



Carol Ann Blakely

August 1, 1936 - April 2, 2024

Carol Ann (O'Donnell) Blakely was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend. She passed away on April 2, 2024, at age 87 in Corinth, TX. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

She was born to Charles and Elna "Sally" O'Donnell on August 1, 1936, in San Antonio, TX and was three of seven children. She married her husband, Bobby Gene Blakely on October 10, 1953, in Hobbs, NM before settling in Midland, TX. Together, they had three sons, Robert "Dirk", Michael Cole, and Mark Anson Blakely. After moving from Midland in 1963, Bob & Carol spent 26 years in Lewisville, TX where Carol worked in banking at Colonial Savings and Flower Mound Bank. In 1989, they retired to their farm in Ben Wheeler, TX, where she lived for 29 years. Carol later joined her sons Dirk and Mike in North Texas in 2014.

Carol loved spending time in the kitchen where there was always a cold pitcher of sweet tea and cookies waiting. She had an eye for beauty and a knack for choosing furniture, selecting decorating items and arranging them artistically from the perfect color scheme to the most beautiful gift wrapping. She was a voracious reader who would read books from a variety of genres from the comfort of her favorite chair. While living in Ben Wheeler, she was a part of the garden club, her church bible study and often made trips into Tyler to visit the spring blooms and always a stop into Wal-Mart. She truly loved

crafts and spent many weekends at First Monday Trade Days in Canton. Carol never met a stranger, every person in the world to her was just a friend she hadn't met yet. She could strike up a conversation anywhere she went, later leaving the place where everyone knew her. She had a unique ability to light up any room, to turn even the simplest moment into a cherished memory. Carol possessed a magnetism that drew people near, and once in her presence, they felt cherished and truly seen. The journey of her life could be told in short, that is that she brought love and happiness wherever she went and to everyone's lives she touched.

She is survived by her son Michael Blakely and wife, Tina; sister Cokie Eads and husband, Sydney; grandchildren, Greg Blakely, Crystal (Chris) Harding, Amanda (Jon) Eisen and Rachel (Andrew Scott) Blakely; plus 7 great grandchildren, Jacob Blakely, Chloe Blakely, Blake and Austin Harding, Kinsley and Riley Eisen, Brody Scott, and her many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends. All of these she loved and touched deeply.

Carol was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Elna "Sally" O'Donnell; husband, Bobby Gene Blakely; sons Robert "Dirk" Blakely and infant son, Mark Blakely; brothers, Pat O'Donnell, Shane O'Donnell, Tim O'Donnell, and Dr. Jerry Michael O'Donnell; sister, Raylene Smith.

Memorial contributions may be made to CrossRidge Church in Little Elm.

A funeral service is scheduled for 11:00 am on April 12, 2024, at CrossRidge Church in Little Elm, TX with Pastor Marc Farnell officiating. All friends and family are welcome. A private burial will follow at a later date at Edom Cemetery, Edom, TX.

Online condolences may be shared at www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Bradley R. Shotts and Slay Memorial Funeral Center.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR **12**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

CrossRidge Church
1701 Walker Ln, Little Elm, TX 75068
Little Elm, TX 75068
<https://crclife.org/>

Tribute Wall

LG

“ I have so many wonderful memories of Carol. She was part of every special moment of my life. Carol and my Mom met when I was about 6 months old. They became the best of friends, and it was through their friendship she became woven into the very fabric of my life. Even as a child, I always looked forward to being with Carol. She had a lovely way of making everyone feel special and loved. Of all the wonderful memories I have of Carol, my favorite will always be the sound of her laughter. As I write this, it brings me comfort to think of the halls of heaven echoing with the sound of her beautiful laughter. I loved her dearly and I am so thankful to have had her in my life.

Love always,
Laurel

Laurel Gross - April 10, 2024 at 12:07 AM

SW

“ Carol was married to my mother's brother, Bob Blakely. Aunt Carol was an amazing woman. Truly beautiful inside and out. Whoever wrote the obituary certainly captured her personality. She was one of the strongest and most intelligent women I have ever known. I loved to talk to her. She did have an amazing way to make you feel special, maybe it was because she was so special.

The picture that I have chosen to add is my favorite picture of her. She was at the Blakely farm.

She changed family dinners at the Blakely farm. There was a large oak table that the family would sit around during the big holiday meals. The old farm house was a modest one, but the dining area was large. Family tradition was that the men ate first, then the children, then the women. The women would be attentive to all while the meal was being enjoyed. Aunt Carol asked my grandmother, Zula Aire Knight Blakely, whom she called "Mrs. Blakely", why the women didn't eat with the men and was told probably because that was the way it was. Well, Aunt Carol said that she was going to sit with her husband at the next family holiday meal. Mrs. Blakely smiled a wry grin but didn't say anything. And, from then on, the women ate at the same table with the men and the children ate at the same time as well but a other tables due to the size of the family. Aunt Carol was the only woman strong enough to break a family tradition that had been around for generations.

My sincere condolences to the family for the loss of such a special lady. She most certainly will be missed by all that had the pleasure of knowing her. The world was a better place with her in it.



Susan Lang Worth - April 05, 2024 at 12:07 PM

AM

She absolutely special loved her and Uncle Bob and of course the boys Prayers for our family 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️

always Baby Sister Patricia Miller - April 05, 2024 at 01:11 PM

SB

“*My favorite memory of my Aunt Carol, is every minute I spent with her. She had such a great humor and positive attitude about everything. All of my memories are just laughter with her and hearing stories of her life and things that happened in my life..and always ending in a good hard laugh. She Loved it when I would come for Canton trade days and could out shop me... it was so fun to sit and listen to her and Uncle Bob, as well as just listening to her and my mom (sister Raylene) when we would visit. I will miss her deeply, but I know she is now in heaven and picking up where they left off, talking to my Mom.*

Sheri Brockett - April 04, 2024 at 06:37 PM