



Joyce Hay Buster

June 12, 1939 - January 28, 2026

A celebration of the Life and Grace of Joyce Hay Buster, 86, of Flint, will be held on Friday, February 6, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at the Marvin Methodist Chapel in Tyler with Dr. Doug Baker officiating. Graveside services will follow at 3:30 p.m. at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Dallas with Rev. Gerry Giles officiating under the direction of the Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Mrs. Buster went into the joyous eternal heavenly communion with her beloved Jesus on Wednesday, January 28, 2026. She was born June 12, 1939, in Dallas; graduated from Garland High School in 1957, and married soon thereafter.

She is survived by her husband of 68 years, C.A. Buster; her son Randy Buster (Pam); four grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren: Courtni Little (Kent - Colby, Kade, Grady and Jolie); Aaron Buster (Rachel - Olivia Joyce, Curtis, Bethany and Gideon); Ariana McClellan (Madelyn, Morgan and Meghan); and Jamie McKinley (Tremaine - Mason).

Joyce served on the Session and was chairperson of the Christian Education Committee in the Presbyterian Church. After her sons were out of school, she attended two years of college and maintained a 4.0 GPS. She became secretary to the Operations Director at Allis-Chalmers Industrial Division, and Recognition Equipment, Inc. Then worked in the accounting department at the

First National Bank of Duncanville, also working as a dispatcher for the Duncanville Police Department and later, as Director of Operations for an adoption agency, Agape Social Services in Dallas. She utilized these varied experiences to become the well-respected office manager for Tyler Physical Therapy Clinic, and in retirement, was an active Board member and long-term Treasurer for the Villages HOA, and maintained her family's genealogy records.

Joyce gave all persons an assumption of quality without initial prejudice. She was not overt, but was keenly observant of people's attitudes and opinions. She was well read and could accurately describe a situation or opinion with an economy of words without demeaning the other person.

She enjoyed seeing her family develop their individual life-long expressions of music and song and she also sang with her husband in church choirs most of her adult life. She loved her house cats and enjoyed week-long camping with her family. Joyce had no affinity for gardening, cooking, or athletics, but she loved flowers, going to restaurants, and square-dancing.

She was totally committed to Jesus and loving to each one of her family, praying for them and others daily, and was an extensive prayer-warrior for those at Marvin Methodist Church until her illness. Her love and grace never wavered; she was 'Mom' to many family friends and she truly loved her role of 'Granny' – 'loving on' and rocking her family babies was always her favorite activity!

She lived a strong faith in God's Grace and a clear reliance on Christ in her life and her death.

She is preceded in death by her beloved son Gary Clyde Buster and his wife Salena Short Buster; her sisters: Barbara Maynard, Jeri Duke and Kathryn

Vandigriff; her parents William C. and Jonnie (Jan) D. Hay, and grandparents Baily and Mary Hay and Harry and Annie Welch.

Honorary pallbearers will be Randy Buster, Aaron Buster, John Eric Vandigriff, Randy Collier, Clyde Wright, Glenn Mathis, Jonathan Story, James Fish.

Visitation is scheduled from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 5, 2026, at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway, in Tyler.

If desired, memorials may be made to Music Ministry at Marvin Methodist Church, 300 W. Erwin St., Tyler, TX 75702, <http://marvin.church>, or to the charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 5. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Celebration of Life and Grace Service

FEB 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

Marvin Methodist Church
300 West Erwin
Tyler, TX

Graveside Service

FEB 6. 3:30 PM (CT)

Forest Lawn Cemetery
10977 Harry Hines Blvd.
Dallas, TX 75220

Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Joyce Hay Buster



Stewart Family Funeral Home - February 04 at 02:46 PM



“ 134 files added to the album LifeTributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - February 04 at 02:42 PM



“ A Full Life was purchased for the family of Joyce Hay Buster.



February 04 at 11:23 AM

LR

“ Love, Kathy "Kay" and Bruce Reynolds planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joyce Hay Buster.

Love, Kathy "Kay" and Bruce Reynolds - February 04 at 11:23 AM



“ *Big-Mama, Joyce and Jesus*

Early in our marriage (and maybe a few weeks before) I got to meet Mrs. Annie Welch. She was Joyce's grandmother and was a widow who had lived single for more than 20 years. She worked in a garment sewing factory nearby and lived in an old, big house on Penelope Street (on the kinda 'lower industrial end' of Fair Park) in Dallas. She was an independent person and a Baptist through and through - she was somewhat big in stature and 'direct' in her conversations but always showed a similar grace that Joyce always had, and all the kids in the neighborhood called her 'Big Mama'.

