

In late 1984, Mariana moved to Austin. Newly single, Mariana remained radiantly positive and energetic. She taught English and drama at Hyde Park Christian and later West Ridge Middle School. In addition to becoming an active member in St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Mariana had numerous hobbies and activities that kept her busy-including serving as a tour guide for the City of Austin, a judge for Baylor's annual "All-University Sing" competition, an actor in local stage productions, and a program leader for theatre student field trips to New York City.

Mariana retired from teaching in 2004 but continued to live with energy and purpose. Even after a Parkinson's diagnosis, she maintained her joyful spirit and positive attitude. In 2022, she was thrilled to return to Coleman for induction into the Coleman ISD Hall of Honor. The Hall of Honor recognizes members of the Coleman ISD family whose "life achievements have brought honor and value to the district."

Mariana's greatest joy was her family. She was a devoted mother and grandmother who made every event more fun. Since childhood, Mariana had an enduring love for the saddle, and she enjoyed raising horses in Coleman and riding with her children and their friends. She also delighted in traveling with her family and relished new destinations and adventures. After her move to Austin, she loved to lead her grandchildren on hiking and spelunking adventures, excursions to Zilker Park, and trips to her new favorite swimming hole. Not surprisingly, Mariana loved staging family shows in her home, complete with makeup, costumes, and speaking roles for each of the grandchildren-even for the littlest "actors."

Mariana is survived by her four siblings, Rosalyn Wilson, Marlene Tyson (and husband, John), Ryall Wilson (and wife, Diane), and Carol Scott (and husband, Terry), as well as her three children, Bradley Jones (and wife, Sharon), Amy Norton (and husband, David), and Wilson Jones (and wife, Lendy). She is also survived by twelve loving grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mariana lived life to the fullest with joy, enthusiasm, and a sense of wonder that was instilled in her children and grandchildren. Although she will be deeply missed, her legacy will live on in the faith she passed to future generations, the community she helped strengthen, and the countless children she taught with great dedication and delight. Her family finds comfort knowing she has been reunited with loved ones who went before her and now rests in the eternal peace promised by her Savior.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
Mariana Wilson Jones
May 26, 1935 - May 30, 2026



Mariana Wilson Jones

1935 - 2026

A Memorial Service to the Glory of God according to

The Book of Common Prayer

Saturday, June 6, 2026 | 10:30 A.M.

UNITED CHRISTIAN AND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1609 Commercial Avenue, Coleman, Texas

Officiating: Father Chip Prehn

The Reception of the Body

Please stand

The Procession to the Chancel

The Collect for the Burial of a Christian

Hymn

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Readings from Holy Scripture

Please sit

Isaiah 40:28-31

Psalms 103

Psalms 121

Ephesians 3:14-21

Hymn

"Amazing Grace" *Please stand*

Gospel Reading

St. John 6:37-40

A Eulogy

Please sit

The Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Amen.*

tennis, basketball, track, twirling, softball, swimming, and arts and crafts. Swimming lessons, the largest component of the program, grew to have over 300 participants annually. Mariana helped coordinate a life-saving course for more experienced swimmers, who would then go on to teach swimming lessons themselves. In 1971, the Texas Recreation and Parks Society awarded Mariana its annual "Certificate of Achievement" for her work on the Summer Recreation Program. The award recognizes a Texas resident who "contributes to the fulfillment and enrichment of the Parks and Recreation concept" in the State of Texas.

Mariana maintained her passion for dance and in 1971 she opened the Mariana Jones School of Dance in Coleman. Her classes were well attended, and the annual dance recitals were large productions that drew hundreds of attendees. As a tennis enthusiast, Mariana helped organize local tennis tournaments for county residents, and she worked diligently with the city to help raise funds to build new tennis courts at Coleman City Park in 1976. Mariana was also instrumental in helping the City of Coleman secure the funding for a new city pool, which opened in the city park in June 1979.

Mariana was active in St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Coleman, and her relationship with the St. Mark's family was cherished throughout her life. She was the spur for creating the Tri-Church living nativity scene, which was displayed each December on Commercial Avenue in front of the First Christian Church. In addition to all of her other activities, Mariana served as a director of the Coleman Chamber of Commerce, a coordinator for the "Miss Coleman County" Beauty Pageant, and a director of the Coleman Community Center. In 1977, Mariana was named "Outstanding Citizen" in Coleman for her various contributions to the people and city of Coleman.

