



## Patricia Dale Rutherford

April 30, 1948 - June 2, 2026

Patricia "Pat" Rutherford, 78, of Chandler, Texas, passed away peacefully on June 2, 2026 at Hospice of East Texas in Tyler, Texas after a well fought five-year battle with Parkinson's Disease.

Pat was born Patricia Poynter on April 30, 1948 in Cave City, Kentucky to Schuyler and Harriett Poynter where she was raised in a close-knit family of ten children. She graduated from Caverna High School with the Class of 1966, where she met the love of her life, Stanley W. Rutherford of nearby Horse Cave. They were voted Mr. and Miss Senior and Pat was voted Most Talented. Following high school, Pat studied at business college before the two married and began their life together.

Pat and Stan married in 1967, beginning a partnership that would span nearly 60 years. As the wife of a United States Army officer, Pat devoted herself wholeheartedly to her family as a homemaker and stay-at-home mother, raising their daughter, Heather, across numerous postings. Stan's final assignment brought the family to the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., where he served until his retirement in 1992. Pat loved their military life filled with travel, experiencing new places, cultures, and people along the way. During their time in Northern Virginia she began a new career, serving more than twelve years as Secretary at Jerusalem Baptist Church in Fairfax Station, Virginia.

In March 2004, Pat and Stan retired and moved to Chandler, Texas, to be near their only daughter. Pat quickly became a cherished part of the community. She continued her life of faith and service as a member of Colonial Hills Baptist Church in Tyler, Texas, where she taught Vacation Bible School, served in the Women's ministry, sang in the Silver Notes Senior Choir, and was an active member of her Prayer Warriors Sunday School class.

Pat embraced life with warmth, sincerity, and a generous spirit. She found great joy in arts and crafts, music and dance, teaching children, and playing with her grand puppies. Above all, she cherished her family and her personal relationship with Jesus Christ. She was known for her faithfulness, her kind and compassionate nature, her gentle demeanor, and her servant's heart - qualities that touched everyone who knew her.

She is survived by her husband, Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Stanley Rutherford of Chandler, TX; her daughter, Heather Rutherford Mensch and husband Tom of Mt. Juliet, TN; her brother Paul Richard Poynter and wife Jo Anne of Cave City, KY, and brother Jerry Poynter and partner Maggie of Horse Cave, KY; brother-in-law Randall Chapman of Cave City, KY; brother-in-law David Rutherford and wife Wanda of Cave City, KY; sister-in-law Linda Conner of Louisville, KY; and numerous extended family members and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Schuyler and Harriett Poynter; her brothers Warren, William, J.V., Clarence, and Curtis Poynter; her sisters, Helen Byrd and Ruby Chapman; her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Lloyd Rutherford and wife Francis; and her brother-in-law, Leigh Conner.

Visitation will be held on Monday, June 8, 2026 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Stewart Family Funeral Home in Tyler, Texas. A Celebration of Life Service will follow on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 2:00 p.m., also at Stewart Family Funeral Home in Tyler, Texas. A future celebration of life is being planned in

Kentucky for relatives and friends who are unable to travel to Texas.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Colonial Hills Baptist Church in Tyler, Texas.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 8. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Memorial Service

JUN 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

RO

“ I was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease four years ago. For over two years, I relied on Levodopa and several other medications, but unfortunately, the symptoms kept getting worse. The tremors became more noticeable, and my balance and mobility started to decline quickly. Last year, out of desperation and hope, I decided to try a herbal treatment program from NaturePath Herbal Clinic. Honestly, I was skeptical at first, but within a few months of starting the treatment, I began to notice real changes. My movements became smoother, the tremors subsided, and I felt steadier on my feet. Incredibly, I also regained much of my energy and confidence. It’s been a life-changing experience I feel more like myself again, better than I’ve felt in years. If you or a loved one is struggling with Parkinson’s disease, I truly recommend looking into their natural approach. You can visit their website at [www.naturepathherbalclinic.com](http://www.naturepathherbalclinic.com).