Annie Welch ('Big Mama') was God's Provision to Joyce. When Joyce's dad was stationed in California (WWII), Joyce's mom learned 'through the grapevine' that her husband, 'Daddy Bill' needed a 'marital recommitment' so she and her kids and Annie got on a train to California to get her husband to 'straighten up and fly right'. She was successful and stayed at his California military base for the next two years. Annie brought Joyce back to Dallas to live with her. Joyce remembers the long train ride because she said it was smelly and literally packed with soldiers moving from military base to base – I'm guessing it was a 'troop train'.

Annie Welch was well known - she used no car, so going to work, to the grocery store, etc. was always a walk. Joyce said they walked everywhere. 'Big Mama' would routinely get all the neighborhood kids to line up and hold hands and she would lead the procession to the swimming pool or play area at Fair Park, or to the nearby Forest Movie Theater to watch the Saturday kids-matinee, or the neighborhood snow-cone stand - and once-a-year, she would round up all the kids to go to VBS, and of course Joyce also went to the Baptist church every Sunday. Joyce remembered how she and all the other kids sang songs and hymns when trailing behind Big Mama. Sometimes when in our Marvin Friendly Bible class, we sang an old-time hymn familiar to her, she would sing louder and squeeze my hand a little tighter. Annie Welch was 'Big Mama' to

Joyce and she imprinted Honesty, personal Accountability, and a working-realization of Jesus deep into her.

When her mom and dad returned from California, they bought a small post-war two-bedroom house in Garland and gathered their four kids up and then anchored their family there (one bedroom for mom and dad; one bedroom for four girls; and only one bathroom!). Later, they enrolled Joyce into a Roman Catholic instruction class – that's about the time we all met each other and soon it became 'game-on' to get Joyce and me married.. During our six weeks of marriage counseling, Joyce confronted her recent Roman Catholic 'training' and took Jesus as her personal Savior and became a Presbyterian as I already was. My dad was happy about it, seeing that he was at that time, on the Session and the Sunday School Superintendent at that church.

Annie M. Welch's body rests right there at Forest Lawn Cemetery . . and Joyce chose to be close to her 'Big Mama'.once again - this time resting there until Jesus calls them both to meet Him in the clouds to be with Him forever.

Test: What street did Big Mama live on? Go ahead, say it out loud. You've just identified yourself – you probably pronounced it 'Peh-Ñel-o-pee' Street (around Big Mama's neck-of-the-woods, everyone pronounced it 'PeÑ-a-lowp'). This was a time when you literally played in the streets until the street lights came on in the evening. News papers and everybody listened to one family radio in the living room - no i-phones then.

C.A. Buster - February 04 at 10:52 AM

“ As her husband, I've been asked, what has Joyce meant to me

1) *Grace* - we mortals have such a hard time defining God's grace (just look at all the varied denominational theologies/dogmas) - but with Joyce, you simply had to look at her eyes and then feel her countenance upon you. Grace? You bet, and Joyce's was not a 'measured relationship'.or even conditional. She simply 'was' in communion with you. Such a reality was evident among her employees who always knew what to do, what was expected of them, and how she relied upon their performance. Working with Joyce was so much deeper than our contemporary definition of 'teamwork'. She was made in the image of her creator. At the last two weeks of her journey with Alzheimer's, she incrementally lost her ability to swallow and the last four days increased her breathing difficulties, yet all she did was to exude her quiet, enduring peace - Joyce taught me how to live and how to die. Grace? It's not something to measure; it is something to live-out and be. Holding her hand was helpful to me.

2) *Love* - If you were one of those to whom Joyce extended her hand, looked at your eyes, and said, "I love you", you already know in your heart about her grace and love towards you . . she was a saint making a direct contact with your own spirit.. Just look at the radiance from her whenever she held any of her grand, great-grandchildren in her arms. Our marital relationship had no bounds - it was an immeasurable love; we were 'at-one' with each other and God.

3) *Purity* - I know that's an old-fashioned term, but that's what Joyce's thoughts, conversations, and actions were - absolutely pure without any thought for self over the other person. And what a marital relationship we had that had absolutely no personal hidden agendas with the other person! Even when a few of Gary's later love-relationships demonstrated their avarice to, or oblique-control towards her son, she maintained not an iota of revenge; just a concern for her son's continued well-being. When we saw each

other for the very first time, we each remarked later that right then, we each had seen our lifetime soul-mate - and we did. We were young and certainly were not looking to get married - God simply placed His provision in front of us and we were not blind to the situation (nor were our parents). We married in 1957 as soon as she graduated from high school. We both were not adults, yet here we are after 68 years. I am certain God's list of her short-comings will be short indeed. Yes, I've lived with the presence of purity.

I thank God (literally), that He gave me my present and ever-active inner-self Holy Spirit to enable my own mortal journey, now without Joyce. Selah.

C.A. Buster - February 03 at 11:34 AM

JH

BEAUTIFULLY SAID C A!

John Hudnall - February 03 at 01:15 PM