In 1979, Mariana continued her passion for dancing and teaching by founding the Coleman High School drill team. The drill team provided an opportunity for many high school girls to participate and contribute to the spirit of the school, and Mariana worked passionately and tirelessly on their various programs and routines. The drill team soon began competing statewide and received numerous accolades and awards. Mariana, who taught English at CHS, also planned and directed the drill team's annual musicals, which garnered both significant participation from the student body and an enthusiastic response from the local community. True to her nature, Mariana even danced in one of the musicals herself!

Obituary

Mariana Wilson Jones, age 91, entered into the presence of her Lord and Savior on May 30, 2026, surrounded by her loving family. Her passing leaves a profound void, but her family rejoices in the comfort of her eternal assurance and the memory of the numerous lives she touched through her teaching and tireless service.

Mariana was born in Coleman, Texas in May 1935. She was the second oldest of Charles and Rosa Wilson's five children. Charlie Wilson was the proprietor of Wilson Grain Company and served as mayor of Coleman in the 1940s. Mariana began taking dance lessons with her sisters at an early age, and dancing soon became a lifelong passion. Mariana and her two oldest sisters, Rosalyn and Marlene, were often asked to dance at special events around Coleman County, and Mariana loved every opportunity to perform.

Mariana attended Coleman schools from kindergarten through her senior year. She loved CHS and always kept the Bluecats close to her heart. She was the drum major for the Coleman Bluecat marching band and one of the first students to dress up as the Bluecat mascot for school spirit events. She also danced throughout high school and performed in numerous school plays and dance productions. Although her father died of cancer when she was still in high school, Mariana possessed a cheerful spirit and can-do attitude that she maintained throughout her life.

Mariana attended Texas Tech University, where she immersed herself in dance and play productions and numerous other student activities. Mariana was selected to "Who's Who" and Mortar Board at Tech, and her senior year she was elected "Woman of the Year" by her fellow Tech students. After studying dance in New York City, Mariana earned a master's degree in education from the University of Texas with a focus on dance. While in Austin, she became reacquainted with a Tech classmate, Ross Jones, who was attending UT Law School. Mariana and Ross were married in Coleman but soon moved to Florida where Ross was a Judge Advocate General in the rocket program at Patrick Air Force Base. Three children and stops in France and Germany quickly followed. The Joneses then returned to Florida, where Ross worked in the Apollo program for NASA.

In late 1969, the Jones family moved to Coleman, and Mariana wasted no time becoming active in her hometown. Her first project was creating and organizing the "Summer Recreation Program" for Coleman County youth. She worked tirelessly to solicit and coordinate volunteers and help raise the funds necessary to implement the program's various activities, which included

The Apostles' Creed

Please stand

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

Officiant and People:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

"Crown Him With Many Crowns"

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. *Amen.*

INTERCESSIONS

Following each petition, all gathered will respond, "Lord, hear our prayer."

THE COMMENDATION

All gathered will say the italicized words below

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,
*where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.*

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind;
and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we
return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying,
"You are dust, and to dust you shall return." *All of us go down
to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia.*

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,
*where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.*

The Celebrant, facing the body, prays

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your
servant Mariana. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of
your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your
own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy,
into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the
glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

PROCESSION OUT OF THE CHURCH

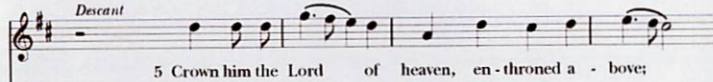
Hymn

"Lift High The Cross"

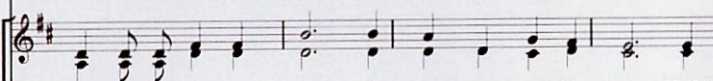
*Gathered friends may follow the family outside.
The family will travel directly to the Coleman City Cemetery
where the Committal will take place.*