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**Roberto** - Yesterday at 09:10 PM

TD

“ Terry Dorsey lit a candle in memory of Patricia Dale Rutherford



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**Terry Dorsey** - June 08 at 10:05 PM

CC

“ Colonial Hills Baptist Church purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Patricia Dale Rutherford.

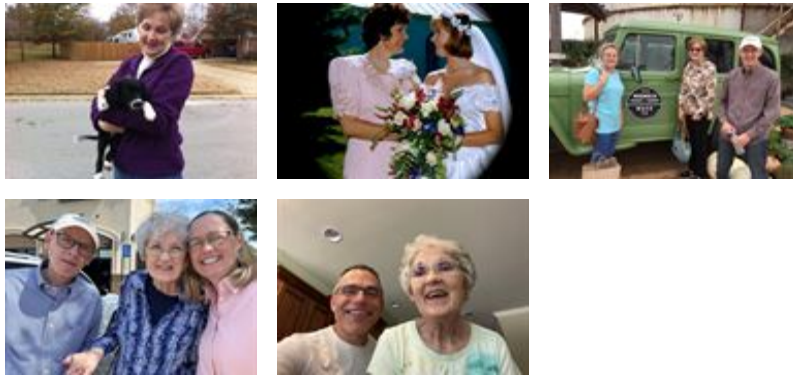


Colonial Hills Baptist Church - June 08 at 07:52 PM



STEWART  
FAMILY FUNERAL HOME

“ 60 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - June 08 at 12:18 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Patricia Dale Rutherford.



June 08 at 09:21 AM

RB

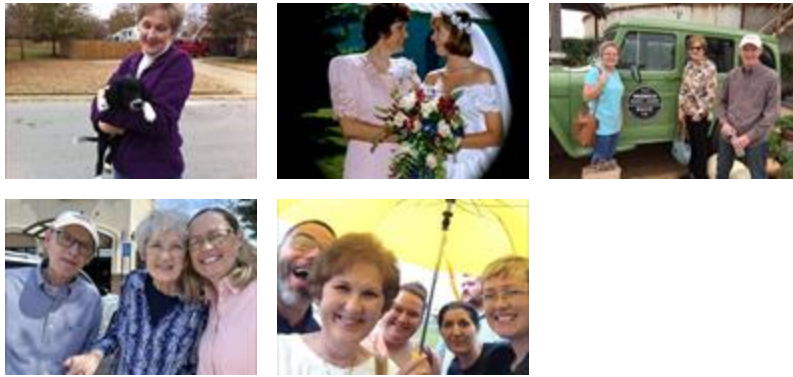
“ Memories of Pat from our younger days still bring a smile. Condolences to Stanley and family.



Russ Butler - June 08 at 06:44 AM

HM

“ 56 files added to the album Family



Heather Mensch - June 07 at 10:38 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Patricia Dale Rutherford.



June 07 at 09:48 AM

LF

“ Love, Marsha & Ted Kline & Family purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Patricia Dale Rutherford.



Love, Marsha & Ted Kline & Family - June 06 at 01:14 AM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Patricia Dale Rutherford.



June 05 at 05:42 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Patricia Dale Rutherford.



June 04 at 03:00 PM

WH

“ Wayne Hatcher lit a candle in memory of Patricia Dale Rutherford



Wayne Hatcher - June 04 at 02:00 PM

TW

“ *Ms Pat was always so supportive and encouraging. One of my favorite memories involves the Senior Adult trip to Nashville and Gatlinburg several years ago. Ms Pat hung out with my Mom and me while Mr Stan helped Jerry C and the other men wrangle luggage. We had some good conversations. Thank you, Jesus, for allowing the Rutherford's to be in my life.*

*Tauniya White*

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**Tauniya White** - June 04 at 05:40 AM