

## Rebecca Thomas Cawthon Bio

After graduation I went to Las Cruces to stay with my sister and work at White Sands Missile Range. There I meet a young MP from Tennessee named Bill Simpson. Bill and I married in December of 1957. We moved to Tennessee in May of 1958 where we lived for the next two years. Our oldest son, Sonny, was born there in 1959. We found it difficult to make a good living in Tennessee and moved back to Las Cruces in 1960. Our other three children, Sissy born in 1960, Dale born in 1961 and Laurie born in 1967 Were all born in Las Cruces. Bill worked at New Mexico State University and I worked for Piggly Wiggly as a grocery checker. We bought an old house in Mesilla Park and fixed it up and that is where we raised our family. All of our children are married and have wonderful families. I have 15 grand children 13 boys and 2 girls and a great granddaughter.

The low point of my life came in 1993 when my husband of 35 years died suddenly of a brain aneurysm.

In 1997 I came back to our old hometown of Tucumcari. My sisters Betty and Fern and my brother-in-law Dusty bought the old Thaxton house and converted it to a Bed and Breakfast which we ran until 2005.

Now here is the part that might surprise you about me. I walked down the aisle for the second time at age 63. I married a great guy named Alvin Cawthon . Alvin and I have a wonderful life together. We both love it here in Tucumcari and stay surprisingly busy. Alvin and I are co-chairmen for the Craft Fair which is held in May and November of each year. We work with the local Bluegrass Music Association which has a music program every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month. I am treasurer of the Tabosa Extension Club. And I am also a member of the Rattler Reunion Board.

I feel that the Lord has richly blessed my life with a great family, good health, and good friends.