



## Ona Dot Thomas Phillips

September 21, 1915 - March 2, 2016

Ona Dot Thomas Phillips, age 100, formerly of the Tennerton Community, died Wednesday, March 2, 2016, at Holbrook Nursing Home in Buckhannon. She was born on September 21, 1915, near Alton, WV, a daughter of the late Hugh and Anna Pfister Thomas. On March 15, 1942, she was united in marriage to Willis Gerald Phillips, who preceded her in death. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three brothers: Loy, Everett, and Don Thomas; three sisters: Virgie Phillips, Gertie Bailey, and Pearl Simmons; and two sisters-in-law: Garnetta Thomas and Madeline Thomas. She is survived by three nephews: Robin Simmons, Charles Thomas, and Danny Thomas; and several great and great-great nieces and nephews, including special family: great nephew B.J. Thomas, Carrie Thomas, and Levi and Lexi Thomas.

Mrs. Phillips attended the Phillips one-room school for eight years and was graduated from Upshur County High School in 1933. She then attended West Virginia Wesleyan College, where she received her B.A. degree in 1941. In 1955, she received a M.A. degree from West Virginia University. She taught elementary school for 38 years, spanning from 1935-1973, and was a member of the Upshur County Association of Retired School Employees. She was a charter member of the Kappa Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa, life member of the Emeritus Club of West Virginia Wesleyan College, and a life member of the West Virginia University Alumni Association. She was a

Methodist by faith and had been a member of the Indian Camp United Methodist Church since 1934.

Friends will be received at the Heavner and Cutright Funeral Chapel on Friday, March 4, 2016, from 10:00-11:00 AM, the funeral hour, with the Rev. Sue Lowther and Rev. Etheldean Yanero officiating. Interment will follow in the Indian Camp Cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

**Indian Camp Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

**MAR 4.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Heavner & Cutright Funeral Chapel and Cremation Services  
940 Route 20 South Road  
Buckhannon, WV 26201  
(304) 472-8024  
heavnerandcutright@aol.com  
<https://www.heavnerandcutright.com/>

### Funeral Service

**MAR 4.** 11:00 AM (ET)

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# Tribute Wall

CR

“ Mrs. Phillips was my 8th grade teacher at the Adrian Grade School and was one of my favorite teachers from my public school experience. She was always such a lady and dressed so well. I thought she looked and acted like a queen, but was very nice about it. She read the book, "Lorna Doone" to our class as a treat on Friday afternoons and I will always remember her doing that. I knew she had been raised at Indian Camp but she lived in town and I was glad she would drive back to Adrian to teach us. Some years back I sent her a sympathy card after I heard her husband had died, and she wrote me a beautiful card back. I have always treasured her card in her beautiful handwriting, and I will always keep it. I'm very sorry I didn't know about her death in time to visit the funeral home, and I'm sorry I didn't know she was at Holbrooks that I could have come and visited her through the years. She was very special to me and I will always remember her in a very special way. I thank God for the opportunity to have known her and be her student, and I pray God's peace upon her soul.

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**Connie Roth** - March 15, 2016 at 08:06 PM

LE

“ I had Mrs. Phillips for eight grade at Adrian School and I must say she was my best teacher who went above and beyond teaching us all to have values and respect for fellow students.

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**Les Edgell** - March 09, 2016 at 10:05 PM

DL

“ Mrs. Phillips was my eighth grade teacher at Adrian School. Best teacher ever.

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**Donna Tenney Lewis** - March 06, 2016 at 07:20 PM

RP

“ *Ona was our neighbor for many years in Tennerton. I remember hanging out there with my grandfather. Many fond memories. Prayers for all of the family.*

Robin Hinkle Page - March 06, 2016 at 07:15 PM

TT

“ *TERESA TENNEY lit a candle in memory of Ona Dot Thomas Phillips*



TERESA TENNEY - March 05, 2016 at 05:08 PM

TT

*I MET ONA WHEN CARRIE WAS TAKING CARE OF HER . I FOUND OUT SHE TAUGHT MY MOM AT ADRIAN SCHOOL. SHE ALWAYS WANTED TO TALK TO ME WHEN I WENT TO CARRIES. SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. MAY GOD COMFORT YOU ALL IN THIS TIME. PRAYERS WITH YOU*

TERESA TENNEY - March 05, 2016 at 05:09 PM

 Wendi Sampson

“ *I met Ona & Gerald in 1997 as Gerald's care giver. She will be missed. My deepest condolences to the family.*



Wendi Sampson - March 05, 2016 at 01:03 AM

MC

“ We remember so fondly this lady and her husband, Gerald. Charles worked with him at B & R Ford sales when we moved to Buckhannon as newlyweds in 1960. They were wonderful to us through the years and our children learned to love them. We were frequently invited to visit the farm to pick strawberries in the spring. Our kindest regards to the family during this time. There is no greater legacy than the love and respect of friends and family for the life lived. .

