



## Emily Culpepper

May 17, 1952 - January 20, 2021

Services for Emily Culpepper, 68, of Tyler will be held on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at Stewart Family Funeral Home with Pastor Brandon Holiski and Pastor Tracy Miller officiating. Burial will follow at Rosewood Cemetery in Rosewood, TX under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home at 2p.m.

Mrs. Culpepper passed away Wednesday, January 20, 2021 in Tyler. She was born May 17, 1952 in Gilmer to Willie Hymer and Estelle Green Hymer.

Emily was a faithful member of Southern Oaks Baptist Church in Tyler, TX. She graduated from Harmony High School in 1970. She attended Jacksonville College where she was the pianist for the college choir. She received her associate's degree in music education there. Beginning at the young age of 13, she taught hundreds of children and adults to love playing the piano over the years. She held many positions with over 30 years of service for the Andrews Center and carried a passion throughout her life for the special needs community. Over the span of her life, Emily shared her love for God's Word as a Bible study teacher to all ages.

Emily was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Culpepper; her mother and father, Estelle and Willie Hymer; and her sister and brother-in-law, Linda and Pat McNeel. She is survived by her loving family including her children,

Shanda Warren, Richard and Kasey Rivers, James Culpepper; her grandchildren, Grace and Caleb Warren; and a brand new great-granddaughter, Harper Michele Dowthitt.

Pallbearers will be Dillon Dowthitt, Caleb Warren, Tracy Miller, Rick McNeel, Ronnie McNeel, and Jacob Thompson.

If desired, memorials may be made to the music or children's ministries at Southern Oaks Baptist Church, 601 E. Amherst Dr. Tyler, TX 75701.

# Previous Events

## Service

JAN 25. 10:00 AM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home  
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy  
Tyler, TX 75703  
(903) 581-2008

## Interment

JAN 25. 2:00 PM.

Rosewood Cemetery  
8 Miles West of Gilmer - Hwy 154

# Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Emily Culpepper



Stewart Family Funeral Home - January 24, 2021 at 01:22 PM

RJ

“ I went to school with Emily all the way from 1st grade through High School graduation. In all of those years we never had a cross word. She was always so kind and pleasant to be around. She could participate in a little mischief occasionally, especially when led there by her two closest friends. But she was always smiling, thoughtful, and helpful to others. For a short time I had the privilege to sing with her, Gary Houston, and Dana Pepper in a quartet that Emily helped to put together. She had such a God given gift on the piano. While we will all miss her, Heaven has gained a beautiful voice. Rest in peace my sweet friend.

Rick James - January 26, 2021 at 01:33 PM

MJ

“ I worked with Emily at the Andrews Center for many years. She was such a lovely woman and it was a privilege to know her. I wish you the very best and I know she will be missed. Midge Jackson

Midge Jackson - January 26, 2021 at 09:59 AM

FM

“ Emily was a sweet soul. When I think of her I see a sparkle in her eyes and a great big smile. Her countenance radiated Jesus. My prayers for her family. May Gods peace be with you. She will be greatly missed by many.



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**Ferna Mills** - January 23, 2021 at 09:48 AM

JM

“ Emily was my best friend in high school and we spent equal amount of times at each other's homes. When she came to our home my mother, a wonderful singer, would have her play songs while mother would sing along and cook our supper. Emily was dating a young man who just so happened to be the best friend of a young man from Winnsboro. They had it in their minds that their BFF's had to meet so they arranged it and 52 years later that couple are still married— James snd Debbie Ray Murphy. (Thank you) As years passed our meetings were few but we always knew after all the years our memories and love for each other lived on. Rest In Peace sweet lady until we see each other in Heaven.

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**James snd Debbie Murphy** - January 22, 2021 at 08:58 PM

JE

“ Jennifer purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Emily Culpepper.



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**Jennifer** - January 22, 2021 at 12:24 PM

CJ

“ Emily was my first cousin. She was born two days before me in May 1952. We always celebrated our early birthdays with a combined party. We also attended Harmony Schools together for twelve years, graduating with the class of 1970. We also attended Jacksonville College together and both graduated there in 1972.

*In high school, Emily was one of the best typists to ever come through HHS. While I struggled to get 50 wpm with hard concentration, she could do 100+ wpm without even trying.*

*I have often wondered if typing and piano playing skills were intertwined because her greatest talents lay in music. She learned from the best teacher, Gwen Tuel, and soon exceeded her instructor. She taught many kids in this area how to play piano and several became accomplished pianists under her tutelage. At a school banquet in high school, she played "Last Date" for the processional entrance of the royalty. You would have thought Floyd Cramer was tickling the ivories in the old Harmony gymnasium. She served as the pianist for the Jacksonville College choir which was quite an honor considering the number of talented music majors there.*

*While in college, she drove a VW bug. Some prankish boys once took her VW up an incline and placed it in the student union building.*

*I know she loved her family---husband, kids, and grandkids. A big part of her heart was buried at Rosewood Cemetery a couple of years ago when Kenneth was laid to rest. She has undergone many health challenges in recent years. I am thankful she's been totally healed now.*

*My prayers go out to Shanda, Bonnie, and her entire family. May the Holy Spirit be a Great Comforter to you.*

*Charles Johnson*

**Charles Johnson** - January 21, 2021 at 08:39 PM