

# Mary S. Makima

December 12, 1917 - May 30, 2010

Mary Zura "Boots" Shaw Makima, 92, of Huntsville passed away on Sunday, May 30, 2010 at a local hospital after a long illness.

Mary was born and reared in Tuscumbia, Colbert County, Alabama where she graduated from Deshler High School as valedictorian, then attended Florence State College (now UNA) before working for Dr. D. D. Cox.

During World War II, she worked in Washington, D.C. for the U.S. House of Representatives and for a war agency as an Intelligence Analyst.

Mary had a penchant for writing and, during the 1950s when companies sponsored contests based on writing skill instead of luck, she won several top national prizes for her clever entries.

She belonged to regional and national contest clubs. She also enjoyed working crossword puzzles and cross-stitching.

For over half of a century, Mary zealously researched her family history.

She was a member of the Twickenham Town Chapter DAR, the Jamestowne Society and other patriotic and lineage organizations. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Huntsville.

Survivors are her daughter, Mary Irene Makima Ross and son-in-law, Lester M. Ross, Senior of Huntsville; and her sister, Lillian Rogers, of Birmingham.

She was predeceased by her husband of 56 years George Henry Makima; her parents, Attorney William Hampton Shaw and Marguerite Eliza Simmons Shaw of Tuscumbia; and six siblings.

Visitation will be from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Wednesday at Laughlin Funeral Home. A graveside service will be 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Maple Hill Cemetery with Rev. Coy Hallmark and Rev. Margaret Anne Whitsett officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Ministries of the Church Women, ATTN: Rev. Whitsett, First United Methodist Church, 120 Greene Street, Huntsville, AL 35801.



Born: December 12, 1917  
Death: May 30, 2010

*findagrave ID 116997200 stone shared with husband George 1919-2000  
and daughter Mary Irene Makima Ross 1945-2021*



## Mary Makima Ross

September 29, 1945 - February 15, 2021

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Mary Irene Makima Ross, 75, of Huntsville passed away Monday. Born September 29, 1945 at Andrews Air Force Base, MD and reared in Tuscumbia, Mary moved to Huntsville with her parents, George H. and Mary Zura Shaw Makima, at a young age. She graduated from Huntsville High School in 1963 and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama in 1967 and a master's degree with high honors in Engineering from the University of Alabama Huntsville in 1982. Mary worked for NASA at Marshall Space Flight Center, and then for the Department of Defense at Redstone Arsenal as a Systems Engineer. After retirement, she attended Birmingham School of Law and earned a JD with honors in 2006, passing the Alabama Bar Exam on her 61st birthday, on her first attempt. She was admitted to the Alabama Bar for the practice of law in the state of Alabama.

Mary was a member of several genealogy lineage organizations including the Twickenham Town Chapter of the DAR, Daughters of Colonial Wars, and the First Families of Alabama. She was the Organizing Governor of the Alabama Company, Jamestowne Society. She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Huntsville for over 65 years.

She is survived by her loving husband of more than 40 years, Lester M. Ross, Senior.

She will be buried at Maple Hill Cemetery where a private graveside service will be held.