



## Ethel Marilyn Harrington

June 25, 1928 - December 29, 2023

Ethel Marilyn Harrington, 95, of Ocala, Florida, passed away on Friday Dec.29,2023 in her home, 5:17pm surrounded by Family.

Ethel was born on June 25,1928 in Vermillion, South Dakota, the Daughter of Lee & Amy Millage. She graduated from Vermillion High School in 1946, married Robert (Bob) Harrington Dec.14,1947. They met at a social dance, and the rest is history.

They moved to Clear Lake, Iowa around 1956, where they raised their 3 children. She enjoyed being a full time homemaker, baking, camping & fishing. Later in Life - playing cards & watching Fox News.

Ethel was a member of the Clear Lake United Methodist Church, and a Board Member of the Clear Lake Senior Center.

She said her 5 greatest achievements in life were being a good Wife, Mother, Grandma, Great Grandma & Friend. Married 59 years before Bob passed in 2005.

Her last 15 years were spent living with her Daughter Pam & Son-In-Law Scott Riley in Maple Grove, MN; then Ocala, Florida which she called "Paradise".

Ethel was preceded in death by her parents, all 10 siblings (including twin sister that died at birth), her husband Bob, and her oldest Son David Harrington of Clear Lake.

Left to cherish her memory are her Son Steve Harrington (Opal) & Daughter Pam Riley (Scott). Her Grandchildren John Harrington (Kristi), Sheri Prescott (Tony), Willem Riley, Adam Harrington (Shawna), and Amber Harrington. Her Great Grandchildren Bethany (Michael), Braden, Bailey, Savannah, Alisa, Levi, Joshua, Cora, Stephen, Davis & Lucy.

Our Family will be hosting a Celebration of Life Open House sometime in the next few months.

We extend our gratitude to all of you that made Moms life so rich with Relationships. You were her treasure here on Earth. God Bless You! And we wish to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern, and kindness you all have shown us.

—————FROM MOM’S LIPS—————

Favorite Food -

“Sausage Gravy & Biscuits”

Favorite Vacation Spot -

“Rapid City, South Dakota”

Most Brave Moment -

“When my siblings dared me to fly on a rope in the barn”

Favorite Childhood Candy -

“We were poor so we didn’t have candy, but Dad made us sugar popcorn”

Favorite Childhood Activity -

“Riding my horse”

Childhood Best Friend -

“My brother Leo”

If you could change one thing about yourself, what would you change -

“Not to worry so much and find more peace everyday. Learn more about my God.”

If you could change one thing about another person, what would you change -

“They could forgive & love every member in their family. No judgements or division.”

What were the greatest gifts you have received in your life -

“Getting to live with my daughter & son-in-law”

“My grandson John flew me 1st Class to Germany”

“His Daughter Bethany had me as her Flower Girl in her wedding”

Describe a Perfect Day in your Life -

“My wedding was in an ice storm and our 1st meal was 2 chili dogs, it was all we could afford”

What advice would you give others -

“Live, Love & Laugh. Make God your love & know Him. Be kind and love life!

—————FROM DAUGHTER PAM—————

Mom taught me many things over my lifetime, and additional things over these past 15 years she lived with Scott & I.

But I learned the most from her during her last 58 days here on earth:

I watched her humility as I bathed her.

I watched her gratitude as I fed her, when she couldn't hold a fork.

I watched her acceptance when her brain could no longer talk to her legs.

During her last 24 hours:

She embraced the realization that she was leaving this world.

She was pleasantly surprised when I told her she was staying home, and the nurses had agreed to come to us.

Then with deep loving eyes fixed on me she said, "I'm really going to miss you from Heaven!" Eight words I will cherish every day until I'm with her there!

Her last 12 hours:

Multiple family & friends flew in & drove here, to say their goodbyes! The greatest farewell gift she ever could have asked for! RELATIONSHIPS were her treasure here on earth!

She also gave me one final gift (a thank you) - she waited to be in my arms before she took her final breaths. A mother who's message of love was there to the very end. The true power of love!!!!

