



## Alta Josephine Gillen

May 23, 1933 - July 19, 2016

Alta Josephine Gillen, 83, of Pilot Point, TX, passed away Tuesday, July 19, 2016 in Denton, TX. Alta was born May 23, 1933 in Pilot Point, TX to Paul Riney and Alma Kilpatrick. Alta married Joe Sherek on January 21, 1952 and he preceded her in death on February 4, 1976. She married Ralph Gillen on June 15, 1978. He preceded her in death in April of 1997. Alta is survived by her two daughters, Linda Thomas and husband Bobby of Celina, TX, Angela Baas and husband Doug of Arlington, TX; two grandchildren, Lewis Gene Thomas and wife Elizabeth, and Bryan Lloyd Thomas; two great-grandchildren, Nicholas Thomas and Myra Thomas; four brothers, Bud Riney of Pilot Point, TX, Ross Riney of Lucas, TX, Maloy Glen Riney of Irving, TX, and Sam Riney of New Jersey; three sisters, Polly Boerner of Pilot Point, TX, Carolyn Story of McKinney, TX, and Betty Cox of Collinsville, TX; former son-in-law, Don Thurston of Arlington, TX; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Lora Thurston; five brothers, JC, John Paul, Gene, David, and Jerry Riney; and four sisters, Nadine Berend, Edna Weber, Gwen Bridges, and Nillie Lou Riney. A rosary will begin at 7:00 PM, Thursday, July 21, 2016 with visitation following until 8:30 PM at Slay Memorial Chapel in Pilot Point, TX. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 AM, Friday, July 22, 2016 at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Pilot Point, TX with Msgr. Leon Duesman officiating. Burial will follow at St. Thomas Cemetery in Pilot Point, TX. Online condolences may be shared at [www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com](http://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com). Services are under the

direction of Terri Slay and Slay Memorial Funeral Center.

To send a flower arrangement to the family of Alta Josephine Gillen, please [click here](#) to visit our Sympathy Store.

# Tribute Wall

GT

“ *Alta Jo was one of the most welcoming people I know. I remember meeting her & Joe when we first married. She was always a happy soul and never complained about her health problems. I talked with her within the last 2 months, and she was the very same. You could feel her smile over the phone and happiness in her heart. God's blessings to Alta Jo, may she rest in peace. I know she was a blessing to her family and will be missed by everyone.* ”

---

**Genevieve Tepera** - July 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our dear sweet Mom, thank you for always loving us and being the best person we will ever know.* ”

---

July 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ET

“ *We love you Gigi and will miss you dearly* ”

---

**Elizabeth Thomas** - July 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM