



Bettie Joyce Kennedy

January 19, 1938 - February 18, 2026

Bettie Joyce Kennedy, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully at home on February 18, 2026, at the age of 88. Born on January 19, 1938, in Denton, TX, Bettie's life was a testament to love, resilience, and the beauty of a life well-lived.

Daughter of the late Willis E. and Fannie Emma Dean, Bettie grew up with a deep sense of family. She was predeceased by her parents, her brothers Willis E., Jr., Ronald, and Tony Dean, her daughters Winna Wilson and Katherine Jones, sons David Davis, Steven and Jerry Kennedy, and her grandson Jeremy Albright. Bettie is survived by her loving husband, Billy Kennedy, her sons James and Robert Davis, Eddie, Billy and Jeffrey Dean Kennedy, her daughter Emma Davis-Icks, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Bettie graduated from Pilot Point High School in 1956, where she was known for her vibrant personality. Her passion for learning never waned, and at the age of 39, she returned to school to earn a bachelor's degree in Radiation Therapy, a career that allowed her to touch countless lives with her compassion and expertise. For the last five years of her career, Bettie and her husband, Billy Kennedy, whom she married on May 28, 1965, journeyed across the United States as she pursued her career in radiation therapy, before settling into retirement in Tyler, TX. Their marriage, a remarkable 60-

year union, was blessed with a family of 11 children, creating a rich tapestry of family life.

Bettie's life was filled with creativity and generosity. A gifted artist, she found joy in oil painting, ceramics, crochet, and sewing. Her talents as a seamstress were celebrated and her home was a canvas for her holiday decorating, where family and friends gathered to celebrate.

A member of Grace Community Baptist Church, Bettie's faith was a cornerstone of her life. Her boisterous laugh and great sense of humor were as infectious as her kindness was boundless. She never met a stranger and was always ready to lend a helping hand, embodying a spirit of generosity and unwavering support for her convictions.

A service to honor Bettie's life will be held on February 24, 2026, at 2:00 PM at the Slay Memorial Funeral Center, located at 400 N Highway 377, Aubrey, TX 76227. The family extends their deepest gratitude to all who have shared in Bettie's life. She will be dearly missed by all those whose lives she touched. In celebrating Bettie's life, we remember a woman of immense strength, unfaltering love, and endless creativity. Her memory will forever remain in the hearts of all who knew her, a guiding light of warmth and compassion.

Arrangements are under the direction of Devon Calverley and Slay Memorial Funeral Center.

Cemetery Details

Tioga Cemetery

14872 FM922
Tioga, TX 76271

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 24. 1:00 PM (CT)

Slay Memorial Funeral Center
400 S Highway 377
Aubrey, TX 76227
(940) 365-7529
info@slaymemorial.com
<https://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

FEB 24. 2:00 PM (CT)

Slay Memorial Funeral Center
400 S Highway 377
Aubrey, TX 76227
(940) 365-7529
info@slaymemorial.com
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Burial

FEB 24 (CT)

Tioga Cemetery
14872 FM922
Tioga, TX 76271