



Deborah McLafferty

November 20, 1959 - July 6, 2025

Deborah Leigh McLafferty, 65, of Tioga, TX, passed away Sunday, July 6, 2025. Deborah was born November 20, 1959, in Fort Worth, TX to Charles Franklin Holman and Sue Esther Tennant.

Deborah is survived by her devoted partner, Stuart Baxter of Tioga, TX; two daughters, Michelle Arnett and husband Chris of Stilwell, OK, Tiffany Sizemore and husband Brandon of Sand Springs, OK; five sisters, Brenda Cote of Oceanside, CA, Belinda Buker of Plano, TX, Dee Hayes of McKinney, TX, Pennye Fernandez and partner Ambrose of San Antonio, TX, Nena Keller of Melbourne, FL; four grandchildren, Madelynn Arnett, Matthew Gooding, Brody Sizemore, Kavan Sizemore; two bonus grandchildren, Megan Arnett, Michael Arnett, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Deborah is preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Sue, and sister Jennye Holloway.

Some of Deborah's greatest joy was spent outdoors. Living on a ranch she built with the love of her life and partner Stuart of 32 years, she happily doted on her cattle, horses, chickens, dogs, and especially her cats. Deborah gave tenderness endlessly, always doing art, and crafting for others. She never failed to show just how much she loved and cherished her girls, all her sisters, and grandchildren. Everywhere she went, her love followed.

Deborah lives on in our hearts and treasured memories, she will be deeply

missed.

A memorial service will be held for Deborah at Sandbar Ridge Ranch in Tioga, TX on Friday, August 1, 2025, at 5pm

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

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

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG 1. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Sandbar Ridge Ranch
645 Harpole Rd
Tioga, TX 76271

Tribute Wall

RH

“ When I think of my Aunt Leigh I think of her soft voice with a sweet southern twang. I think of her coloring with me as a little girl. I think of the pride I felt every time someone told me I got my creativity from her. I think of trips to Dallas at Thanksgiving, seeing her at Great Granny’s and looking at the butterflies. I think of her gentleness and her love of animals. I think of my beautiful cousins, Tiffany and Michelle, and the lifelong memories with them that I’ll always cherish. The moments may not have been as plenty as I’d have wished for, especially as I got older, but the ones I have are filled with warmth and ones I’ll always hold close to my heart. My mother used to tell me with pride the story of my name, how I was named after my Aunt. How I was soft spoken just like her. It always made me feel so special. I’ll always feel special being named after her, being her niece. I love you so much, I’m so lucky to have had my Aunt Leigh.



RaChelle (Fernandez) Hooper - August 01, 2025 at 08:14 PM

NR

“ Dear Sweet Aunt Leigh, Thank you for such sweet and heartfelt memories together. Even though we didn't get to see each other often, when we did, you always poured so much love and happiness into even the smallest moments. You always had a smile on your face and giggle on the way. It means so much to me that you, my sister and now my daughter all get to share the same name while also being amazing artists. We are all so blessed to have you as another angel looking over us, alongside with Aunt Jennye and Granny Sue. I wish I could be there today, since Laila Leigh and I couldn't, we made some paper flowers in your honor. I love you so much.



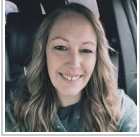
natalie Rogers - August 01, 2025 at 07:27 PM

PF

“ Leigh was sweet, funny, and the most talented of all of us. She won several art contest and her creativity brought so many smiles and happiness. She had a special gentleness with animals, children and seniors and I am so happy she and Stuart lived with the animals and nature she was so connected to. I so love you, Leigh.



Penny Fernandez - July 22, 2025 at 05:14 PM



“ *Loved my Momma. I will always remember our trips down to see her and Stuart. I fell in love with the ranch that she loved just as much.* ”



Michelle Arnett - July 10, 2025 at 09:10 PM