



Billye Joyce Williams

August 18, 1928 - February 1, 2015

Billye Joyce Williams loved her family, friends, adventures, and her faith. She began her last great adventure February 1, 2015, surrounded by loved ones. She was born August 18, 1928 in Muskogee, Oklahoma to Faye Frances Hartgraves and Dickie McCracken Hartgraves. Billye Joyce's mother died soon after she was born and when she was three, Jerri O'Connell Hartgraves came into her life. Jerri brought the love and care that helped to mold Billye Joyce into the person she became. Billye Joyce flew a plane before she drove a car, could ride a horse standing up and was a proud Aggie cheerleader while attending Oklahoma A & M. That same sense of adventure and fun took her and Gene around the world making wonderful friends, memories and stories for future generations.

Billye Joyce and Gene loved the small Oklahoma towns in which they were raised and wanted the same experience for their family so they eventually settled in Okmulgee, Oklahoma; Gene to practice architecture and Joyce to raise their four children. The years spent growing up in Haskell and her time at Oklahoma A&M, especially with her beloved Kappa Deltas, were good preparation for Billye Joyce's many future activities. Billye Joyce was a member and supporter of many organizations as well as serving on many boards. These included St Anthony Catholic Church, St. Anthony's Altar Society, OSU Alumni Association, Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, P.E.O. Chapter Z, Art and Literature Club, Okmulgee Service League, Creek Council House Board,

CASA, Gilcrease Gillie, Daughters of the American Revolution, Colonial Dames and she later volunteered at San Miguel School in Tulsa. Because Billie Joyce loved all things "Cowboys" she received a great deal of teasing when she returned to school at OU to earn a second degree, this time in Nursing Home Administration. She commuted to Norman from Okmulgee, studied late into the night and continued to make her family feel as though they were her priority.

Billye Joyce is survived by her husband of 64 years, Harold Eugene Williams. She is also survived by her children, Diane Ornelas and husband Steve, Terri Gilley and husband Curtis, Jimmy Williams and wife Jennifer and Patricia Cohen and husband Mitchell. A source of great joy in her life, Billye Joyce is survived by eleven grandchildren, Duncan Ornelas and wife Mary, Amy Burden and husband Chad, Ashlee Towery and husband Todd, Zachery Ornelas and wife Teresa, Justin Goodman and wife LaCresha, Abigail Wilburn, Haley McCord and husband Patrick, Barrett Gilley, Bradley Williams, Tara Williams and Michael Williams. Billye Joyce is also survived by fourteen great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Neil and Susanna Williams of Blackwell Oklahoma as well as many loving nieces and nephews.

A Rosary will be held 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Her Funeral Mass will be held at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on Thursday, February 5, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow in the Haskell Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations to Saint Anthony Catholic Church, Catholic Charities or San Miguel School.

Arrangements have been entrusted to McClendon-Winters Funeral Home of Okmulgee. Billye Joyce's Tribute Page may be viewed at www.mcclendon-win

ters.com

Cemetery Details

Haskell Cemetery

Haskell, OK 74436

Previous Events

Rosary

FEB 4. 7:00 PM (CT)

McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel
303 E. 7th Street
Okmulgee, OK

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 5. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Anthony Catholic Church
515 S. Morton
Okmulgee, OK 74447

Tribute Wall



“ *Billye Joyce Williams*

December 20, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ *Judy Rogers lit a candle in memory of Billye Joyce Williams*



Judy Rogers - February 07, 2015 at 10:32 AM



“ *Jul;iene Stone lit a candle in memory of Billye Joyce Williams*



Jul;iene Stone - February 05, 2015 at 06:40 PM



“ *What a precious gift it was to witness the love story between Mr. and Mrs. Williams. She leaves a lasting legacy of her adventuresome spirit and faith-filled life in her wonderful, caring children, beautiful, smart grandchildren and spunky great-grandkids. A life well lived! Peace and blessings unto you all -
Love,
Patti Olzawski Barker*

Patricia Barker - February 05, 2015 at 04:17 PM

KV

“ J.P. and I had many good times at your home. Gene, Joyce was a true blessing to all who knew her. She will be missed.

Kathryn Vanderpool - February 04, 2015 at 09:42 PM

BB

“ Joyce was a loving friend to all of the Eaton's- I last visited Gene and Joyce on July 4th several years ago- what a wonderful, sweet, dear, ambitious woman! She will missed by all who were blessed to know her.

Brenda Butchee

Brenda Butchee - February 04, 2015 at 08:42 PM

RV

“ Rita Volturo lit a candle in memory of Billye Joyce Williams



Rita Volturo - February 04, 2015 at 08:16 PM

SP

“ I have so many precious memories of this kind and loving woman. All the slumber parties and overnite stays. We sure tested her patience. But thru it all she laughed with us and made sure we had everything we needed. So sorry for your loss. She loved her family and friends with everything she had. God bless your family!



susan pope - February 03, 2015 at 06:54 PM

JM

“ *Jim McClendon lit a candle in memory of Billye Joyce Williams*



Jim McClendon - February 02, 2015 at 10:53 PM

JM

Dear Williams family. What a wonderful woman she was. I got to see her love and caring first hand. Prayers and positive thoughts.

Jim McClendon - February 02, 2015 at 10:55 PM

GD

Joyce was such a nice woman. Our thoughts and prayers with the family.
Gwyn & Darrel Dominick

Gwyn Dominick - February 03, 2015 at 12:00 PM

ED

Our memories of Joyce are of a warm and open woman who always looked so happy to see you and spend time with you. To be the recipients of that degree of love and acceptance is a precious gift. Our family loved her. Blessings on her soul and sincere condolences to all the clan.
Ellen and Tim Doyle

Ellen Doyle - February 03, 2015 at 02:11 PM

MC

Joyce was a great lady and will be missed by many. I have known her for many years and we met on my first day at work for the CASA program in 1991. They were going out that day on their first CASA case. For many years she and Gene were volunteers and were faithful to our program. My prayers will be with Gene and the family. Marlene Covington, CASA Adm. Asst.

Marlene Covington - February 04, 2015 at 08:12 AM

JS

As you grieve the loss of your mother, please know that I am remembering you and honoring the celebration of Joyce's life. Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts. Judy Volturo Saxton

Judy Saxton - February 04, 2015 at 08:51 PM

KW

I can remember babysitting for the Williams's grandchildren. I can also remember which pew they sat in as members of St. Anthony's in Okmulgee. Joyce was such a delightful lady. Your family is in my prayers. --Karin Phelps Williams

K W - May 13, 2015 at 06:02 AM

JC

“ Faith and family were common denominators for a friendship which began more than sixty years ago. Joyce personified both of these attributes throughout all of her life. My heartfelt and sincere sympathy is extended to all of the 'Williams' family on their loss.

Jeneane Campbell - February 02, 2015 at 07:56 PM