# Tribute Wall

SA

“ *Fun time with friends.  
Miss you* ❤️



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**Sharon Aukes** - April 25, 2024 at 02:10 PM

SH

“ *Mom loved to travel with us. Branson trip.*



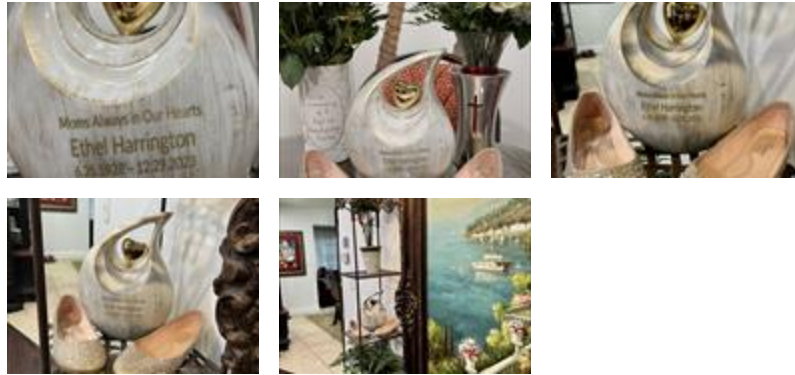
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**Steve Harrington** - January 09, 2024 at 12:22 PM

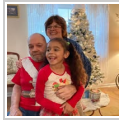
PR

“🌸 One of the most incredible FUN honors Mom had - was being a “Flower Girl” in Aug. 2021.  
Her great granddaughter Bethany & husband Michael made her feel like a Princess, in their Wedding.

👠 She loved her golden slippers so much - Scott & I will always keep them on displayed in our home, beside her urn. As a reminder that she is - ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS!!



Pam Riley - January 08, 2024 at 06:09 PM



Such a beautiful memory

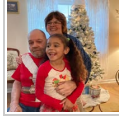
Jane Bauder Pappas - January 09, 2024 at 03:22 PM

SR

“ Grandma Ethel was the Best Grandma a girl could ask for!!!! I'll miss you so much Granny. Thank you for all the amazing memories and love!!!  
You truly were the best!



Stephanie Riley - January 08, 2024 at 12:05 PM



*Beautiful memories*

**Jane Bauder Pappas** - January 08, 2024 at 12:26 PM

BM

“ I only just got to have Ethel in my life about 3 years ago, but I have been blessed by her love, kindness and wisdom. She is such a beautiful soul, who cared so much. One of the greatest gifts I have ever received was this last July when she came to our home for a little family gathering. Pam and Scott and driven straight through from Florida. When they arrived, she smiled at me and said that she had a very important question for me. She asked me if she could be my Grandma! I had tears in my eyes, what a wonderful surprise and gift from her. She listened as I talked about my life and then she offered love and advice, which I have never forgotten. I will never forget her words and the love that she gave to me.



**betty moore** - January 08, 2024 at 11:50 AM

SL

“Grandma” Ethel was adopted by Emilia the moment they met as an additional grandmother and friend... those two together showed that friendships don't care about age ♡♡ here are some memories from over the years we were blessed to have Ethel, Pam and Scott live close by! We are so sorry for your loss of sweet Grandma Ethel, our hearts and prayer go out to your whole family. Lots of love from Sarah with Emilia & Finn



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Sarah Lovgren - January 08, 2024 at 11:24 AM

DP

“ My Auntie Ethel was more than just an aunt to me. She helped raise me up as a child. She taught me to think about others in this life and what they may be going through. She made me feel loved and appreciated and she made the best pancakes I have ever had! She was very wise about Life, and would often offer advice in a kind and loving way. I can remember making popcorn balls at Christmas time with her. I can recall when we were little kids and visited her home on North Shore. She would tell us that it was time for us to leave and then she would get into her jammies and tell us good night. I can remember when she was taking a nap on her couch once and David and I recorded her snoring. When she woke up, we played the recording back to her and we all laughed together. She loved peanut brittle, so I would make her a batch and mail this to her every Christmas. I am going to miss her so very much, she was my second mom, and now I am without her. She is a beautiful soul and will always be loved by Bettyjane and I, we can't wait to see her again in Heaven.



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Douglas Phinney - January 08, 2024 at 11:21 AM

CM

“ I stayed at the blessing house before heading back to my mission in Kenya.

*I was able to spend time talking to Ethel. She loved the Lord . She was so sweet and kept cookie dough in the freezer !! She was well prepared and such a light of love, and positivity. Pam - you are just like her . What a gift . May the lord bless and keep all of you as you let go of her earthly presence and May He give you patience until you see her again. What a party in Heaven !!! Imagine al the goodies !!! She is missed . ❤️❤️❤️*

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**Charise Millsop** - January 08, 2024 at 11:12 AM



“ One of our favorite memories of Ethel is when she came to our home to see Santa n Mrs Claus. Ethel was one of the sweetest people we have ever known. Ron loved her pumpkin n zucchini bread she made for him. Our great granddaughter Maisie considered her grandma Ethel and loved her dearly. We will miss our dear Ethel but will cherish our memories of her. Love n miss you.



