



Wylma Kay Howell

September 5, 1932 - April 13, 2026

Wylma Kay Howell, 93, returned to her heavenly home on April 13, 2026 after injuries from a recent fall. Kay was always confident of her ultimate and final destination, Heaven, where she has now joined the majority of her family.

Kay was born in Herrin, Illinois on September 5, 1932 to Noel & Golda Lukens in the home where she later grew up. She graduated from Herrin High School and worked briefly for the family truck line, Bonified Brothers Truck Line in West Frankfort, Illinois. She married her best friend from high school, Joe, when he returned from Korea in November 1952. They were married 71 years.

Kay worked for Welcome Wagon International over 25 years being a hostess in St. Louis, MO, and later in West Frankfort, Illinois. She loved welcoming and meeting new people, many of whom became good friends. In 1984, Kay and Joe moved to Tyler to be with their daughter Sharon Howell. They joined Green Acres Baptist Church where Kay worked in children's choir and was an active member of the adult choir for over 35 years. She also enjoyed greeting clients at her daughter's business, Travel Masters. Kay loved to travel and enjoyed 72 cruises, the most recent in December 2024.

Kay is survived by her only child, Sharon Kay Howell and their beloved Goldendoodle grand dog, Ollie. Additional survivors include a brother & sister-

in-law, Jerry & Judy Howell of Carterville, Illinois, several nieces and nephews and “adopted” grandsons Reed and Eric Burdette, who affectionately called her Nana. Kay is preceded in death by her parents, one brother and one sister.

Graveside services will be held at 3:00 pm on April 16, 2026 at Cathedral in the Pines Memorial Gardens with Green Acres Baptist Church Senior Adult Pastor Kevin Burdette officiating under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home. The family graciously declines flowers and requests memorials to Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd, Tyler, TX 75701, for their outstanding care, love and support given Kay and Sharon during her brief stay.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR **16**. 3:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

KU

“ Kelley Uzzell lit a candle in memory of Wylma Kay Howell



kelley Uzzell - May 02 at 01:26 PM

PM

“ I didn't know Kay very long but it doesn't take time to know you love someone and they love you..... that was Kay..... she always had a smile and a lot of love for others..... and if there are hairdressers in Heaven, I will know where to find Kay on Friday's ❤️

Patricia Mitchell - April 14 at 02:19 PM

LG

“ I love sweet Kay and enjoyed our time together in Celebration Choir at Green Acres! My thoughts and prayers are for the family during this time...especially Sharon!

Lance Douglas Gutierrez - April 14 at 01:28 PM

SS

“ Kay was always sweet and delightful. She will be greatly missed but most of all she is now meeting Jesus face to face! Sharon Schwartz

Sharon Schwartz - April 14 at 01:10 PM

SM

“ *What a sweet lady - I know she will be greatly missed. She was always smiling and happy at Bible Study every Wednesday. What a great lady!*

Sherry Moses - April 14 at 09:08 AM