

## *A Mother's Love*

No gift on earth is greater,  
No treasure held above,  
The joy that comes from knowing,  
A Mother's endless love.

In spite of how it's tested,  
It grows from year to year,  
Providing strength and comfort...  
It "gently" draws us near.

It warms and it protects us,  
And guides us from afar,  
Shedding light upon us,  
Like a bright and shining star.

And when all things are measured,  
Not one shall rise above,  
Or be compared in value,  
To a Mother's endless love!



## *In Memory Of* **Thelma Jean Wansley**

JULY 20, 1944 ~ SEPTEMBER 11, 2024



*Services In Care Of*  
**LOWE-GARDNER FUNERALS & CREMATIONS**  
QUITMAN, TEXAS

*Messenger*

Printed in U.S.A.  
The Reader © Lowm, Lio and Imperial Graphics, LTD.

*In Memory Of*  
**Thelma Jean Wansley**

*Date of Birth*

JULY 20, 1944

*Entered Into Rest*

SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

*Graveside Service*

10:30 AM, SEPTEMBER 21, 2024

REDLANDS (TURNER) CEMETERY

HAWKINS, TEXAS

*Officiating*

REV. PERRY SHIRLEY

BROTHER FRED MORROW

*Music*

"WHEN WE ALL GET TO HEAVEN"



Thelma Jean (Cox) Wansley, 80, of Quitman, Texas, peacefully passed away on September 11, 2024. Born on July 20, 1944, in Hawkins, Texas, Thelma was raised in the tight-knit community of Redland, Texas, where she learned the values of love, family, and faith that would guide her throughout her life.

In 1965, Thelma married the love of her life, Jerry Reed Wansley, in a beautiful ceremony at Macedonia Baptist Church officiated by the late Rev. Arthur Dimsdale. Their marriage was a true testament to love and partnership, spanning 58 joyful years. Together, they built a life filled with shared adventures, deep devotion, and an unbreakable bond. Jerry's passing on March 20, 2023, left Thelma heartbroken, as she often spoke of how much she missed him, feeling lost without him by her side. Their enduring love was a remarkable example of commitment and companionship, a bond that continued even after Jerry's passing.

Thelma and Jerry were blessed with three children who were the pride and joy of their lives: Kevin Wansley and his wife, Ashley, of Yantis, TX; Ricky Wansley and his wife, Margaret, of Yantis, TX; and Shanna Purkey and her husband, Shannon, of Katy, TX. As a devoted "Grammy," Thelma adored her grandchildren, fondly calling them "a dandy bunch." Her grandchildren were the light of her life, and she cherished every moment spent with them, always making sure they felt her love and pride.

Thelma was the beloved daughter of Roy C. Cox and Florence Marie (Radney) Cox, both of whom preceded her in death, along with her siblings, Frances Cox Estes, Robert G. Cox, and Wilford Cox. Her strong family roots were an important part of who she was, and she carried her parents' and siblings' love and lessons with her throughout her life.

A proud graduate of Hawkins High School, class of 1962, Thelma began her career at Texas Instruments in Dallas before dedicating herself fully to raising her family. Her unwavering presence in her children's lives was a testament to her love and commitment as a mother. She never missed a game, a band concert, or a school event, always cheering her children on with pride. Thelma's home was a haven of warmth, laughter, and delicious meals, and she made sure no one ever left without a full stomach and a smile.

Thelma was known for her infectious laughter, her generous spirit, and her ability to light up any room she entered. She had an extraordinary gift for making people feel loved and valued, leaving a lasting impression on all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her home was always open, her heart always full, and she was a true source of comfort and wisdom to her friends and family.

She shared a special bond with her sister Frances and brother-in-law Clifton Estes, with whom she and Jerry traveled extensively. Their adventures took them across the country, from the majestic Blue Ridge and Smoky Mountains to the wide-open plains of the Dakotas. These trips were filled with laughter, love, and unforgettable memories that strengthened the lifelong bond between the four of them.

Thelma had a remarkable talent for growing flowers and was known for her green thumb. Roses and plants thrived under her care, just as her relationships with family and friends flourished in the warmth of her love and kindness. In her later years, she and Jerry found joy in simple pleasures—fishing on the lake, spending time with their family, and attending gospel music events in the community.

Though life took Thelma and Jerry to various cities over the years, her heart remained rooted in Wood County, close to the family and community she cherished so dearly.

A faithful member of Sharon Baptist Church, Thelma found great joy and comfort in her church family under the ministry of Rev. Perry Shirley. Her faith was a cornerstone of her life, providing her with strength and peace. She carried her relationship with her Savior with grace and conviction, sharing that love with those around her.

Thelma leaves behind a legacy of unconditional love, devotion to family, and an unshakable faith in God. Her memory will be cherished by all who knew her, and her love will live on in the hearts of her family and friends.

Thelma will be deeply missed, but her love, warmth, and generosity will remain forever in the hearts of all who knew her.