

Obituary

LORENE GOSDIN GILLELAND, BELOVED MOTHER, GRANDMOTHER, GREAT-GRANDMOTHER, AND FRIEND, PASSED AWAY PEACEFULLY ON JUNE 21, 2026 IN GRANBURY, TEXAS AT THE AGE OF 99. BORN ON DECEMBER 8, 1926, IN SOMERVELL COUNTY, TEXAS, LORENE LIVED A LIFETIME ROOTED IN LOVE FOR HER FAMILY, QUIET STRENGTH, AND SIMPLE JOYS. LORENE'S EARLY LIFE BLOSSOMED IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, WHERE SHE DEVELOPED A LIFELONG APPRECIATION FOR LEARNING AND LITERATURE. SHE GRADUATED FROM WALNUT SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL, DELIGHTING IN THE DISCOVERY THAT HER NEW SCHOOL HAD A LIBRARY—A PLACE THAT IGNITED AND SUSTAINED HER LOVE FOR BOOKS. HER EDUCATION SHAPED A MIND EVER EAGER FOR KNOWLEDGE, TAKING HER ON JOURNEYS FAR BEYOND HER SMALL-TOWN BEGINNINGS THROUGH THE STORIES AND CHARACTERS SHE CHERISHED.

IN 1960, LORENE BEGAN A CAREER THAT WOULD SPAN OVER THREE DECADES, WORKING FOR 33 AND A HALF YEARS AT WALLS IN GLEN ROSE AND CLIFTON UNTIL HER RETIREMENT IN 1993. THOUGH THE WORK WAS OFTEN DEMANDING, SHE FOUND JOY IN THE CAMARADERIE OF HER COWORKERS AND THE FRIENDSHIPS FORMED DURING COUNTLESS CARPOOL RIDES. HER DEDICATION AND TIRELESS WORK ETHIC EXEMPLIFIED HER COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING FOR AND SUPPORTING THOSE SHE LOVED.

FOR ALL HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS, LORENE WAS QUICK TO REMIND ANYONE WHO ASKED THAT HER GREATEST SOURCE OF PRIDE WAS HER FAMILY—THE SONS SHE RAISED AND THE GENERATIONS THAT FOLLOWED. ACCORDING TO GRAN, HER TRUE ACCOMPLISHMENT WAS HER SONS AND THEIR FAMILIES. TO THEM, SHE WAS MORE PRECIOUS THAN GOLD. THE LOVE AND RESPECT SHE NURTURED WITHIN HER FAMILY WAS NO SMALL FEAT; SHE BECAME THE PERSON THAT EVERY FAMILY MEMBER ADORED, RESPECTED, AND LONGED FOR MORE TIME WITH.

LORENE'S CAPACITY FOR LOVE EXTENDED NOT ONLY THROUGH HER WORDS AND ACTIONS, BUT ALSO THROUGH HER NIMBLE HANDS. HER LOVE OF QUILT MAKING BEGAN WHEN HER GRANDDAUGHTER BETH SHOWED HER A PICTURE AND ASKED IF SHE COULD CREATE ONE LIKE IT. FROM THAT FIRST QUILT, HER ARTISTRY BLOSSOMED. SHE HAND-QUILTED A MULTITUDE OF GIFTS OVER THE YEARS, EACH ONE A TOKEN OF HER WARMTH AND CARE. ON HER AND JACK'S 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY, SHE PRESENTED EACH OF HER SONS AND GRANDCHILDREN WITH A QUILT—A LEGACY OF LOVE STITCHED INTO EACH ONE. IN HER LATER YEARS, ONE OF HER DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW COORDINATED TO HAVE HER MANY UNFINISHED QUILT TOPS COMPLETED, ALLOWING LORENE TO SEE THE FRUITS OF HER LABOR AND THE BEAUTY SHE BROUGHT INTO THE WORLD.

PHOTOGRAPHY WAS ANOTHER CHERISHED PASTIME. LORENE DELIGHTED IN CAPTURING THE LAUGHTER, MILESTONES, AND BREATHTAKING LANDSCAPES THAT DEFINED A LIFE WELL-LIVED. AND THEN METICULOUSLY CREATING AN ALBUM FOR EACH ONE. SHE WAS EQUALLY PASSIONATE ABOUT GARDENING, PUZZLES, AND HER FAVORITE GAME, 42. AROUND GRAN'S TABLE, COMPETITION WAS ALWAYS CIVIL, BUT LAUGHTER, JOY, AND TOGETHERNESS REIGNED. WHETHER PLAYING DOMINOES OR CARDS, THERE WAS ALWAYS ROOM FOR EVERYONE, AND NO ONE LEFT WITHOUT A SMILE. HER SENSE OF HOSPITALITY WAS LEGENDARY—COFFEE AT GRAN'S ALWAYS TASTED BETTER, AND AN ICE CREAM OR FRESH FRUIT ON A HOT TEXAS DAY WAS HER FAVORITE SIMPLE PLEASURE.