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**Jane Bauder Pappas** - January 08, 2024 at 11:07 AM



“ *What a wonderful woman Ethel was! She lived in my neighborhood and Pam sometimes stopped by with her in the golf cart. I know she enjoyed living here with Pam and Scott and all of them are blessed beyond belief to have each other in this life. I honor the love they shared and still share as Ethel isn't really gone and they will meet again. David and I send our love and heartfelt condolences to the family.*

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**Dianne Purdie** - January 08, 2024 at 10:41 AM

CN

“ *I will always think of my dear, sweet neighbor every time I eat shrimp cocktail and pickled herring. We shared a love of those foods. It was my greatest pleasure to have known Ethel.*

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**Carol Neumayer** - January 08, 2024 at 10:31 AM

SP

“ *11 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Sheri Prescott** - January 08, 2024 at 09:21 AM

SP

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



Sheri Prescott - January 08, 2024 at 09:13 AM

PR

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Riley - January 08, 2024 at 09:01 AM

SP

“ I wrote this a few months ago when we celebrated Grammy’s 95th birthday and it still seems to fit thinking of her in heaven and the legacy she’s given us... Happy 95th Birthday, to my Grammy Ethel! The one who makes everyone in her big family (and friends, neighbors, strangers) feel like “her favorite.”

*The Grammy who gave me a love for fishing and taught me at 6-years-old to cast, put the worm on, & get the fish off the hook.*

*Who taught me to appreciate all the little things (which really turn out to be the big things): a hot cup of coffee, early mornings around a campfire, making mud pies, baking cookies, holding hands with the one you love, and the gift of “just being there” for someone.*

*I want to be just like Grammy when I grow up - loving Jesus, by loving all those around her faithfully, joyfully, unconditionally, and individually. She somehow seems to find “the good” in the hardest trials one could face in this life. She exemplifies being content with God’s plans and makes growing old look like an honor, instead of something to dread. God’s grace upon grace through every season of life... every day is a day to celebrate you, Grammy, and I love you so very much!*

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**Sheri Prescott** - January 07, 2024 at 10:51 PM

SP

“ It’s hard to put into words the incredible, beautiful, hilarious, and ICONIC woman that Grammy Ethel was!

*I have the best memories of all of the adventures and happy moments that she was a part of! Going over to her apartment in Clear Lake making tons of popcorn balls. Reheating her coffee for the third time in the microwave on countless occasions. Raiding the freezer to sneak some of the cookie dough balls that she made. And, of course, listening to her share stories from her childhood like the pranks her brothers played, and the babydoll that she wanted so badly.*

*Everyone who met her was inspired by her - and I know that we’re all going to miss her dearly. I already miss her hugs and hearing her laugh - but like my mom said, “Grammy, it’s just a see you soon!! And you get to see Jesus before us, you lucky duck!”*□

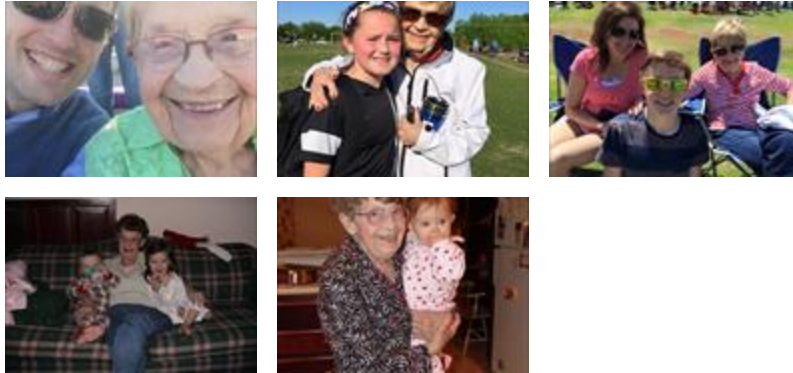


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**Savannah Prescott** - January 07, 2024 at 10:34 PM

JH

“ 37 files added to the album Harrington



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**John Harrington** - January 07, 2024 at 08:56 PM

BH

“ *My great grandma Ethel was one of the most incredible women: joyful, loyal, and witty. She made friends throughout her life, and she consistently showed up for people. My Grandma Ethel had the best sense of humor, a stalwart love for her family, and an unwavering sense of self.*

