



Mary Frances Kirby

May 21, 1946 - December 24, 2020

Mary Frances Kirby, 74, of Nocona, TX, passed away Thursday, December 24, 2020 in Wichita Falls, TX. Mary was born May 21, 1946 in Martinsville, VA to Kermit and Jessie Frances (Minter) Matthews. Mary married Joseph Earl Kirby on November 28, 1963 in Martinsville, VA. She was a homemaker.

When Mary was growing up in Martinsville VA, she never dreamed that God would use her in such a powerful way. After meeting and marrying Joe Kirby, they began to preach, teach and love everyone that was brought across their path. Mom was the kind of woman that you wanted to know. She listened, cared and remembered every detail about you. She drew you to her heart and never forgot you or your birthdate. And in return, many, many people remember her. Fondness and joy show when her name is mentioned. Many souls were won to Christ because of her obedience and sacrifice. Her legacy will live on in her family and friends. We love and miss you, Mary.

Mary is survived by her sons, Jerry Kirby and wife, Mandy of Pilot Point, TX and Jeff Kirby and wife, Lanee of Asheboro, NC; daughter, Libby Colon of Gainesville, GA; ten grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brother, Ronald Matthews and wife, Cheryl of Roanoke, VA; sister, Martha Gould and husband, David of Moorehead City, NC; brother-in-law, Dwight Kirby and wife, Mary of Nocona, TX; and several nieces and nephews.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, Kermit and Frances Matthews; followed by her husband, Joseph; granddaughter, Chelsea Anne Kirby; and brother, James Matthews.

Visitation will be held 6:00PM, Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at Slay Memorial Funeral Center in Aubrey, TX. A funeral service will follow at 7:00PM with Dwayne Edwards officiating and a special video message from Wayne Evans. A Committal service will be 10:00AM, Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at Pilot Point Community Cemetery in Pilot Point, TX. Online condolences may be shared at www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com.

The Kirby family respectfully requests that all attendees wear a mask and practice physical distancing for the safety of those who are fragile or have health issues. Thank you for your understanding and kindness.

In lieu of flowers, the family ask that donations be made in Mary's honor to:

The Carpenter Shop

Meals on Wheels

400 Boston St.

Nocona TX 76255

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

Cemetery Details

Pilot Point Community Cemetery

601 N. Prairie Street
Pilot Point, TX 76258

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 5. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Slay Memorial Chapel of Aubrey
400 South Highway 377
Aubrey, TX 76227
info@slaymemorial.com
<http://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

JAN 5. 7:00 PM (CT)

Slay Memorial Chapel of Aubrey
400 South Highway 377
Aubrey, TX 76227
info@slaymemorial.com
<http://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com>

Committal

JAN 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Libby, I just heard about your parents today. I'm so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. I'm at a loss for words and my heart breaks for you and your family. I hope the outpouring of love is some comfort during this difficult time.*

Andrea Feirer - January 05, 2021 at 03:43 PM

SH

“ *Our deepest condolences at the loss of Mary and Joe. Pastor Joe led us through premarital counseling, officiated our wedding and was our pastor at Damascus Friends during our young married years. We still remember specific principles and words of advice that helped shape our marriage and now in ministry. Even more, he and Mary and the kids were close friends to our Steer family. We love them so dearly and enjoyed every fun minute we spent together. We grew in faith and relationship with Christ and learned much about how to serve the church through Joe's preaching and patient example. Mary was always a delight and ministered with great encouragement to us personally. Our love and prayers go out to all the Kirby family and friends.*
Steve and Sheila Steer

Sheila - January 04, 2021 at 08:19 PM

JC

“ *Libby,*

The light of your mother shines in you and always will. You are loved and raised in prayer.

Peace be with you~ Jill C.



Jill Cain - January 04, 2021 at 10:15 AM

LI

“ *Libby, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.,*

*Libby Smith
Cumming, GA*

Libby - January 04, 2021 at 09:51 AM

MW

“ *My deepest condolences to Mary's entire family. I met Mary when she & Pastor Kirby came to Hampton First Friends. Mary was a beautiful soul & I am privileged to have known her. I was truly devastated to hear of her passing. Continued prayers for all of you.*

*God bless,
Meredith Ward*

Meredith Ward - January 03, 2021 at 07:41 PM

JN

“ Dear Family of Mary and Joe,
My name is Janet Hair Feudale Nesbitt, I and my sisters, Myola and Wyola (Dedeased), Margaret and Catherine are first cousins of Mary. We are connected in a good way to Joe through his friendship with Bud Flamion both who served in the military. Bud is now deceased. Mary's father Kermit and my mother Zeola (Susie) were siblings along with David and Lois now all deceased. I give this information to the children because I am sure Mary and Joe would have filled in their life story with the characters in our family. When we were young we would eat and play together as though we were sisters and brothers and we really were loving to each other. When Mary conversed with anyone her voice had a jubilant echoing melody which carried a sensation of joy to the person lucky enough to be talking and listening to her. I would love to speak with any one of the children. I and my sisters and family mourn along with you from the loss of your mother and father. Their voices will stay with you forever. Janet Nesbitt

Janet Nesbitt - January 01, 2021 at 04:08 PM

AD

“ First time I met Mary was at Fulton Creek Friends Church at a Ladies Retreat. Her message was about all the different hats she wore. She brought so many beautiful hats. She had me with her first hat. I think we both love hats and wished they would go back to wearing them. Love you both, Mary and Joe, going to miss you.

