



## Frankie Widner

August 22, 1940 - February 16, 2013

Services for Frankie Widner, 72, of Tyler, will be held on Sunday, February 24, 2013 at 1:30 PM at Stewart Family Funeral Home Chapel.

Burial will follow at Cathedral in the Pines Cemetery in Tyler under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Mrs. Widner passed away February 16, 2013 in Tyler.

She was born August 22, 1940 in Canadian to Samuel and Matilda Chaffin.

Frankie retired from the pharmacy department of Trinity Mother Frances Hospital after 25 years. She taught sign language as a deaf instructor for 30 years in the Continuing Education Sign Language Program which led to the establishment of the current Interpreter Training Program at TJC by Dr. Judy Barnes.

Frankie was a member of the East Texas Deaf Ladies Club and former President and member of the Tyler Metro Association for the Deaf. She attended Shiloh Road Church of Christ. Her beautiful spirit and her sweet, precious smile touched so many lives. She loved her family very much and was proud of each one. She will be deeply missed.

Frankie is preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her loving family including her husband, Bobbye Widner; daughters, Cynthia Buchanan and Darlene Winsett; sister, Mildred Thrasher; grandchildren, Christy Buchanan, Blake Widner, Preston Winsett and Piper Winsett; and by great-grandchildren, Kent Clark and Jaysen Hicks.

Visitation is scheduled from 6:00 –8:00 PM on Saturday, February 23, 2013 at

Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway, in Tyler.  
In lieu of flowers, donations in honor of Frankie Widner may be made to the  
Frankie S. Chaffin Widner Scholarship Fund for the Deaf at TJC in C/O Mitch  
Andrews at Tyler Junior College, PO Box 9020, Tyler, 75711-9020.

# Cemetery Details

## Cathedral in the Pines Cemetery

7825 South Broadway Avenue  
Tyler, TX 75703

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 23. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Service

FEB 24. 1:30 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

CB

“ It is so Sweet of Mom Angel now. I am truly missed her so much always remember that things she has very good a mother all her life she loved her own family and friends too. She always reminds about Jesus in Bible to help advices people to understand.. I am so thanks my Mom... In my own word She will always in my heart and hand so tight mean that promise we would be see again in the heaven.... She always believe in Forgive ways that mean no body is perfect... She was always good care and protect me many ways...



**CINDY BUCHANAN** - April 07, 2013 at 07:51 PM

DW

“ Darlene Winsett lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



**Darlene Winsett** - February 27, 2013 at 06:52 AM



*Robert Perelman Frankie wonder live in Heaven with Jesus. She is wonderful friendship and God's care for her. God bless your family.*

**Robert Perelman** - August 17, 2013 at 09:37 PM

LI

“ It has been a blessing to know Frankie as my mentor and friend for 30 years in the Deaf Community. She has a great sense of humor which makes me appreciate her unique character. With many fond memories of her, I cherish it. To the Widner family, may the Lord prayer comfort and strengthen you in the time of loss.

*Elizabeth Crook*

Liz - February 23, 2013 at 11:14 AM

SG

“ Sandra Griffin lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



Sandra griffin - February 22, 2013 at 07:26 PM

SG

We will miss Frankie. She is my best friend and grow up with her from Canadian . My father Clint wright alway pick her and me up and bring to texas of the deaf austin every year for many years, I help her and her husband moved to Tyler from Canadian tex and got a job at Tyler. I cant beleive her gone to heaven. Pray for all of your family We always love you all. Sandra and Donna.

Sandra griffin - February 22, 2013 at 07:32 PM

Ellen Allering

“ Ellen Allering lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



Ellen Allering - February 22, 2013 at 06:31 PM

BQ

“ Betty Jo Quinn lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



Betty Jo Quinn - February 22, 2013 at 06:01 PM

Karla McDonald

“ Frankie Widner, was my friend, but she was a friend to so many. I'm so sorry we weren't able to spend more time visiting when I still lived in Tyler. But I do remember when we first met, and you were pregnant and I became pregnant shortly after that; and we spent so many mornings having coffee at my house and shared all our stories. And I was with you when you got your hearing aid and you could actually hear noise that I took for granted. And I was with you interpreting for your class at TJC, and later we were together when you interviewed for your job at TMFH. You worked hard and you were so proud to be working there. I remember all the fun camping trips many of us went on, and the deaf club meetings and parties. While I taught you about the hearing world, you taught me about the deaf world.. We don't know why this was your time to pass away. The one thing I do know, we all have lost a wonderful friend, Mom, wife, Grandmother, sister, aunt and you will be truly missed.

Karla McDonald - February 21, 2013 at 09:38 PM

Karla McDonald

“ Karla McDonald lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



Karla McDonald - February 21, 2013 at 09:23 PM

TW

“ Frankie...I just love you so much. Thank you for being a Godly woman and a role model. I was so proud to be your niece. When I was with you I just couldn't help but smile and feel your love. You had such a sweet spirit... I'm blessed to have had you in my life. Truly I will look forward to the day we will hug again in heaven. Love you, Twilla

Twilla - February 21, 2013 at 09:03 PM

AS

“ Amy Sewell lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



Amy Sewell - February 21, 2013 at 08:43 PM

Alexa Lynn

“ Alexa Lynn lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



Alexa Lynn - February 21, 2013 at 08:11 PM

LW

“ Lana Hilton Williams lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



Lana Hilton Williams - February 21, 2013 at 06:09 PM


SR

“ Shirley Rhea lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



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Shirley Rhea - February 21, 2013 at 05:36 PM

  
NickandRachel  
Biagini

“ My dear Aunt Frankie,  
We are all so saddened by your passing, but also rejoice in knowing that you are in heaven and have your angel wings. You have always been such an inspiration of what a woman can do/become, especially being a deaf woman. You never let that stop what you wanted to do or accomplish. We will always cherish your memory and sweet smile.