*It's difficult to sum up with words how impactful my great grandma's was to our whole family. She did so many small things that have had a profound impact on my life. The little things, like making popcorn balls or playing cards together, reflected her dedication to her family. My favorite memory of Grandma Ethel would be her appearance as the flower girl in my sister's wedding. She almost stole the show from the bride!*

*My Grandma Ethel lived in Christ's love, sacrificing for her family through showing up and loving deeply. While I miss her dearly, I'm so thankful for the hope we have in Christ and that I will get to see her again someday.*

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**Braden Harrington** - January 07, 2024 at 07:34 PM

JH

“ There will never be enough words to capture how much Great Grandma Harrington meant to us. As a family, she loved each of us in a special way. She lived each day showing us a beautiful example of the importance of family and the love that embodied the Harrington family. As her great-grandchildren grew, Ethel made it a priority to travel to Oklahoma and spend time with them from the time they were toddlers, to yearly Christmas productions, soccer games, high school musicals, graduation parties, and to her first great granddaughters’ wedding to serve as the most beautiful flower girl ever!!

She left an impact not only on our lives, but on the lives of everyone she met. She loved her family and she loved people. She made friends wherever she went and no matter the struggles she faced, lived life with joy and hope. We will miss her so very much, but we know we will see her again. She lived with hope because her hope was in Christ. We are thankful for the life of an extraordinary woman and the inspiration of her life that will continue to impact us in the days to come.

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**John and Kristi Harrington** - January 07, 2024 at 06:58 PM

BW

“ There is no one in the world quite like Grandma Ethel. In my childhood, time spent with her always felt magical. Early mornings were filled with stories and cuddles, while she donned her fabulous cheetah print pajamas. She directed us in the kitchen like a maestro of an orchestra to make popcorn balls and cookies; everyone had a special and important role when we cooked with her. As a child, Grandma Ethel made me feel like I could do anything and everything.

*In my adult life, she has been a beautiful inspiration and role model. She was a dedicated wife, mother, sister, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend. Her tenacity, strength, kindness, and joy radiated in everything she did. Despite the challenges she faced, she carried on. She found the good in every situation, and with utmost strength, she lived. As an adult, Grandma Ethel showed me I can do anything and everything.*

*My favorite memory with Grandma Ethel was the honor of having her as my flower girl in my wedding. I have never seen a more beautiful woman walk down an aisle. I am grateful that she was able to be such a special part of that day.*

*Until her last breath, Grandma Ethel brought love, peace and kindness to everyone around her. There is no one I know who exemplified a more pure or joyous love than hers. Her life is a beautiful example of a person overflowing with and exuding the kind of love God gives us through Christ. Grandma Ethel's legacy will carry on in the many lives of her family and friends that she has changed forever. I am thankful to know and love her!*



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**Bethany White** - January 07, 2024 at 06:55 PM

BH

“ Whenever I think of Great Grandma Harrington I think about how loving, caring and spunky she was. Ethel always lit up every room she was in and no matter if she was talking to a family member or friend she made sure that you knew she was enjoying the conversation. She had the biggest and brightest smile. She was the most loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother and I know I will forever be grateful for her impact in my life.

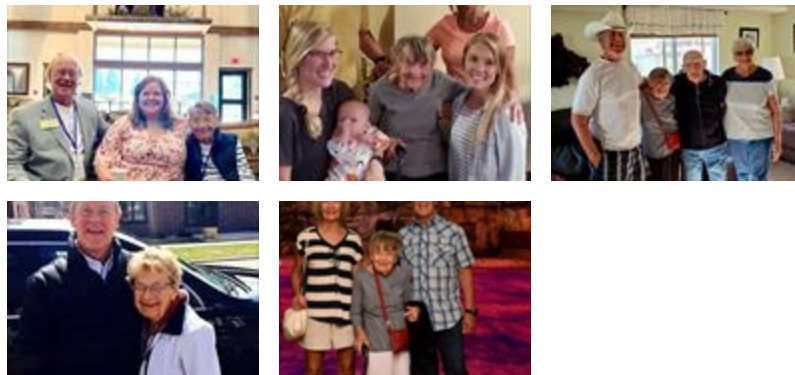
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**Bailey Harrington** - January 07, 2024 at 05:52 PM

SH

“ Rest in peace dear mother. You graced this world with love for 95 years. We were blessed in many ways knowing you. Your light will shine through all of us as we move forward from your passing.