The Hymnal 1982 - #494 Crown Him With Many Crowns

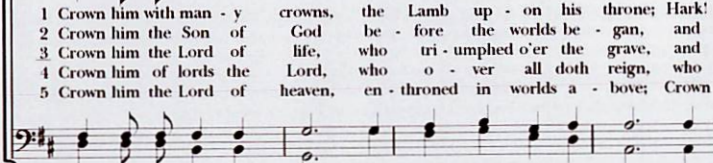
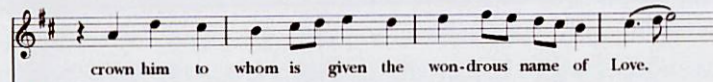
Descant



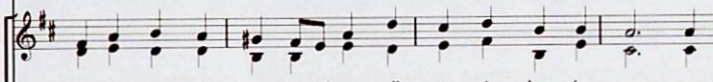
5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en-throned a - bove;



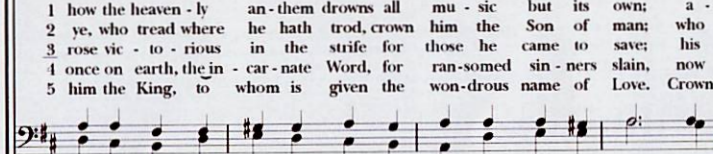
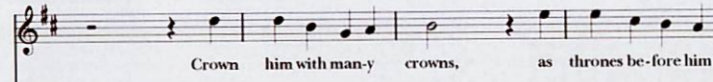
1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!
2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and
3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and
4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who
5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown

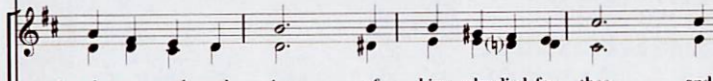
crown him to whom is given the won-drous name of Love.



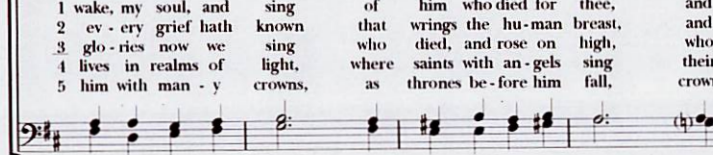
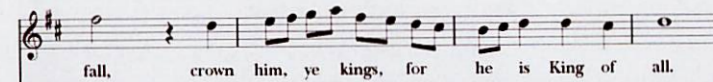
1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -
2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who
3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his
4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran - somed sin - ners slain, now
5 him the King, to whom is given the won-drous name of Love. Crown

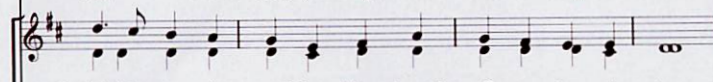
Crown him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him



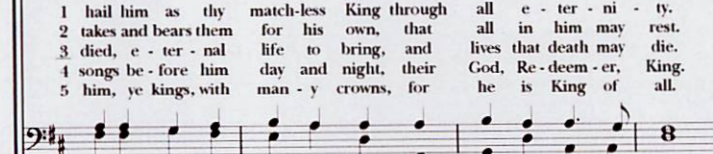
1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu - man breast, and
3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who
4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing their
5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall, crown

fall, crown him, ye kings, for he is King of all.



1 hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty,
2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.
3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King.
5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.



Jesus Christ our Lord

473

Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore _____ his sa - cred Name.

till all the world _____ a - dore _____ his sa - cred Name.

1 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
2 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Repeat Refrain

the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

Words: George William Kitchin (1827-1912); alt. Michael Robert Newbolt (1874-1956)
Music: *Crucifer*, Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947); desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

10 10 with Refrain

Participants

PALLBEARERS

Reginald Childress
Scott Kirby
Greg Martin

Darren Nuñez
Leo Stallworth
McCord Wilson

LECTORS

Lane Jones: Isaiah 40:28-31
David Allen Norton: Psalm 103
Morgan Jones: Psalm 121
Madeleine Norton: Ephesians 3:14-21
Jenny Jones Embry: St. John 6:37-40

EULOGISTS

Wilson Jones
Bradley Jones

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

Amy Jones Norton

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Coleman Jones

INTERCESSIONS

The Reverend Kyle Jones

OFFICIANT

The Reverend Dr. W.L. Prehn
St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Coleman

Acknowledgment

The family would like to express our sincere appreciation and thanks for the many acts of love and sympathy during this trying hour.