FAMILY WAS AT THE CENTER OF EVERY MEMORY. LORENE'S HOME WAS A GATHERING PLACE OVERFLOWING WITH GAMES, PUZZLES, FOOD, AND TOGETHERNESS. SHE TOOK JOY IN THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF EACH GRANDCHILD AND GREAT-GRANDCHILD, LEARNING NEW HOBBIES AND SPORTS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND AND ENCOURAGE THEM. SHE NEVER STOPPED LEARNING OR CARING DEEPLY FOR THOSE AROUND HER.

TRAVEL AND THE OUTDOORS WERE INTEGRAL PARTS OF LORENE'S LIFE. SHE DELIGHTED IN FLOATING DOWN THE FRIO RIVER, HIKING TRAILS IN THE ROCKIES AND MAKING CHERISHED TRIPS WITH HER FAMILY TO PLACES LIKE CALIFORNIA, NEW YORK CITY, BIG BEND, WASHINGTON DC MARYLAND, COLORADO, WYOMING, YELLOWSTONE, AND CANADA. HER ADVENTUROUS SPIRIT INSPIRED THOSE AROUND HER, MAKING MEMORIES TO LAST GENERATIONS. SOME OF THE SWEETEST STORIES OF HER LIFE ARE FOUND IN THE WARMTH OF HER KITCHEN. MAKING CHOCOLATE PIE WITH GRAN WAS A RITE OF PASSAGE FOR GRANDKIDS AND GREAT-GRANDKIDS ALIKE. HER PATIENCE AND GENEROSITY SHONE AS SHE GUIDED EAGER HELPERS, LETTING EACH ONE STIR AND EVERYONE GET A TURN TO LICK THE SPOON—A SIMPLE ACT THAT WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR A LIFETIME.

LORENE IS SURVIVED BY HER LOVING SONS; , WAYNE AND WIFE SHERRY, BOB AND WIFE SHAREN & MIKE GILLELAND. GRANDCHILDREN; GREG GILLELAND (WIFE MELISSA), STACY JONES (HUSBAND DAVID) , ERIC GILLELAND (WIFE ELIZABETH), BETH GILLELAND HALEPESKA, RAINA GILLELAND AVILA, CARA GILLELAND KUHLE, WENDY GILLELAND, DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, HELENE GILLELAND LIMING, AND 10 GREAT GRANDCHILDREN—EACH ONE TOUCHED IRREVERSIBLY BY HER LOVE AND EXAMPLE.

SHE JOINS IN PEACE HER BELOVED HUSBAND, JACK GILLELAND; HER YOUNGEST SON, KENNETH GILLELAND; SISTER, OPHELIA NUNN; BROTHERS, JUNIOR GOSDIN, AND WILLIAM OFFUTT; GREAT-GRANDSON TUCKER JACK GILLELAND, AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, PAULA GILLELAND.

THOSE WHO KNEW LORENE WILL REMEMBER HER AS A WOMAN OF REMARKABLE STRENGTH AND UNWAVERING GRACE. SHE WAS SATISFIED AND GRATEFUL FOR WHAT SHE HAD, MAKING THE MOST OF EVEN THE SIMPLEST THINGS. HER RESOURCEFULNESS, KINDNESS, AND ENDLESS GENEROSITY WILL ECHO IN THE HEARTS OF ALL WHO LOVED HER. A VISITATION WILL BE HELD FROM 9:00 TO 10:00 AM ON THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026, AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN WALNUT SPRINGS (167 4TH STREET, WALNUT SPRINGS, TX 76690), FOLLOWED BY A FUNERAL SERVICE AT 10:00 AM AT THE SAME LOCATION.

AS WE SAY GOODBYE TO LORENE GOSDIN GILLELAND, WE CELEBRATE A FULL AND BEAUTIFUL LIFE, FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR THE MANY WAYS SHE SHAPED OUR FAMILY AND OUR WORLD—A LEGACY THAT WILL LIVE ON IN EVERY STORY RETOLD, EVERY GAME PLAYED, AND EVERY QUILT CHERISHED FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.



In Loving Memory



Lorene Gosdin Gilleland

DECEMBER 8, 1926 -
JUNE 21, 2026

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

² He makes me to lie down in green
pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

³ He restores my soul;

He leads me in the paths of righteousness
for His name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

For You are with me;

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the
presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil;
my cup runs over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow
me

all the days of my life;

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
Forever.

IN LOVING MEMORY

*Lorene Gosdin
Gilleland*

Date Of Birth

DECEMBER 8, 1926



Date Of Passing

JUNE 21, 2026



FUNERAL SERVICES

10:00 A.M., THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026

WALNUT SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

WALNUT SPRINGS, TEXAS

INTERMENT

WHITE CHURCH CEMETERY

GLEN ROSE, TEXAS

OFFICIATING

PASTOR T.J. JOYNER