*As a toddler, you sang 'You Are My Sunshine' to me every night at bedtime. Now as you rest in the arms of our Lord, I can say 'YOU are my sunshine.'*



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**Steve Harrington** - January 07, 2024 at 12:53 PM

PR

“ 13 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Riley - January 07, 2024 at 01:05 AM

PR

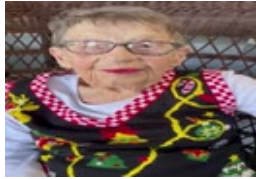
“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 10:21 PM

PR

“ 41 files added to the tribute wall



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Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 09:10 PM

PR

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



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Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 08:08 PM

PR

“ Mom voted Democrat her entire life - until she saw this man. She was his biggest Cheerleader, even at the risk of offending others! Even during her last days here on earth - she prayed over his 2nd run back to The Whitehouse.



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Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 07:55 PM

AH

“ *Grandma, you were a tenacious, motivated and fiercely loving. I prefer my coffee black, just like you, although I'm unsure about burnt toast (which you loved). I'm going to miss your popcorn balls, cookies and all your other goodies. I think I'll miss your smile and your laugh the most. I am so thankful for the time spent with you, when I was young but even more thankful to have spent time with you as an adult.*

*I love you and miss you so much.*

*- Amber*



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**Amber Harrington** - January 06, 2024 at 06:44 PM

PR

*She adored you Amber! Thank you for travels, gifts in the mail & tons of phone calls you always made to her!!! She treasured you, Sweetheart! Loved you dearly!!!*

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**Pam Riley** - January 06, 2024 at 07:55 PM

PR

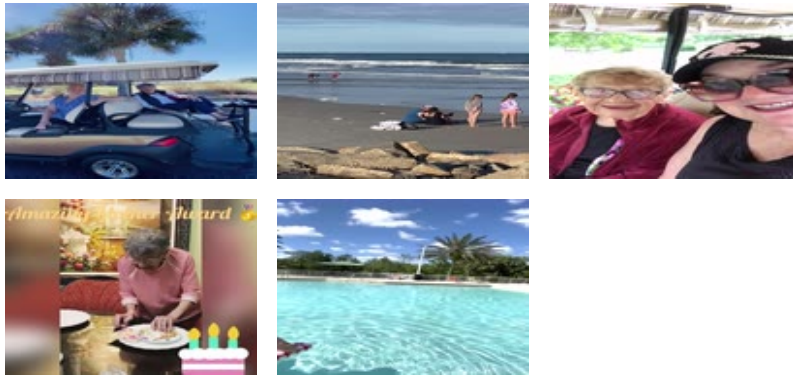
“ Mom’s favorite weekend of the year - was always our Annual Millage Family Reunions



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 12:59 PM

PR

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 12:26 PM

PR

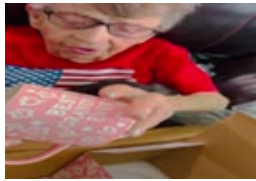
“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 12:14 PM

PR

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 11:57 AM

PR

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 11:36 AM

PR

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 11:08 AM

PR

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 10:35 AM

PR

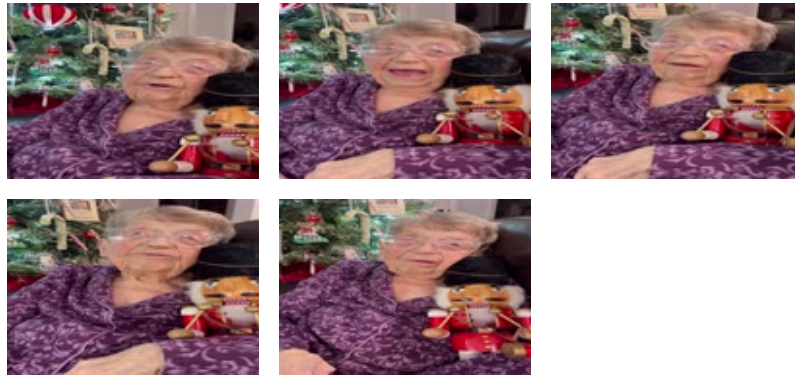
“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 02:36 AM

PR

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 02:03 AM

PR

“ She had 10 other Siblings, when counting her twin sister that died at birth & another young sister that died in a train accident.



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 12:17 AM

PR

“ She cherished all family & friends!



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 12:14 AM

PR

“ Memories with Family & Friends



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 12:11 AM

PR

“ Always FUN memories with Mom



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 12:08 AM

PR

“ Memories Day 1 in Ocala, Florida



Pam Riley - January 06, 2024 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ What a beautiful example their marriage was to David, Steve & I



Pam Riley - January 05, 2024 at 11:54 PM