



Mary Janice Haggard

January 15, 1947 - December 13, 2023

Mary Janice (Vance) Haggard was born Wednesday, January 15, 1947, in Henryetta, Oklahoma. She was the only child of the late Everett W. and Helen (Martin) Vance. The family then moved to Okmulgee where Janice grew up surrounded by friends, extended family, and her church home. Her childhood in Okmulgee instilled a deep love for her hometown and the people there who shaped her life. She remained in contact with her classmates and Okmulgee friends throughout the years.

Janice met the love of her life, David Haggard at a basketball game in Morris at the age of sixteen. She graduated high school in May 1965 and on August 21, 1965, they married in Okmulgee. In 1967, while David was serving his country in Vietnam, their first child, Chris, was born. Janice and Chris lived with her parents in Okmulgee until David's return, and they then moved to various towns throughout Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas, before relocating to Louisiana for David's job with the USDA Soil Conservation Service.

Janice received her bachelor's degree in English and Speech from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, and her master's degree in English from Northeast Louisiana University. She highly valued education and not only instilled that commitment to learning in her own children, but also built a career providing an education to others.

In 1972, they welcomed a daughter, Kellie, and in 1978, their third child, Laura, was born. Soon after Laura's birth the family moved to Marlow, Oklahoma where Janice designed a Language Arts Lab for 9th-12th grade students at Marlow High School and taught there for 7 years. The family then moved to Stillwater in 1986, where Janice taught Freshman English Composition at Oklahoma State University and English, Speech and Drama, and Creative Writing at Perkins High School, retiring in 1997. She had a deep love for teaching and truly cared about her students and coworkers.

Janice was a self-taught pianist, becoming her church accompanist at the age of sixteen. She was also active in the church choir, played the accordion, and later in life became talented in calligraphy. Janice loved genealogy, reading, and spending time with her family. She possessed a great love for all animals, but particularly dogs, and had many that she adored over the years. Her self-proclaimed 'major hobby' was her grandchildren. She spent most of her days in her later years attending their events, reading and singing to them, and keeping them entertained. Janice was also very devoted to her extended family and deeply enjoyed her relationships with her many cousins, aunts, and uncles. She and David were truly best friends and had recently celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary.

Janice started battling health issues at thirty-six years of age and defied many odds over the years. Her indomitable spirit saw her through incredible battles with lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, and cancer, among other things. On Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at seventy-six years of age, Janice passed away in Stillwater with her family by her side. She was the central figure for her immediate and extended family and her loss leaves a profound gap.

She is survived by her husband, David, a son, Chris Haggard, daughters, Kellie Ebert and husband Ryan and Laura Little Price and husband Brett, grandchildren, Tyler Ebert, Jake Ebert, Cole Ebert, Gentry Ebert, Ashlynn

Price, Collier Little and Malone Price and numerous members of her extended family.

There will be a viewing and visitation at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, from 12:00 P.M. – 1:00 P.M., followed by the funeral service at 2:00 P.M. Dr. Dennis Taylor will officiate. Interment will follow in the Okmulgee Cemetery with Ryan Ebert, Brett Price, Tyler Ebert, Jake Ebert, Cole Ebert and Collier Little serving as casket bearers.

Arrangements have been entrusted to McClendon-Winters Funeral Home of Okmulgee. Memories, condolences, photos and videos may be shared with the family on Janice's Tribute Page of our website. www.mcclendon-winters.com

Cemetery Details

Okmulgee Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 19. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

DEC 19. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ McClendon-Winters Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Janice Haggard



McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - December 18, 2023 at 01:18 PM

DM

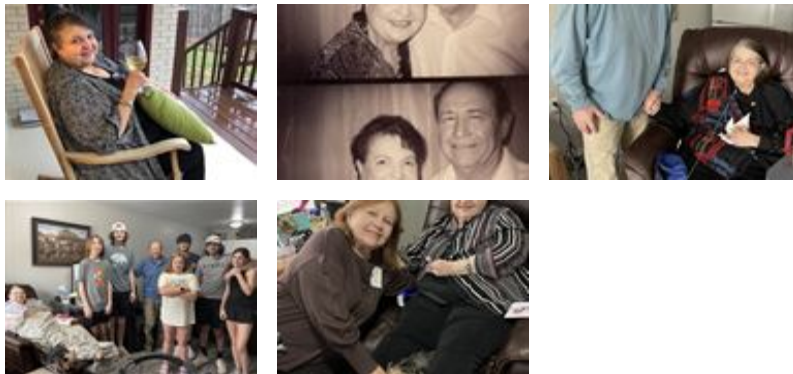
“ David and family,

So sorry to hear of Jan's passing. I really enjoyed meeting her in Marlow as David and I worked together for SCS and keeping in touch over the years. Prayers for comfort for all of you. David McKay

David McKay - December 19, 2023 at 06:45 PM



“ 109 files added to the album LifeTributes



McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - December 18, 2023 at 11:42 AM

NN

“ So sorry David and family. She was a wonderful person, so honored to have known her. Nila Nuttle

Nila Nuttle - December 18, 2023 at 11:40 AM

VF

“ VaRene Martin and Family purchased the Pink, White, and Purple Dahlia Saddle (Silk Cemetery Flowers) for the family of Mary Janice Haggard.



VaRene Martin and Family - December 17, 2023 at 04:19 PM

JH

“ I went to school with Janice. She was a wonderful person. Jerry Horn

Jerry Horn - December 15, 2023 at 10:47 AM



“ May you rest in the Peace you have earned, my precious Cousin. 🙏❤️🕊️



Linda Chambers - December 15, 2023 at 07:26 AM