

# PAID OBITUARY

TO: OBITUARY DESK FROM: BROOKS FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, INC.  
201 PROFESSIONAL CIRCLE  
MOREHEAD CITY, NC 28557 252-726-5580 / 252-247-5580 FAX

## NAME, AGE, CITY OF RESIDENCE, DATE OF DEATH, PLACE OF DEATH

Ethel C. Phillips, 94, of Morehead City, died Sunday, April 21, 2013, at Carolina House of Morehead City.

## SERVICE INFORMATION

A funeral service will be held at 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 24, at Brooks Funeral Home with the Rev. Timothy J. Havlicek officiating. The interment will be private.

## BIOGRAPHICAL

She was born September 7, 1918, the daughter of the late Lewis O. Clift and Elizabeth Jane McLarty Clift of Woodbury County, Iowa.

In 1937, upon completing the Executive Secretarial Course of the National Business Training School in Sioux City, Iowa, she was employed in the Export Sales Department of Wincharger Corporation there for the next five years.

When World War II brought factory conversion to production for the military in 1942, she moved to Los Angeles. There she was employed by the *Los Angeles Times* (*The Mirror Publishing Company*).

Choosing a more active participation in World War II on March 10, 1943, she enlisted in the newly formed Marine Corps Women's Reserve. She was immediately placed on active duty in the Los Angeles Recruiting Office. Eventually, after indoctrination at Hunter College, The Bronx, New York, she was assigned to duty in the Personnel Department, Officer's Promotion Division at Headquarters Marine Corps, Arlington, Virginia. She completed thirty months active duty as a Staff Sergeant upon discharge September 26, 1945. Returning to civilian life in San Francisco, she was employed as an export sales correspondent with Fidelity Trading Company, an export and import brokerage serving the great post-war needs of the Pacific Rim countries.

It was in that city on September 10, 1947, she married a U. S. Navy Veteran, Edmund Gorham Phillips, a native of Morehead City. There followed residency in Kansas City, Missouri, where she was employed in the Export Sales Department of Butler Manufacturing Company. After a family move to Chicago in 1948, she was employed in the Export Sales Department of "Monarch Finer Foods" (Consolidated Grocers Corporation for 2 ½ years.

Purchase of family home property in 1951 brought the couple to residence in Mr. Phillip's home town of Morehead City. Locally, she was employed for many years as a Fire & Casualty Insurance Agent/Broker with Mr. Skinner A. Chalk, Jr., Mutual Insurance Agency. Subsequently, she was employed by Wachovia Insurance Agency, Inc., and later with Joe C. Beam, ultimately retiring from Beam, Cooper, Gainey & Associates in 1980.

Ethel was a family historian and loved history. She was a volunteer with the Carteret County Historical Society and their Research Library at The History Place for over 25 years. She accompanied Rev. Dennis Kastens, St. Louis, Missouri, (a distant cousin) and his tour group on numerous trips to Europe, spending considerable time in Germany. Rev. Kastens published a number of books on family history and she worked with him on the manuscripts of these books.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Morehead City, NC and sang in the choir.

## **SURVIVORS**

Survivors include nephews, Brian M. Hilts and wife, Tammy of Salix, Iowa, Michael D. Clift and wife, Ann, of Blauvelt, New York, and nieces, Denice M. Clift of Vermillion, South Dakota, Ronda H. Rosenbaum and husband, Tony, of Souix City, Iowa, LuAnn C. Fell and husband, Joseph of Franklin, Tennessee and grand-nephews, Corey Hilts, Brenden Clift, Matthew Clift, Gregory S. Clift, and grand-nieces, Danielle Hilts, Brianna Hilts, Elizabeth Fell, and Carley Fell, and a great-grand-niece, Bella Hilts. Also grand-nephews, Dr. William Daniel Caffrey, Jr. and wife Barbara Caffrey of Greensboro, NC and Russell Caffrey of Wilmington, NC. Also, she is survived by a caring and dearly devoted friend, Debra M. Laughinghouse of Morehead City.

## **PRECEDED IN DEATH BY**

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, E. G. Phillips, a brother, Carol O. Clift and two sisters, Nina Elizabeth Clift and Dorothea C. Hilts.

## **MEMORIALS/DONATIONS**

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to First Presbyterian Church, 1604 Arendell Street, Morehead City, NC 28557; The History Place, 1008 Arendell Street, Morehead City, NC 28557 or Salvation Army, P. O. Box 399, Morehead City, NC 28557.

Arrangements are by Brooks Funeral Home and Crematory Inc. of Morehead City. Access online obituary and Internet condolences through [www.brooksfuneralhomeandcrematory.com](http://www.brooksfuneralhomeandcrematory.com).