Alice Daugherty - January 01, 2021 at 09:08 AM

PM

“ Mary and Joe will be forever remembered as two of my favorite people. Their home was always a fun place to visit and full of blessings and encouragement. My prayers are with each one of you Libby, Jeff and Jerry. "Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted."

Peggy Matthews - December 31, 2020 at 12:29 AM

ME

I have so many wonderful memories of Pastor Joe and Mary. They were very much a part of our family as we attempted to put our lives back together after my dad passed away. They had great big hearts and shared the love of God everywhere they went. My prayers are with all of her family. Treasure the memories. ❤️

Mary Ann Esenwein - December 31, 2020 at 09:17 AM

LB

“ Joe, Jeff, Jerry and Libby, we are so very sorry to hear of your loss. We will always remember Mary as a sweet and loving sister-in-law and aunt. My Mom will always treasure the memories she has from the early years of being a part of your family. And Jamey and I will remember her as a sweet and kind aunt. Sending our love and prayers.

Lisa Beaston, Jamey Matthews and Wanda Guynn

Lisa Beaston - December 30, 2020 at 12:07 PM

MZ

“ My memories of Mary date back to childhood. I'm just a little older than Mary, and I remember well the Matthews children in church-- Jimmy, Mary, Ronnie, and Martha. I remember when Mary met Joe and was happy for her that she had found a mate who was worthy of her. Her sweetness showed in her eyes, her beautiful smile, and infectious laugh. I visited them only once in Ohio when I went to Yearly Meeting, and met the children then. Mary was the kind of friend that, when you were apart for a while, she picked back up where you left off as though you were never apart. My prayers for the family are prayers for peace and comfort. You will grieve for your loss, but knowing that she is safe in the presence of her Savior will give you a sense of peace that nothing else can give. God bless you all.

Mary Ziglar, Collinsville, VA

Mary Ziglar - December 29, 2020 at 11:20 PM

PS

“ I told her that she breathed through her ears. We loved getting to talk our "marathon" phone calls. Her mother had a crush on me when we met her in NC. I had one on her too.

Phill Seiter - December 29, 2020 at 10:57 PM

LS

“ *Phill, Jim Leibold and I traveled to North Carolina in 1974 to pack and move the "Kirby Clan" to Ohio. Mary was "helping" me to pack the kitchen when yet another friend would stop by to visit. I continued to wash dishes and pack boxes. Phill and Jim were busy packing in other rooms. She told us that when they got to Ohio and she was unpacking boxes it was like Christmas. She never knew what she would find when she opened the box. She would laugh her Mary Kirby laugh. I won't get to hear that laugh again until I get to heaven. What a happy reunion that will be. We shared many happy times.*

Linda Seiter - December 29, 2020 at 10:53 PM

SM

“ *Mary Frances was one of the dearest cousin ever. I will always remember her beautiful smile and laughter. Her visits to my mom and dad home, her love for her children are memories that will always be treasured. May God comfort her family and though we live far from each other know that we love you during this difficult time.*

Susan Robertson McCarthy - December 29, 2020 at 08:48 PM

JC

“ *I have so many memories of Miss Mary Kirby, as they served our church, not once but twice, Fulton Creek Friends, in Ohio, I loved , loved me some Kirbys!! Such a deep , deep impact on my spiritual life, and I will cherish Mary forever!!*

Judy Leibold Cunningham - December 29, 2020 at 08:47 PM

CM

“Kirby family, my heart goes out to you for all the sadness you are experiencing. It's just too much to handle. I did not have the privilege of knowing Mary, but I do have the privilege of being friends with Libby, the beautiful daughter she raised. If Mary had half of the wonderful traits her daughter has then I know she must have been an amazing woman. I pray for peace and comfort for all of you.

-Carol Miller

Carol Miller - December 29, 2020 at 08:01 PM


JC

“Love & prayers for all those touched by your mother's life and passing. Trust you have many memories to cherish. With Sympathy
- John Henry Theisen (Midway Church)

John Henry Theisen - Midway Church - December 29, 2020 at 06:21 PM

MG

“Being the younger sister of Mary is one continual glorious memory. My first best friend, my forever sister protector, my first partner in "funny & crazy adventures". ALWAYS there for me and my family. There is no one in the world just like her and to me there never will be. Mary always loved completely and it was genuine. I could not choose just one cherished memories but one of my most blessed events was that Mary was with me the very first time I saw and met my husband, David, in the spring of 1968. Mary was my Matron of Honor on June 7, 1969. So, needless to say we shared that memory close to our hearts. I will always thank God for our sister bond, a gift from God.

Love and cherish you forever my precious Sister, Jesus rejoiced on this Christmas Eve of 2020 and through my ocean of tears I also had a smile in my heart knowing you were with Him .

Martha Gould - December 29, 2020 at 04:21 PM

AT

“*Mary was my dearest friend like a sister. We were soul mates from the time they came to Fulton Creek. Her kids were like my own and spent many days with us. My heart hurts for all her family God's got a new angel.*”

Aldena Taylor - December 29, 2020 at 04:12 PM