

## *An Ode to Joy Mae*

A Texan through and through, they called her Blondie with a smile, She'd lace her boots for an adventure and walk the extra mile. From panning gold in cold Alaska to the sandy Atlantic shore, She collected shells and memories, always ready to explore.

She could bait a fishing hook, then turn around and sew, A perfect costume in a flash, to make her children glow. An avid reader, card shark too, with a sharp and clever mind, A lover of garage sales and the treasures she could find.

She loved her backyard garden, picking veggies from the vine, While watermelon and ice cream were treats at any time. With music and musicals, her spirit would take flight, She cheered for Dad with all her soul-his beacon in the night.

She lived her life for Jesus, knew all her Bible by heart, Believing in the power of prayer, a grace that wouldn't part. The consummate, sweet Memmie, with a spirit strong and true, She showed her love for us and others, in everything she'd do.

With every fiber of her being, she held her family tight- A truly beautiful soul, carrying Jesus' light. So long, but not goodbye to the one whose laugh was so infectious, Our Mom, our Memmie, and our Love...The Yellow Rose of Texas.

*by Shari Bellizzi-Davis, The Oldest*



IN LOVING MEMORY OF



*Joy Bellizzi*

Born on September 25, 1934, in San Angelo, Texas, Joy Mae was the daughter of H.C. and Delpha Harkey Davis. She graduated from high school in 1952 at Holdenville, Oklahoma, and soon went to work as a beautician in Oklahoma City. There, she met Frank H. Bellizzi, who was stationed at Tinker Air Force Base. The two were married August 5, 1955, at the Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines, Iowa. Their marriage lasted more than seventy years.

Life with a U.S. Air Force husband took her back to San Angelo, Texas, and then on to Fairbanks, Alaska; Browns Mills, New Jersey; and finally, in 1971, to Altus, Oklahoma, where she lived the rest of her life.

She was baptized into Christ at a young age. Throughout her years in Altus, she was a faithful member of the Elm & Hudson Church of Christ, where she taught children's Bible classes for many years. One of her former students recently wrote: "I really loved her; she showed us what it meant to be the hands and feet of Jesus." A life-long learner, she completed an associate's degree at Western Oklahoma State College in 1981.

Her Christian faith taught her to care for people in need. Quietly, she spent her own money and gave countless hours delivering food, clothing, and school supplies to individuals and families with the greatest needs. In April 1992, the Oklahoma Department of Human Services presented her with a certificate of appreciation for "outstanding service to DHS and the people of Oklahoma."

Joy passed from this life to the next life on Sunday, June 7, 2026, at the age of 91. She was loved and will be dearly missed by her family and friends, her home church, and the Altus Community.

Survivors include her husband, Frank H. Bellizzi; three children, Shari Davis and husband, Keith of Wellington, Texas; Frank V. Bellizzi and wife, Michele of Amarillo, Texas; and Victoria Crews and husband, Bobby of Fayetteville, Arkansas; eight grandchildren; and thirteen great-grandchildren.

# SERVICE

2:00 PM

Monday, June 15, 2026  
Elm & Hudson Church of Christ

# OFFICIATING

Daniel Ingram

# INTERMENT

Altus City Cemetery

# CASKETBEARERS

Frank Bellizzi	Keith Davis
Bobby Crews	Ben Bellizzi
Kenneth Helton	David Bush

