



Joyce Marie Gillespie

October 5, 1932 - July 28, 2014

Services for Joyce Marie Gillespie, 81, of Tyler, will be held on Thursday, July 31, 2014 at 10:30 AM at Stewart Family Funeral Home with Bro. Sherman Mayfield officiating. A private burial will follow in the Veteran's section of Tyler Memorial Park.

Joyce was all smiles and in perfect health when she met her Lord and Savior face to face on July 28, 2014.

Joyce was born in McAllen, Texas on October 5, 1932 to George and Gladys Marie. The family moved to Tyler where Joyce graduated from Tyler High School. She then attended Tyler Junior College where she was a member of the Apache Belles. That experience provided her fond memory of performing at the 1951 Sugar bowl.

Joyce met Don L. Gillespie on an arranged blind date while Don was home on leave from the U.S. Navy. They married December 20, 1952, after which they moved to Norfolk, Virginia. She retained her maiden name as a middle name due to having to explain for years that Marie was her last name. A daughter, Cynthia Lee, was born to them at the Portsmouth Virginia Naval Hospital in 1954. Upon separation from the service, they returned to Tyler where Joyce was employed by Texas Power Light from which she retired after thirty seven and one-half years. Joyce loved to cook for and spend time with her family and was an accomplished artist, having been a member of the Tyler Art League for many years. Another favorite hobby was photography and she leaves behind a cherished library of albums, which cover over 100 years of

family history.

Joyce was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Joan Marie Parker; brother, Frank Marie and her stepfather, Gaylord Davidson.

Joyce is survived by her husband of 62 years, Don; daughter and son-in-law, Cindy and James Beard; granddaughter, Lauri Dillman; grandson, Wes Malcolm; her precious great-granddaughter, Elisabeth Marie "Lissie" Malcolm and numerous nieces and nephews.

There will be no pallbearers as Joyce will be supported by the love of those she leaves behind.

Visitation is scheduled for Wednesday, July 30, 2014 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, Texas 75703.

If desired, memorials may be made to The Hospice of East Texas Foundation, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, 75701.

Cemetery Details

Tyler Memorial Park

12053 SH 64 West
Tyler, TX 75704

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 30. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Service

JUL 31. 10:30 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

SL

“ *This precious lady was my Sunday school teacher many years ago. She was never judgmental, always encouraging. I will always remember the gentleness of her touch and the sweetness of her smile.*

My prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

Suzanne Morgan Loudamy - July 31, 2014 at 03:20 PM

DC

“ *Our prayers are with you at this time. Much love.*

David and Carleta Cates - July 30, 2014 at 10:13 PM

DC

“ *David And Carleta Cates lit a candle in memory of Joyce Marie Gillespie*



David and Carleta Cates - July 30, 2014 at 10:12 PM

CF

“ *my families prayers and condolences over your loss but heaven's gain.*

Charles Fason and family.

Charles Fason - July 30, 2014 at 08:18 AM

BH

“ Our family has lost an important member. Joyce was one of the sweetest, compassionate people I have ever known. She loved her family with all her heart and we will miss her greatly.

Betty Hubbard - July 29, 2014 at 10:44 PM

SB

“ Cindy, over the past few months, I feel as if I knew your mother and daddy. I've heard you talk about them with Betty and I've come to appreciate all you've had to do for both. You are in my thoughts and in my prayers.

Sherry Bobbitt

Sherry Bobbitt - July 29, 2014 at 10:22 PM

TA

“ Taresa Awtry lit a candle in memory of Joyce Marie Gillespie



Taresa Awtry - July 29, 2014 at 07:54 AM

TA

She was a beautiful lady both inside and out, and she will be greatly missed by all whose lives she ever touched. My love and sympathy goes out to her family (Cindy, Lauri, James, and her sweet sweet Husband) May God hold you all in his hands and send comfort to you at this time and always.

Taresa Awtry - July 29, 2014 at 07:57 AM

ET

I became friends with Joyce shortly after her family moved to Tyler in the late 1940s. She lived across the street from East Side Park in Tyler when we were kids and attended square dances routinely held there. We graduated from high school in the same Tyler High Class of 1950. Her personality was as beautiful as she was. I did not have any contact with her after entering the Air Force after graduating until I returned to Tyler in 1978. She worked for the electric power company, and that's when we met, again. My wife's and my youngest daughter met her at some social function once and commented what an exceedingly gentle person Joyce was. It is with sadness, then, that those of us who belatedly learned of her passing offer our sympathies to her family. May God be with her and comfort those loved ones left behind.

-Ennis Trimble

THS Class of 1950

Ennis Trimble - January 23, 2016 at 01:59 PM