



## Imogene Shelton

November 17, 1932 - January 17, 2026

Imogene Stephens Shelton was born in Briscoe, Wheeler County, Texas to Joe Curtis and Annie Bell Belcher Stephens on November 17, 1932, her mother's 20th birthday. She married Wayman Gale Shelton on January 14, 1949 at her parents' home in the Fairview Community of Denton County, Texas. They had three children: Michael Wayne, Barbara Ann and Glenda Sue.

During The Dust Bowl of the 1930s when she was 5 years old, a large group of relatives moved from the Panhandle of Texas to California in hopes of finding jobs to support their families. They traveled Route 66 and settled in Bard, California, just across from Yuma, Arizona. Her dad found work with All-American Canal, an aqueduct system in Southern California's Imperial Valley that delivered Colorado River water for irrigation of crops. Her dad built an adobe and willow stick house close to the Colorado River, where her sister, JoAnn, was born in 1938.

The next year they moved to Redding, in Northern California, so her dad could work on the Shasta Dam. They lived in a tent with a wooden floor for two years in the Oregon Gulch camp with other workers. Her brother, John, was born in Redding in 1939.

When World War II broke out, her mother worked in a factory, making boxes

for ammunition for the troops, while her dad continued to help build Shasta Dam. They were able to move into a house where 10-year-old Imogene was left in charge of her younger siblings on weekends while her parents worked. One day, while the three siblings were home alone, their house caught fire. Neighbors made sure the children were safe and were able to move the family car away from the burning home. With the exception of a few family photos, they lost all their possessions. Neighbors donated clothing and rations for shoes for the children. They then moved into a small cabin with a kitchen in a motor court.

After her sixth grade year in Redding, the family moved back to Sanger, Texas and lived in the old Gribble Springs school house. She went to 7th grade in Sanger, where she said she was treated poorly because of the stigma of being from California. She wrote that it was a miserable year. However, the next year her parents bought a farm in the Fairview Community, and she started 8th grade in Pilot Point, riding the bus to school. She made friends with several girls who became lifelong friends.

At lunchtime each day, students walked to the Pilot Point square for a hamburger and a fountain Coke. One day, walking back to school in front of Yarborough's Grocery she saw a young man sitting in his car, waiting for his mother to buy groceries. Her friend, Alma Hammons, introduced her to Wayman Shelton and they soon began dating. They married on January 14, 1949 when she was 16 and he was almost 21. Mike was born in December 1949, Barbara in September 1952, and Glenda in November 1954.

They soon moved to Arlington, Texas where Wayman worked nights at LTV and she attended Henri's Beauty School, graduating in 1956. She purchased The Beauty Box on the northwest corner of the square in Pilot Point in 1957. While she worked, Barbara and Glenda stayed with Granny Shelton and Mike went to school. They purchased a home on South Jefferson Street in Pilot

Point on an acre of land. They planted an orchard and a large garden that kept the family fed year-round. They took their children on a vacation every summer to places like Disney Land, the Rocky Mountains, Yellowstone National Park, and many other exciting places.

In 1972 they built a new house by themselves on the South end of the property with help from Mike, Barbara and Glenda and many friends, where she lived for the remainder of her life.

When Wayman retired in 1988, they worked on the 50 acres they had purchased in Fannin County, clearing land, building a house and barn, and a lake. Grandkids began coming, a total of eight, who were the joy of their lives. All the grandchildren loved spending time with Nana and Pop.

In retirement, they traveled all across the United States, including Alaska, and into Canada, many times bricking churches with the Texas Baptist Men.

Wayman died on June 14, 2005 at only 77 years old. Imogene continued to travel with the Calvary Baptist Church Roadrunners, and with family. She again visited Alaska, Washington, Yellowstone National Park, and the Grand Canyon, and many other interesting places.

Imogene lived alone in their home until a week before her death. She was able to visit with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren before she became too weak for visitors. With the help of hospice, Barbara and Glenda were able to care for their mother in her home the last week of her life and were by her bedside when she took her final breath on January 17, 2026.

She is survived by Mike and Carol Shelton of Plano, Barbara Loiselle of Pilot Point, Glenda Shelton and Jim Hirsch of Paradise; grandchildren Michael and

Tara Shelton, Patrick and Caroline Shelton, Austin and Lauren Ettredge, Gabe and Jamie Loiselle, Suzi Loiselle, Lauren and Seth Bigony, and Katie and Wade Pipes; 18 great-grandchildren; her sister, JoAnn Stevens, and brother, Charles Ray and Gloria Stephens; sisters-in-law Trudy Shelton, Carolyn Shelton and Bonita Morgan.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Wayman, her grandson, Daniel Ettredge, her parents, Joe and Annie Bell Stephens, brother John Stephens, and baby sister, Brenda Joyce Stephens.

She lived an amazing life and will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Escorting her to her final resting place in Pilot Point Community Cemetery are grandsons Michael Shelton, Patrick Shelton, Austin Ettredge, Gabe Loiselle, Wade Pipes, honorary grandson, Corey Fischer and in memoriam, grandson Daniel Ettredge.

Visitation will be held 1:00PM-2:00PM, Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at Calvary Baptist Church in Pilot Point, TX and the funeral service will begin at 2:00PM with Kenny Guthrie officiating. Interment will follow at Pilot Point Community Cemetery in Pilot Point, TX. Online condolences may be shared at [www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com](http://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com).

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

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# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 21. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Calvary Baptist Church  
125 N. Jefferson Street  
Pilot Point, TX 76258  
<https://www.calvarypilotpoint.org/>

## Funeral Service

JAN 21. 2:00 PM (CT)

Calvary Baptist Church  
125 N. Jefferson Street  
Pilot Point, TX 76258  
<https://www.calvarypilotpoint.org/>

## Burial

JAN 21 (CT)

Pilot Point Community Cemetery  
601 N. Prairie Street  
Pilot Point, TX 76258