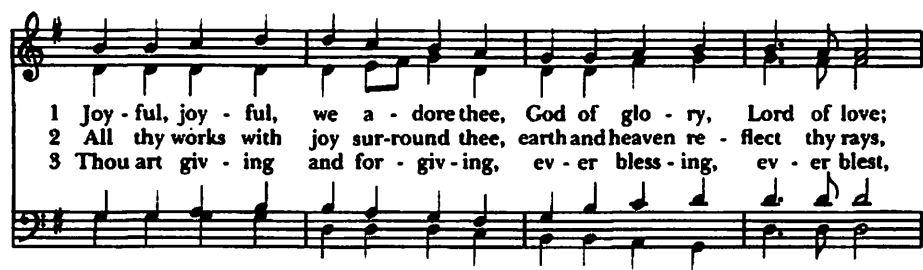
Interment

Coleman City Cemetery
Coleman, Texas

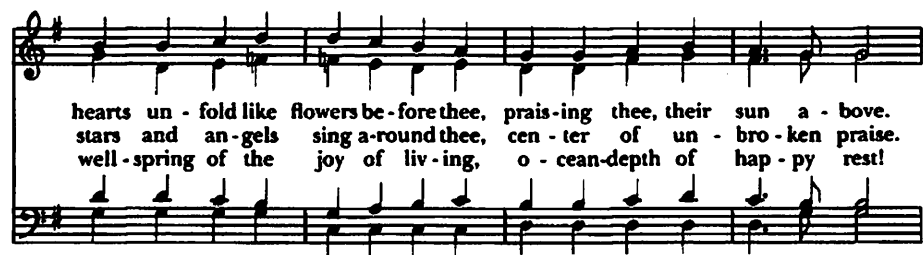
Provided by

Stevens Funeral Home

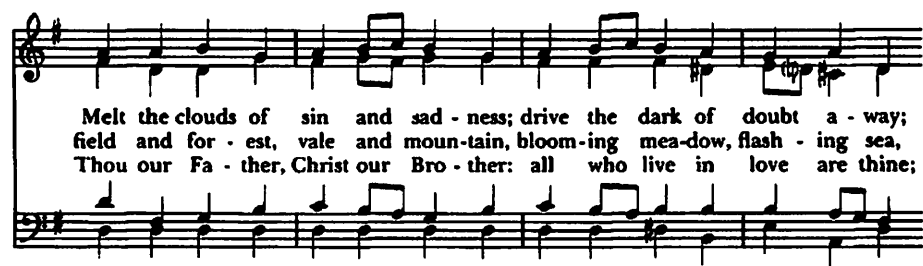
400 W Pecan Street · Coleman, Texas 76834



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

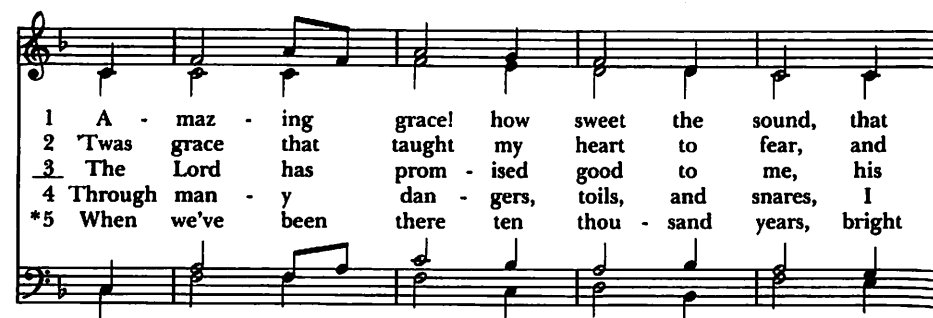


giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach - us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933)

Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

87. 87. D



1 A - maz - ing that grace! how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 *5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

*The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.*Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, from *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; compiled by Richard Broadbuss and Andrew BroadbussMusic: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919)