



## **JENINE HEMPHILL Obituary**

JENINE WOODARD HEMPHILL Jenine Woodard Hemphill passed away on March 6, 2024, having lived a full life of 91 years. She now has her eternal home in heaven with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Jenine was born on August 1, 1932 in Alton, IL to William Thomas Woodard and Lucille Carey Woodard. After graduating from high school in Glasgow, Kentucky, Jenine moved to Washington, DC to work for the FBI (early 1950's) as a typist and stenographer. She held a highly classified security clearance during this Cold War period.

Little did she know that her future husband (Robert "Virg" Hemphill) was simultaneously flying jet fighters for the U.S. Air Force, helping safeguard Alaskan Skies from possible Russian aggression. The two met in El Paso in Jenine's later years and were married on June 3, 1980 in the Haiku Gardens, Honolulu, HI. Jenine and Virg enjoyed 44 years of marriage and resided in Honolulu, El Paso, Houston and Ruidoso, NM. During this time they shared countless memories traveling together in the South Pacific, Japan and Europe, combined with several river boat cruises. Her "favorite retreat" was their quiet mountain abode (of 40 years) in Ruidoso, NM. Jenine was an extensive reader of fiction, journalism, biographies, and poetry, and exhibited a sharp wit and quick humor until her final days. She was proudest of her achievements in the game of bridge (Life Master, American Contract Bridge League), in education (UTEP and OLLI life-long learning student), in real estate (El Paso Salesman of the Year, 1979), as a needle pointer (American Needlepoint Guild member), and as a trainer (member, Therapy Dogs International) to her yorkie, Kemba. She and Kemba visited a local El Paso elementary school to assist children in developing reading skills. Jenine was also a 3rd-generation member of First Christian Church. Jenine was preceded in death by her parents, her sister Carmeta Mills, and her first husband Edwin J. Burns. She is survived by her husband Robert "Virg" Hemphill; her son William Scott Burns and his wife Norma of El Paso, TX; her stepdaughter Amy Leland Hemphill of New York, NY; her niece Carey Jen (Fred) Federspiel of Larchmont, NY; her grandchildren Lilia Janelle (Stephen) Hulford, Ryan Cody Burns, Kevin Scott Burns, and Kelsey Jen (Marcelo) Fran; and great-grandson Quintin Elijah Hulford. Jenine was devoted to her family, and she supported and encouraged them in so many ways. Her loving spirit and warm humor will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her. Jenine Hemphill will be interred May 24th at 10:30 am, Fort Stanton Veterans Cemetery, Fort Stanton, NM, an area where the fresh mountain breezes always brought a smile to her pretty face. Published by Tri-County Tribune from Apr. 5 to Apr. 11, 2024.