



## Joanne Pickens Holley

December 8, 1950 - March 13, 2024

Kay Joanne Holley, known as Joanne, 73, passed away peacefully on March 13, 2024, in Tyler, Texas. She was born on December 8th, 1950, in Enid, Oklahoma to Melvin “Bud” Pickens and Marilyn Kay Pickens. Joanne was a kind soul who was loved by many family members, co-workers, friends, and generations of students. Her gentle presence was always felt by those around her.

Joanne is survived by her mother, Marilyn Kay Pickens of Sherman, TX; her loving husband of 52 years, Larry Wayne Holley of Whitehouse, TX; and her children, Michael John Holley and wife Kim of Bullard, TX, daughter, Jennifer Kay Phillips and husband Ryan of Flint, TX. She was a cherished Gran to grandkids, Hayden Holley and wife Julia Holley, Kensi Holley, Harper Holley, Findley Phillips, and Fannin Phillips. She is also survived by her brothers, David Pickens and wife Vickie, Jim Pickens and wife Lisa; and sister, Nancy Hickman and husband Larry; and many nieces and nephews whom she adored.

She is preceded in death by her father, Melvin “Bud” Pickens of Sherman, TX.

Joanne graduated from Paris High School in 1969. After graduation, she attended Phillips University in Enid, Oklahoma where she met her husband, Wayne Holley. She obtained her education degree from Cameron University in

Lawton, OK and spent a lifetime educating and caring for students, where she was known for her patience and kindness. She enjoyed attending her grandkids' various sporting events and spending as much time with family as she possibly could. She loved to bring the grandkids goodie bags each time she saw them and usually had a picture or two from her phone printed for them. She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Whitehouse, TX. Joanne was the perfect example of putting others first and was strong in her faith.

A visitation will be held at 1:00 on Monday, March 18th at Stewart Family Funeral Home followed by a service in the chapel there at 2:00.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Children's Advocacy Center of Smith County at [cacsmithcounty.org](http://cacsmithcounty.org).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 18. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

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

## Memorial Service

MAR 18. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Joanne Pickens Holley



Stewart Family Funeral Home - March 16, 2024 at 04:04 PM

CT

“ Coach Sam and the Dallas Tigers East TX purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.



Coach Sam and the Dallas Tigers East TX - March 18, 2024 at 08:36 AM

CT

“ Coach Sam and the Dallas Tigers East TX planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joanne Pickens Holley.

Coach Sam and the Dallas Tigers East TX - March 18, 2024 at 08:36 AM

DR

“ Dawn, Chad, & Holt Robertson purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.



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**Dawn, Chad, & Holt Robertson** - March 17, 2024 at 11:40 PM

TG

“ The Car-pool Gang purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.



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**The Car-pool Gang** - March 17, 2024 at 05:07 PM

TG

“ The Car-pool Gang planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joanne Pickens Holley.

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**The Car-pool Gang** - March 17, 2024 at 05:07 PM

NH

“ Thank you sweet sissy, for taking care of me as a baby.

*For letting me pester you to sleep with you even though I had my own room.*

*Thank you for letting me tag along on your dates, for reading to me every night (Golden Classics) and for endless hours of playing Barbies, coloring and paper dolls.*

*Thank you for saving up your babysitting money to buy me a Pixie baby doll and carriage and my first teddy bear which I still have.*

*Thank you for every birthday cake with seven minute shiny pink frosting.*

*Thank you for picking me up from school in the first grade and taking me to get an ice cream sandwich at 7-11 almost every day and tolerating tears if you were late.*

*Thank you for answering every phone call and text with so much understanding, never judgemental and thinking the same things were funny or outrageous.*

*Thank you for jumping in the car with Wayne, to drive to Alabama to help with my first baby and crying on the way home because it was so hard to leave him.*

*Thank you for every card, never forgetting a birthday or Valentine or Halloween for every family member.*

*Thank you for making sure you had a Village Bakery Gingerbread Man for me at the holidays.*

*Thank you for getting to me as fast as you could when our precious father passed.*

*Thank you for checking on our mom with such devotion.*

*Your own family reflects your love. Your husband, your son, your daughter, your grandkids. You poured out your love on everyone. Thank you for your thoughtfulness, your example, your unconditional and steadfast love.*

*My gentle, selfless, loving sister...I can't imagine life without you. I will miss you, I will reach for my phone, I will always think "I need to tell Joanne".*

*And just this morning, I had something to tell you ...*

*You personified love.*

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**Nancy Hickman** - March 16, 2024 at 11:31 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.*



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March 16, 2024 at 07:32 PM



“ *The Tindall's and Taylor's planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joanne Pickens Holley.*

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**The Tindall's and Taylor's** - March 16, 2024 at 07:32 PM



“ 61 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - March 16, 2024 at 04:04 PM

NR

“ Nancy Robertson purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.



Nancy Robertson - March 16, 2024 at 01:23 PM

VR

“ Joanne was one of the sweetest ladies to ever teach in Whitehouse and she truly loved her students and she was so kind, patient and supportive of every one of her students.



Valencia Ray - March 15, 2024 at 08:16 PM

LH

“ Love, Shauna Hittle and Patti Henderson purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.



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**Love, Shauna Hittle and Patti Henderson** - March 15, 2024 at 08:01 PM

LH

“ Love, Shauna Hittle and Patti Henderson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joanne Pickens Holley.

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**Love, Shauna Hittle and Patti Henderson** - March 15, 2024 at 08:01 PM

TF

“ The Joy Family purchased the *Country Basket Blooms* for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.



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**The Joy Family** - March 15, 2024 at 07:35 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray* was purchased for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.



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March 15, 2024 at 06:05 PM

ML

“ *Melissa Mortis Lane purchased the Serene Retre at for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.*



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**Melissa Mortis Lane** - March 15, 2024 at 05:40 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.*



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March 15, 2024 at 11:24 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.*



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March 15, 2024 at 11:19 AM

TF

“ *The Thedford Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Joanne Pickens Holley.*



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**The Thedford Family** - March 15, 2024 at 09:26 AM