



Mom read God's word daily her entire life before her vision/sight left her. She lived by God's word and tried, as humanly as possible, to walk with God daily and follow His commandments.

Mom grew up in a Christian household. Sam and Savannah (Grandma and Grandpa) Hanks raised her children to be God fearing. Mom remembered and shared stories of her going to annual church revivals as a child. I know that she was a very young age (maybe ages 7-10 years old) when she accepted Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior into her heart.

She will be greatly missed on Earth, but we can rejoice that she has gone to Heaven into her Heavenly Father's arms and is rejoicing with Him and all of our family and friends that have gone before us.

"To Those I Love"

When I am gone, just release me,
 Let me go-so I can move into my afterglow
 and Heavenly home
 You mustn't tie me down with your tears;
 Let's be happy that we had so many years
 I gave you my love, you can only guess
 How much you gave me in happiness.
 I thank you for the love you each have
 shown,

But now it's time I traveled on alone.
 So grieve for me awhile, if grieve you must,
 Then let your grief be comforted with
 trust.

It's only for a little while that we must part,
 So bless the memories within your heart.
 And then, when you must come this way
 alone,
 I'll greet you with a smile and a "Welcome
 Home-to Heaven".



*In Loving Memory of
 Mildred "JoAnne" Bray*

JoAnne Bray, of Collyer, Kansas, passed from this Earth and entered our Heavenly Father's arms on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at the beautiful age of 92. What a joyous time it must have been for her to see her Heavenly Father and Jesus early that morning, along with being reunited with her husband, Keith, and other family members who had passed before her. Halleluiah!

She went to sleep peacefully only a few hours after sharing a prayer with Grace, director and owner of her long-term care facility, her last words on Earth being "Amen."

JoAnne was a beloved and devoted wife, mom, grandma, great-grandma, and great-great-grandma. She was born in the family home on the family farm in Nolan, Texas, on January 7, 1934, to her parents, Samuel Griffin Hanks III and Savannah (McCoy) Hanks. JoAnne graduated from Nolan High School in May 1952 and then attended Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas.

In the summer of 1953, she met the love of her life, Keith Bray. It must have been love at first sight, as they were married approximately 90 days later, on September 11, 1953, at St. John's Methodist Church in Lubbock, Texas.

JoAnne had a remarkable career in education. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics from Texas Tech University in 1956, obtained her Special Education Certification from Wichita State University in 1973, and also earned certification in Gifted Education. She taught in several communities throughout her career and retired after 17 years of service with the Quinter School District.

JoAnne and Keith shared 70 years of marriage before Keith's passing on October 28, 2023. Over those years, they made homes in Ackerly, Texas; Quinter, Kansas; and later Collyer, Kansas. During Keith's military service, he was stationed in Baumholder, Germany, for 11 months, where JoAnne joined him. During that time, they traveled throughout Europe, visiting Paris, France; Garmisch, Germany; Holland during the Tulip Festival; and Switzerland.

During their busy lives and teaching careers, they raised three children: Gene Keith, Kim, and Allen. JoAnne was also very active in her local, school, and church communities. At the Quinter Methodist Church, she served as Sunday school superintendent, was a member of the women's group, and served in many other capacities. She was known for generously providing desserts, casseroles, ice cream, and meals for church gatherings and events.

JoAnne often said of her teaching and service, "There is never a dull moment, and each day brings many new delights and some heartaches along the way. So glad that there were more delights than heartaches."

JoAnne is survived by her children: Gene Keith (Bev) Bray of Maysville, Oklahoma; Kim (Larry Joe) Jacobs of Kiowa, Colorado; and Allen (Kelly) Bray of Olathe, Kansas; grandchildren: Wes Adams of Lawton, Oklahoma; Pam (Jerry) Gardner of Gering, Nebraska; Sam (Malerie) Bray of Gooding, Idaho; KaSara (Shaun) of St. George, Utah; KaSandra (Nate) Meade of Casper, Wyoming; Jake Jacobs of Kiowa, Colorado; Addy (Ever) Hernandez of Olathe, Kansas; and Savannah, Thomas, and Joseph Bray, all of Olathe, Kansas; great-grandchildren: Leuna, Rehna, Treuen, and Tessin Meade; Alexa Hayes; Nathan (Danika) Adams; Ryan (Jennifer) Gardner; Livee and Lexi Bray; and Aspen and Amalia Hernandez; great-great-grandchildren: four; and many beloved nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Keith Bray; her parents, Samuel Griffin Hanks III and Savannah Hanks; grandson, Jarman Joe Jacobs; and siblings, Samuel Richard "Dick" Hanks, Dorcus Allegra "Sissy" Rhodes, Martha Mae "Babe" Bowan, Gene Benjamin "Gene B." Hanks, and Izadora Belle "Dody" Gibbs.

JoAnne leaves behind a legacy of enduring love, wisdom shared with hundreds of students, and a passion for cooking and education that will forever be remembered. She had a profound impact on the many lives she touched and will continue to influence generations to come.

May JoAnne's spirit rest in peace as she enters the gates of Heaven and rests in the arms of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

MILDRED JOANNE BRAY

January 7, 1934 - April 15, 2026

Memorial Service

Quinter Methodist Church

Quinter, Kansas

Friday, May 22, 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

Officiants

Pastor Joel Moyer

Phil Stroud

Pianist

Kathy Evans

Music Selections

"I Serve a Savior"

"Amazing Grace"

"Go Rest High on that Mountain"

"When the Roll is Called Up Yonder"

Readings

Psalms 119:169-176

Luke 1:76-79

Psalms 139: 1-18

Romans 8:31-39

Honorary Bearers

Jake Allen Jacobs Thomas Allen Bray

Nathan James Gardner Jerry Gardener

Sam Bray Joseph Tyler Bray

Inurnment

Kansas Veterans' Cemetery

WaKeeney, Kansas

Friday, May 22, 2026 at 1:00 P.M.

Memorials To

Quinter Methodist Church

GraceHealth Senior Homes

B-I-B-L-E

Basic-Instructions-Before-Leaving-Earth

This is a motto that Mom lived by...

May we all know and follow her example.