



## Helen Machen Neill

November 18, 1930 - May 8, 2021

Helen Machen Neill, 90 years old, passed away peacefully on May 8, 2021 after a long journey with Alzheimer's disease. Helen was born in Winnfield, Louisiana to Otis Wesley Machen and Ocie Mae Smith on November 18, 1930. Helen graduated from high school from the Louisiana School for the Deaf where she was homecoming queen and played on the basketball team.

Afterwards Helen attended Gallaudet College in Washington, D.C. with a major in education and a minor in art, where she met David Neill the love of her life. Helen and David married the day after their graduation on May 29, 1956 at Gallaudet. Helen was primarily a homemaker; after her children became older, she was employed as a sign language instructor and an educator at the Kendall School for the Deaf.

She is preceded in death by her parents, brother Charles Machen, and son James Neill. Survivors include her husband David of Tallahassee; four children: Kathleen (Barry) Neill of Tallahassee, Thomas Neill of Sweden, Christopher (Tracy) Neill of Maryland, and Dennis Neill of Texas; ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

A memorial service for Helen will be held at a future date. Those who wish to offer condolences, share a story or leave a tribute may visit her memorial webpage at [www.bevisfh.com](http://www.bevisfh.com) Susie Mozolic of Bevis Funeral Home is

assisting the family with their arrangements. (850-385-2193)

# Tribute Wall

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Wayne Steffen** - May 27, 2021 at 08:29 AM