



## Mellie Jo Howard

March 15, 1934 - April 14, 2019

Mellie Jo Howard, 85, of Corsicana, TX, passed away Sunday, April 14, 2019 in Denton, TX. Mellie was born March 15, 1934 in Corsicana, TX to Homer G. and Grace (Johnston) Rendon. She was raised in Elm Flat, TX and graduated from Kerens High School in 1951. Mellie married Charles Howard and devoted her time to raising her children. When her children were all in elementary school, she enrolled in college and graduated from McNeese State in Lake Charles, LA. She received her Masters in Education from the University of North Texas. Mellie cherished her numerous former students and colleagues, having taught elementary school in Holliday, Wichita Falls, Hurst, Kerens, and Corsicana during her over 30 year career. She accepted Jesus as her personal savior as a child and was a member of First Baptist Church Corsicana. Mellie spent her adult life in service to others. She actively lobbied for public education in Austin, as well as Washington DC and was active in the Texas State Teachers Association serving in numerous capacities. Mellie also served as president of the Corsicana Retired Teachers organization. She was active in many organizations over the years, such as The Jose Antonio Navarro Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Past regent of the James Blair Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, The Rebekahs, The Kinsloe House, appointed board member by Gov. Ann Richards to the Trinity River Authority, and numerous other organizations. Politics has been Mellie's greatest passion. She was past chairman of the Navarro County Democratic Party and was selected as a

delegate to the National Democratic Conventions in New York in 1992 and Chicago in 1996. She spent untold hours working polls and registering Navarro county voters.

Mellie was preceded in death by her loving parents, Homer and Grace; infant sister, Betty; and brother, Homer Keith Rendon.

She is survived by her son, James Howard and wife, Shontel of Dallas, TX; two daughters, Marsha Marsh and husband, Roger of Pilot Point, TX and Mindy Arnold and husband, Morris of Cedar Hill, TX; six grandchildren, Caleb Marsh, Robbi Horvath, Travis Marsh, Franklin Horvath, Hannah Howard, and Julie Lyons; eight great grandchildren and numerous extended family members. Visitation will be held 5:30PM-7:00PM, Thursday, April 18, 2019 at First Baptist Church, 200 SW 2nd St., Kerens, TX 75144. A funeral service will begin at 1:00PM on Friday, April 19, 2019 at First Baptist Church in Kerens, TX. Interment will follow in Kerens Cemetery in Kerens, 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.

# Tribute Wall

SW

“ *She was one of the best teachers i have known. Super sweet and caring lady with a very loving heart.*

-----  
**Samantha Watson** - April 18, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *Mrs. Howard was the sweetest person that I knew working with the students. They loved her. She will be greatly missed.*

-----  
**Sheila & Gary Poe** - April 18, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ *My dear sweet Mrs. Howard, memories of you are near to my heart. Fly high sweet angel on to your next journey. Love, Karen Crawford former KERENS 6th grade student*

-----  
**Karen Crawford** - April 17, 2019 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ *Mrs. Howard was a great teacher. I seen her out from time to time and she always remembered my name. Ive been wondering how she was doing a lot lately. Im sorry to hear of her passing. She will be in thoughts. RIP Mrs. Howard. I will miss you always.*

-----  
**Roxsanna McGill Borlace** - April 17, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ *So sorry for you loss. Often wondered how Mellie was doing.*

-----  
**Marsha Taylor** - April 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ *She was a great person and teacher she always had a smile and a kind word to say*

---

**Tammy Palik** - April 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ *Sweet lady rip Mrs Howard elementary school teacher*

---

**Latasha Mcdade** - April 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ *I will definitely miss her. We talked every so often and I would catch her up on all going on. Rest in peace my dear cousin. Love yo all the family*

---

**Murlene Lilly** - April 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *Grief can be so hard, but our special memories help us cope. Remembering you and your loved one today and always.*

---

**Bazel and Mona Strange** - April 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM