



**Betty J. Mills-Flache**

*(MoTTU Staff retired: Curator of Costumes and Textiles)*

Betty J. Mills-Flache, 87, of Lubbock, passed away Dec. 9, 2007, at the Covenant Medical Center. Funeral services will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 12, at 2 p.m., at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Lubbock. Interment will follow in Resthaven Memorial Park. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 11, from 6 to 8 p.m., at Resthaven Funeral Home.

Betty was born June 27, 1920, in Hot Springs, N.M., to parents Ivy (Green) and William T. Savage. She graduated from Texas Tech University in 1941 with a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics. She then served for four years as a Captain in the W.A.C. during World War II. On Jan. 22, 1946, she married C. Paul Mills. She taught home economics at several area schools and in 1966, obtained a Master of Science degree in Clothing and Textiles from Texas Tech. She served as the Curator of Costume and Textiles at the Museum of Texas Tech for over 29 years, retiring as the only Curator Emeritus in the history of the Museum. She also published a variety of books on historic costumes, including a paper doll series. In 1984, the Texas Tech University College of Home Economics recognized her as one of the first Distinguished Home Economics Alumni. She received the West Texas Museum Action Award in 1986, and was honored as one of Lubbock's Women of Excellence by the YWCA in 1991. In 1995, she was married to Truett Flache. Betty was a longtime member of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Lubbock, where she had served as a Sunday School teacher, Sunday School Secretary, and Deacon. She was also a member of the PEO Sisterhood, Chapter DP.

Survivors include her husband, Truett Flache of Brownfield; four children, Janice Mills James of Amarillo, Judith Sanders-Castro of San Antonio, John Terrell Mills of Madison, WI, and Jeffrey Paul Mills of Lubbock; a step-daughter, Lovetta Ann Lohr of Colfax, Wash.; 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, William T. Savage, Jr.; and two grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Ivy G. Savage Memorial Scholarship Fund through the Texas Tech University College of Education.