



Mrs. Alita Janees Sowders Gable Carter

October 25, 2017

Alita Janees Sowders Gable Carter

Alita was born April 14, 1953 in Dayton, Texas to Edwin Alan and Shirley Jean Sowders. She grew up in Texas where her father was a minister, and spent a great deal of her childhood, along with her sister Apryl, at Boles Home – a children’s home in Quinlan, Texas, where the Sowders were house parents and where her dad was later Director. Alita and her family traveled with the Boles Home Belle Canto Chorus and graduated from Boles Home High School. She then attended Harding University in Searcy Arkansas where she received her degree in Elementary Education and met and married her husband, Mark Gable. Mark and Alita enjoyed 28 years of marriage during which they had three sons - Travis, the oldest, and twins – Alan and Jared. During their marriage, the Gables lived in Louisiana, Arkansas, Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia, where Mark worked as a Financial Officer in the Hospital Industry. During those years Alita – a teacher by nature - taught at various times both in the classroom and in church, but always at home with her three boys. Sadly, the family lost Mark in 2003 to cancer. Alita was the Founding Director of Bright Beginnings Preschool as a ministry of the Burnt Hickory Church in Marietta, GA, where she and Mark were members. She held that position until 2008.

In late 2007, thanks to an e-harmony connection, Alita again found love, when

she met Ronnie Carter, who had also lost his wife to cancer. Alita and Ron were married in 2008, and began the process of melding two families. Alita's three sons would give her seven grandchildren, and Ron's two daughters – Sandi and Tammi, and one son – Ryan, would add eleven more. Together the Carter-Gable family boasts eighteen grandchildren with at least one more on the way. All of them love their Hunny – the grandmother name Alita chose.

How can we sum up this person in a few words who has impacted so many? Alita was talented in many ways. She started her college career at ACU Metro Center where she was active in chorus and drama, participating in musicals and even having the starring role as Kate in Kiss Me Kate. Her love of children shined in her work in early childhood education and in mothering her three sons. Wisdom, beauty and peace surrounded her interactions with all she encountered. She exemplified a Life led in our Master's presence.

Alita will be deeply missed. She is beloved as a teacher and mentor by many. She has taught and mentored, not only in the churches blessed to have her, but on multiple mission trips to Brazil, Jamaica, Uganda, and, most recently, Honduras. Hers is a legacy of positive influence and deep friendship any place she has lived or visited. No one who has ever met Alita will forget her bright smile that can light up a room. Alita is preceded in her new life by her dad, Alan, and will be sadly missed by those who remain behind: Her husband, Ron; Her mother Shirley; her devoted sister, Apryl Evans; her sons, Travis (Amy), Alan (Krisi), and Jared (Jennifer); Ron's children, Sandi (Don), Tammi (Justin), and Ryan (Melanie); her eighteen precious grandchildren; her sister in law, Beverly Hopper; nieces and nephews, and scores of dear friends and spiritual brothers and sisters. She has run the race, she has finished the course, and there is laid up for her a crown of righteousness.

A beautiful Memorial Service was held for Alita on Monday, October 30, 2017 at Hunter Hills Church of Christ in Prattville, Alabama, with Ryan Lassiter,

Minister, officiating. The family offers deepest gratitude to all who participated and to all who have offered words of condolence and encouragement. Your love is deeply felt.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Alita Memorial Scholarship Fund, % Refuge International, P.O. Box 1232, Millbrook, Alabama 36054. Funds will be directed to support students in Honduras who know and love Alita.

Henry Van Dyke wrote:

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch her until at length she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then someone at my side says:

"There, she is gone!"

"Gone where?"

Gone from my sight. That is all.

She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side and she is just as able to bear the load of living freight to her destined port.

Her diminished size is in me, not in her.

And just at the moment when someone at my side says: "There, she is gone!" there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout:

"Here she comes!"

And that is dying.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT **30** (CT)

Hunter Hills Church of Christ
330 Old Farm Lane N
Prattville, AL 36066

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Alita Janees Sowders Gable Carter*

October 09, 2023 at 12:36 PM



“ *Mrs. Alita Janees Sowders Gable Carter*

October 07, 2023 at 11:21 AM



“ *She was a good gramma and i'm Mark Gable I'm not using my device but my grandparents. She sometimes swims with me and plays with me but now she passed away 😞.*

Mark - December 11, 2017 at 08:32 PM