



## Edith Bailey Barisas

March 17, 1915 - February 27, 2016

Edith Bailey Barisas of Fort Collins died Saturday February 27, 2016, in Fort Collins after a short illness.

Edith was born in 1915 in Como, Texas, to Arthur and Dovie Bailey. She graduated from Fair Park High School in Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1930 and from Centenary College in Shreveport in 1934. She earned a Master of Arts degree in English from Louisiana State University in 1935. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

After teaching in Texas and Oklahoma, Edith married Bernard George Barisas in 1941. During World War II she accompanied him, a Chief Petty Officer in the U.S. Navy, during postings in Memphis and Chicago.

Moving to Kansas City, Missouri, with her husband in 1947, Edith remained at home until returning to teaching in the Kansas City public school system in 1953. Her career as a high school English teacher and school district consultant lasted until her retirement in 1977. She moved to Castle Rock in 1979 and to Fort Collins in 1983.

Survivors include her son, George Barisas and his wife, Deborah Roess; a grandson, Derek Barisas and two granddaughters, Elizabeth and Catherine Barisas, all of Fort Collins.

During her lifetime, Edith created the Bernard G. Barisas Endowed Memorial Scholarship Fund at Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Kentucky 40769. Donations in her memory could be made to this fund or to a charity of one's choice.

A private Memorial Service will be held at a future date.

# Tribute Wall

“ When Edith first called Jan, many years ago now, and asked if Jan was related to Jim Bailey and Fred Bailey, she opened a very important new chapter in our lives! for Jan, she was a family link to a side of her family where knowledge was lacking. Jan lost her father when she was a very young child. The fact that Edith knew the Bailey lineage well, that she was always willing to share her memories in her always frank and no holds barred manner, and most especially that she lived so close was an absolute blessing to Jan, our daughters and I.

Over the years we built a very close friendship, where Edith enjoyed meeting and getting to know Jan's mom, Jan's brother Jim and his wife Carol, our kids and my family. we loved having her come to our house for family get togethers and we loved going to visit Edith and listen to her stories of Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma (where our roots are), her family, the Bailey clan (including Fred who was according to Edith was a near do well), her trips with Bernerd, Geroge and the rest of the family, Moe and his cats and just her views of life in general. What a font of knowledge and memory, and what an incredible character!

She was an amazingly intelligent, well read woman. What a treat to talk politics and listen to her views on life. I will miss picking up the phone and hearing her southern twang as she asked "is Jan home? Before getting Jan, Edith and I would catch up, I loved it.

As she grew weaker we talked (trying to convince her) about moving to a place with a little more oversight, but it was always obvious that she had no interest in that. She was independent, somewhat stubborn, and like people from her generation wanted only to be self sufficient. Having gone through the same issues with my folks I know it must have been very tough on George and the rest of the family to deal with the uncertainty, however there is no doubt in my mind that Edith lived and died the only way she wanted it, and died a satisfied person. She was very proud of George and her grand children who share in the brilliance of Edith. We loved

*her, will miss her, but are so happy Edith was part of our family too. When I think of Edith now I think of her Reunited with Bernard and them happily camping in eternity. God Bless them! Larry R*

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**Larry Rogstad** - March 07, 2016 at 04:53 PM



“ *I had the great privilege of having Edith as my English teacher when I was a sophomore at Southwest High School in Kansas City, Mo. in the mid-1960s, and reconnecting with her a few years ago. Her encouragement and guidance as a teacher certainly affected my career choice (editing). When we began corresponding a few years ago, Edith again enriched my life tremendously with her vibrancy, wit, and insight, even as she struggled against the physical challenges of aging. She was a great source of joy and inspiration to me, and I will carry her memory with me forever.*

*With condolences to her beloved family, Donna Ahrens*

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**Donna Ahrens** - March 03, 2016 at 08:44 PM

BS

“ *So very sorry to hear of Edith's passing. I was a nurse that worked at an office she went to a few years ago. I also looked forward to seeing Edith! She always had a sparkle in her eye and was a delight to visit with. I will always remember her as a warm, caring, and interesting lady that I was lucky to have known. I am sorry for your loss and hope that your many happy memories will help to ease your sadness.*

*Sincerely,  
Barb Springer*

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**Barbara Springer** - March 03, 2016 at 07:13 AM

JY

“ During the last five to seven years I came to know Edith at MacDonald's in Fort Collins. She was a bright and cheerful friend, interesting and interested in all others there. In the beginning she brought a photo book of Derek when they were in China with the two young sisters, Ellizabeth and Katherine. She spoke often of each of them, sharing their delightful stories and talents. Derek was forever and always a special grandson, and she shared his stories in school and in travels with me. How loving and proud she was!

*We visited her at Good Samaritan only a few days before her death.*

*We will miss her. Sinfcerely, Joan K. Yee and John W. Yee*

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**John W. Yee; Joan K. Yee** - March 01, 2016 at 08:51 PM

FR

“ George/Deb,  
Sorry to learn of your recent loss. Take care.  
Brent Reeves

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**F Brent Reeves** - March 01, 2016 at 02:16 PM