



Mae Bernice McKinney Tapp

June 3, 1939 - July 24, 2024

Mae Bernice McKinney Tapp passed away Wednesday, July 24, 2024, in Tyler. She was born on June 3, 1939, in Cooper, Texas to Willie and Odis Ervin McKinney.

She grew up in Grand Prairie, Texas, and attended Grand Prairie High School. She attended Arlington State College and completed her bachelor of science degree at Texas Women's University. She received her master's of education degree from the University of Texas at Tyler.

While in college, she worked in the purchasing department at Austin Bridge Company. Her teaching career began as an elementary school teacher with the Everman Independent School District and continued at Brown Elementary with the Whitehouse Independent School District. As a teacher, she enjoyed sharing her love of reading with her students. She retired in 2004 after 25 years of teaching.

The role she enjoyed most was the role of "Grandma" to her five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Bernice was preceded in death by her mother and father; her sister Mamie McKinney Williams; and her husband of almost 61 years Alex Cleburne Tapp, Jr.

She is survived by her two daughters and sons-in-law, Pamela and Jerry Kuechle and Ronda and Byron Utz; brother, Dalton Ray McKinney; grandchildren, Aimee Kuechle Hill, Alden Utz, Mallory Kuechle Simmons, Alex Utz, and Julian Utz; and two great-grandchildren, Abigail Simmons, and Cooper Simmons.

If desired, memorials may be made to support children in foster care at Hope Haven of East Texas, 218 N. College Avenue, Tyler, TX 75702 (www.hhofet.org)

Graveside services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at Cathedral in the Pines Cemetery in Tyler.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUL **30**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Cathedral in the Pines Cemetery
7825 South Broadway Avenue
Tyler, TX 75703

Tribute Wall



“ *Your Friends at Bank of Texas purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Mae Bernice McKinney Tapp.*



Your Friends at Bank of Texas - July 28, 2024 at 10:03 PM



“ *Your Friends at Bank of Texas planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mae Bernice McKinney Tapp.*

Your Friends at Bank of Texas - July 28, 2024 at 10:03 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mae Bernice McKinney Tapp.*



July 27, 2024 at 12:03 AM