



Leota Markham

July 15, 1930 - January 21, 2018

Leota Thomas Markham “Lea” was born on July 15, 1930 in Okmulgee, Oklahoma to Denny and Lula Thomas. The family already consisted of 4 children when Lea and her twin sister were born. Five years later, a set of twin boys would join the Thomas clan. Growing up one of eight children would be a big influence on Lea for the rest of her life.

In 1948, Lea married Bobby Markham who had recently returned from serving in World War II. Their first daughter, Debi, was born the next year, followed by Jan two years later. Lea and Bobby were active members of First Baptist Church and much of their social life revolved around young couples like themselves with small children. Lea loved to share stories of this time of her life and considered it one of her favorites. Twelve years later, Lea and Bobby added third daughter, Susan, to the family.

In 1972, Lea transitioned from a stay-at-home mom to a working woman taking a job as a secretary and bookkeeper at Leisure Manor and Rebold Manor. Lea had a passion for the elderly and loved forming relationships with the patients as well as working with the many families that she assisted. During this time, Lea became “MeMe” when her first grandchildren, Amy and Stuart, were born to daughter, Jan. Many trips were made to Tulsa to watch dance recitals and baseball games.

The 1990s brought the addition of Susan’s husband, Tracy, and new granddaughters, Meg and Addie. Lea described this time as a “whole new lease on life.” Now retired, Lea and Bobby had plenty of time, a big yard, and

many creative activities to host Meg and Addie on the weekends. The family continued to grow when Stuart's children, Jada and Landen were born. After Bobby passed away in 2010, Lea could be found every morning taking long walks with her beloved friends. She adored the wonderful women in her Sunday School class. She was a friendly, kind and generous person. One of Lea's greatest joys was being so close to her siblings who live in Okmulgee. They were her constant companions and filled her life with laughter and comfort.

Lea is survived by her daughter Debi Markham of Tulsa; daughter Susan Robinett, her husband Tracy and their daughters Meg and Addie, also of Tulsa; grandson Stuart Swanson, his wife Lisa and their children Jada and Landen of Stillwater. She is also survived by sisters Helen Brock and Doe Dooley, and brother Denny Thomas, all of Okmulgee, along with sisters-in-law Erma, Donna and June, and numerous nieces, nephews and their extended families.

Lea is predeceased by her parents, husband Bobby, daughter Jan and granddaughter Amy; also by her brothers Bob Thomas and Benny Thomas, and sisters Dorothy Holland and Cleota Hoffmeister.

A Memorial Service will be held 11:00 A.M. Monday, January 29, 2018 at the First Baptist Church with Dr. Dennis Taylor officiating. A private family committal service will be held at the Okmulgee Cemetery.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home of Okmulgee.

Memories, condolences, photos and videos may be shared with the family on Lea's Tribute Page of our website at www.mcclendon-winters.com

Cemetery Details

Okmulgee Cemetery

2601 South Wood Drive
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-5109

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN **29**. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Okmulgee
311 W. 5th Street
Okmulgee, OK

Tribute Wall



“ *Leota Markham*

December 20, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ *Aunt Lea was a wonderful Aunt great memories of her she was a caring person always had a smile on her. She was a great sister to her brothers and sisters. Great times with her and she will be missed.*

Brenda Blaylock - February 07, 2018 at 12:04 PM

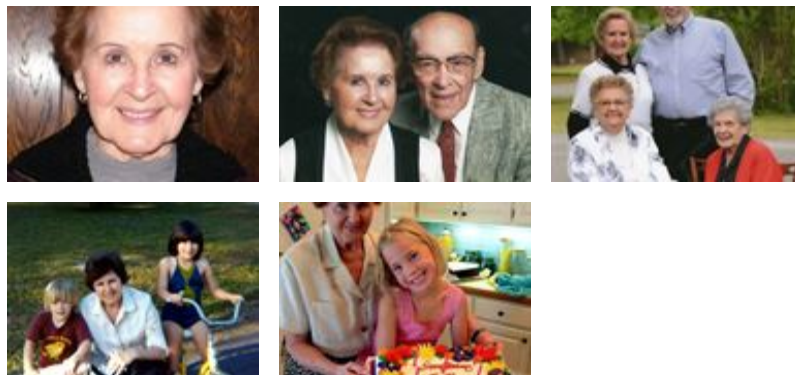


“ *We have so many wonderful memories of our neighbor and friend mrs markham. Isabella and anna always enjoyed playing with meg and addie. Mrs markham was such a kind soul and we always enjoyed her visits during our garage sales or at the end of her daily walks. We will miss our dear mrs markham.*

mary and nolan crowley - January 28, 2018 at 07:32 PM



“ *40 files added to the album Life Tributes*



McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - January 26, 2018 at 01:04 PM

JJ

“ *Janette Johnson lit a candle in memory of Leota Markham*



Janette Johnson - January 26, 2018 at 11:59 AM

JC

“ *My sincere sympathy to the family for their loss. My late husband and I happened to be among those that had such good times with Bob and Leota. So many good memories.*



Jeneane Campbell - January 25, 2018 at 02:37 PM

PM

“ *Pat Morrison lit a candle in memory of Leota Markham*



Pat Morrison - January 25, 2018 at 09:10 AM

DM

“ *David Miller lit a candle in memory of Leota Markham*



david miller - January 24, 2018 at 12:42 PM

LM

“ *Lois McLeod lit a candle in memory of Leota Markham*



Lois McLeod - January 24, 2018 at 12:29 PM

DS

“ *Doug Swanson lit a candle in memory of Leota Markham*



Doug Swanson - January 23, 2018 at 04:51 PM

LS

“ *Lisa Swanson lit a candle in memory of Leota Markham*



Lisa Swanson - January 23, 2018 at 10:37 AM

SS

“ One of many memories I have of Meme is when we would play baseball in the front yard. Meme, Grandpa Bobby, Amy and I would have such a good time together. The time Meme and Grandpa Bobby made a special trip to Florida where We lived for a short time so they could take Amy and I to Disney World. The many Christmases we spent together, A very memorable one in particular, when the whole family made a snowman in the front yard. No matter what it was or what we were doing, Meme always made it very special to me!

Thank You Meme for enriching my life, in only a way a Grandmother can.

Love Always,

Stuart

Stuart Swanson - January 23, 2018 at 10:26 AM

TM

“ Tim McDonald lit a candle in memory of Leota Markham



Tim McDonald - January 22, 2018 at 04:19 PM

TM

I've seen the tapestry of her life in her Grandson. Woven with Love and Care. RIP.

Tim McDonald - January 22, 2018 at 04:22 PM

SD

Aunt Lea, you were a very special , loving person and it was an honor to call you "Aunt". Mimi will be lost without her sister and best friend. Our love and thoughts to Debbie, Susan Beth and the family. Love Sue, Clint, Meredith and Stephen.

Sue Dooley - January 23, 2018 at 08:38 PM

RR

“ Renae (Thomas) Raburn lit a candle in memory of Leota Markham



Renae (Thomas) Raburn - January 22, 2018 at 04:04 PM

JT

“ Joyce Thomas lit a candle in memory of Leota Markham



joyce thomas - January 22, 2018 at 01:41 PM

KA

“ Kim Angle lit a candle in memory of Leota Markham



Kim Angle - January 22, 2018 at 08:28 AM

NC

“ So sorry to see this. Mrs. Markham was always so bright a cheery.
Great neighbor.

Nolan Crowley - January 21, 2018 at 03:16 PM