Love,

Nick, Rachel, Sophia and Juliana Biagini

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NickandRachel Biagini - February 21, 2013 at 05:32 PM

KM

“ Kaye Brewer Mcquigg lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



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kaye brewer mcquigg - February 21, 2013 at 05:23 PM

KM

*to darlene and your family my thoughts and prayers are with you all may she rest with the angels and always know she is watchin over you all. may god be with you at this time we love you all.*

**kaye brewer mcquigg** - February 21, 2013 at 05:24 PM

TG

*“ She was a wonderful lady, I remember the first time I ever met Frankie, after spending no more than an 1hour with her, she made you feel like you were so much a part of her life and family.....I know my Grans-kids thought the world of her, and she treated them as her own.. she will be missed by many...R.I.P. dear friend.....My Love and Prayers go out to Scott,Darr,Preston & Piper and all other family members...*



**Tammy Holman ( Other Granny)** - February 21, 2013 at 03:41 PM

MB

*“ She was a kind loving soul who loved to sign...Interpreter in Dallas, Texas*

**Michelle B** - February 20, 2013 at 11:10 PM

CW

“ Frankie, I remembered When we were waiting at the bus station. She asked me to watch over Cindy. I say sure I will do.. I was glad that my mom talked with Frankie at the bus station. I was surprised my mom talked use her hands to sign language to her. She is not afraid to talked with Frankie.. Also asked me to come to her ASL classes at TJC. to meet me to her students. Also I have a lot of pictures of her was Halloween party and Deaf club. I really enjoyed to visited her home long time ago. My last moment was at Judy Barnes's funeral She was sitting next to me. She still said," I am funny".. I made her cheer up. She told me that she tired but she got some laugh from me that I was funny. I know her for 32 years. Wow! It time so fast for me. I will always remembers of her. Sure, I will miss her.



Christine Webb - February 20, 2013 at 03:11 AM

GJ

“ Gary Tragesser Jr lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



Gary Tragesser Jr - February 19, 2013 at 07:21 PM

GJ

“ Gary Tragesser Jr sent a virtual gift in memory of Frankie Widner



Gary Tragesser Jr - February 19, 2013 at 07:21 PM

GJ

“ Gary Tragesser Jr sent a virtual gift in memory of Frankie Widner



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**Gary Tragesser Jr** - February 19, 2013 at 07:20 PM

GJ

“ Gary Tragesser Jr lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner



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**Gary Tragesser Jr** - February 19, 2013 at 07:19 PM

PS

“ Frankie, you were the best ASL teacher. A great friend, encourager, photographer! There is many stories that can be shared here. I will keep it short. I recall one class session I had my teeth wired from having jaw surgery and when it came time to introduce each person in the class you were shocked that I had to use ASL although I still used ESL you noticed that I wasn't talking like I wanted to. And you told me that I can sign in ASL and not to worry about voice but, you used your voice lol that was a change that didn't happen often! There is one more story I will share here. Remember going to a T.K. Gorman football game? When you noticed I was there to after the game my mother was there with me and you remember working with her at TMFH years before. My next door neighbor Patrick Maloney was standing near me and my cousins and he was in awe of watching me use ASL and voicing everything me and you said he never knew I could sign until then! From that point on you had told me to never stop learning ASL!  
So yes you were one of a few best ASL teachers I had!  
RIP Frankie!

*To your family, I will be praying for ya'll during this stressful time of grieving. Just remember that she is always in your hearts and she left a legacy to live on at TJC.*

*Thank y'all so much for the many years of teaching me and being great friends!*

*Paula Shamburger*

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**Paula Shamburger** - February 19, 2013 at 06:52 PM

PS

“ *Paula Shamburger lit a candle in memory of Frankie Widner*



Paula Shamburger - February 19, 2013 at 06:01 PM

GJ

*You will be always remembered. You were a very friendly and very sweet person. You always gave me a several good advices. I will pray God to comfort your family in Tyler, TX. Thanks for the friendship and good advices.*

*To your family, I will pray God to comfort and protect you. I agree with Paula's comment. Frankie is always in your heart and thought. Your family and you are in my prayers and thoughts. Thank you so much.*

Gary Tragesser Jr - February 19, 2013 at 07:19 PM



Ellen Allarding

*Frankie Widner God hath not pomised skies always blue Flower-strewn pathways all our lives through; God hath not promised sun without rain. Joy without sorrow. Peace without pain. But God hath promised strength for the day. Rest for the labor. Light for the way. Grace for the trials. help from above. Unfailing sympathy undying love. I will miss you. I am live in Michigan.*

Ellen Allarding - February 22, 2013 at 12:13 PM



*I am sorry about Frankie . when I was little girl and she took me outside with cindy . cindy and I was played at her house , Frankie was take care of us and feed us for dinner and stayed sleep overnight .Frankie is sweet nice to me and stay visited at her house . I am prayer god and She is in heaven . the angels and always know she is watchin over you all. may god be with you at this time .I am going miss ur family. I love you and cindy as good friend .*

Mary L Garza

Maria Garza - February 28, 2013 at 10:45 AM