne Wilson Townsend (William) of Flower Mound, Texas; brother, Robert Wayne Cole (Dianne) of Wilsonville, Oregon and stepsister Anne Louise Hultine Angle of Rocklin, California. Carol leaves behind 29 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.

Carol supported many Native American children over the years as well as missionaries around the world. She loved the Lord's church and was involved in Bible Studies and with the youth group or children's ministry wherever they lived. The greatest thing in Carol's life was knowing how much God loved her, by sending His Son Jesus Christ to die for her sins and to give her eternal life. She always told everyone that Jesus was her best friend. We are glad she is with Him now.

"This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 'Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.'" John 15:12-15 (KJV)

One of her favorite hymns was "In the Garden"

*I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.*

*And He walks with me,
And He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.*