*With sincere sympathy,  
Charles and Margaret Campbell*

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**Margaret and Charles Campbell** - March 04, 2016 at 04:07 PM

RB

“ Mrs. Phillips was my mothers teacher and when we moved back to Buckhannon from Oakland, MD, she became my teacher also. She knew immediately who I was as she said I was the very picture of my mother at that age and she was indeed the best teacher I or my mother ever had. When my mother had her in school, she said they moved and she wouldn't be going to the same school any longer so Mrs. Phillips offered to pick her up and drive her to school so she could stay in same class. That is just the sort of thing this fine lady and teacher would do to help her students succeed. One of a kind. I'm sure her rewards are great in Heaven. Prayers for the family.

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**Rhonda (Burr) Brooks** - March 04, 2016 at 10:59 AM

SS

“ What a delightful lady that gave of herself so freely. I extend my sympathy to each of you.

*Sondra Shaw  
ADK sister*

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**Sondra Shaw** - March 04, 2016 at 10:59 AM

GH

“ Gary B & Dwanda (McAtee) Hewitt

Gary B & Dwanda (McAtee) Hewitt - March 03, 2016 at 09:34 PM

DG

“ My deepest sympathy to all of Ona's family. Her sister, Virgie, was my grade school teacher. Ona was a great teacher and a fine lady.



Doris Greene - March 03, 2016 at 07:36 AM

AK

“ Mrs. Phillips was my Mom's, (Betty Norman Gould's), grade school teacher. My Mom is in Holbrook now. It made her day when Dad took her to see her a while back. Your family is in our prayers.

Alicia Kerns - March 02, 2016 at 10:49 PM

TA

Oh so many memories of this fine lady. Had her for a teacher and when Christmas came around i had to be Mary in the Christmas play. When i got out of her class i still had to be Mary in the school play. She said i looked like Mary. My dad lived beside her in the 80's , She and her husband would take my dad , sister, and niece up the country to their farm , They had some good times together. She was a very classy , lovey lady, Mrs. Phillips , you are one of a kind. My daughter, Rhonda, had her in school years later. She was so excited that she was teaching my daughter. You will get your rewards. T. Arlene Ulm Adams

T. Arlene Adams - March 04, 2016 at 11:58 AM

RC

“ *Rad Crites lit a candle in memory of Ona Dot Thomas Phillips*



rad crites - March 02, 2016 at 08:46 PM

BC

*brad crites*

brad crites - March 02, 2016 at 08:47 PM

HT

“ *Ona Phillips was my teacher at Adrian School. She knew I had a step mother who was bad and she tried to make me have happier days. She encouraged me to stay in school and finally leave and go to Virginia. It is because of her I got an education and learned. to be proud of myself Thanks to her and a stepfather I am what I am today. God keep her in your arms nice and tight.*

Hilda Tenney - March 02, 2016 at 06:48 PM

LW

“ *I have good memories of Ona Phillips being my teacher at Adrian School. She was a great teacher and a beautiful Lady. I have so many good memories about her that it would take a whole page just to write. She will be missed not only by family, and friends but past students also.*

*Levonda Kay Hyre Wayts*

Levonda Kay Wayts - March 02, 2016 at 03:46 PM

NW

“ Beautiful lady! Sunday School teacher at Indian Camp Church.  
Lovely lovely lady

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**Norma Wayts** - March 02, 2016 at 02:58 PM

CL

*Iv'e so many great memories of this beautiful lady.. Ona I'll miss our visits and the times we spent together...I'll always remember the laughs,fun we shared in those visits most of all the list of prayers for all each day. Ona been in my life since I was a kid. Miss and love you*

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**carolyn loudin** - March 03, 2016 at 03:08 PM