



## Cathleen Gardner

February 10, 2023

1969 was a very good year. Man first walked on the moon, the Woodstock Music festival was held and Sesame Street debuted. But today we celebrate a greater event. Cathleen Nelva Gardner was born to Mary Nell and Wilbern Gardner in Beaumont, Texas. Ironically, she contended that the moonwalk was a conspiracy theory.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Mary Nell and Wilbern Gardner, her grandparents Herman and Nelva Elliott and Ellis and Willie Gardner. She is survived by her sister, Elizabeth Davis and husband Cory of Nolensville, Tennessee, her three favorite people, Graham, Scarlett and Sloane Davis of Nolensville, an aunt, Jane Nierman and husband Steve of Pinehurst, Texas, and an uncle, Delman Gardner and wife Patsy of Shreveport, Louisiana and a host of beloved cousins and friends.

Cathleen grew up in Kountze, Texas and graduated from Kountze High School. She was active in band and was a twirler. She attended Abilene Christian University and graduated with a degree in history. Her love of history survived even though she never taught it. Instead she taught elementary school for 28 years in Palestine, Texas, and the Dallas area. She chose to teach disadvantaged children believing that she could have an impact on their lives and we know that she did. She remembered everything she heard, read or saw from historical facts to family history.

She loved nerdy videos about archaeology and ancient cultures and aliens but she also loved pictures of baby animals and fat babies.

She loved music of all genres. Music brought her joy when singing children's songs with her students and nephew and nieces and comfort in her illness.

Cathleen ended her 2-year battle with cancer on February 10, 2023. Because of the courage and grace and kindness and love Cathleen showed us we will never be the same.

The Addison family and staff of Magnolia Funeral Home extend condolences to the Gardner family during this difficult time.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

FEB 18. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Magnolia Funeral Home  
811 South Magnolia Blvd.  
Magnolia, TX 77355  
(281) 356-3363  
magnoliafh@yahoo.com  
<https://magnoliafunerals.com>

## Memorial Service

FEB 18. 3:00 PM (CT)

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811 South Magnolia Blvd.  
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# Tribute Wall

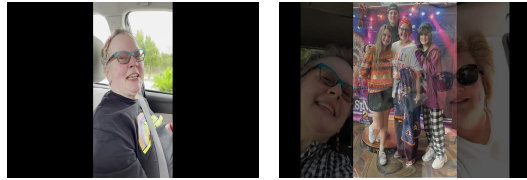
RM

“ Carol and I remember Cathleen so well. She was a beautiful lady with a smile like no other. She was so talented and much too young to leave us.

Robert McDonald - February 18, 2023 at 08:16 PM

RW

“ 2 files added to the album gardner



Ron White - February 18, 2023 at 10:07 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Cathleen Gardner.



February 17, 2023 at 12:16 AM

RH

“ Reagan and Debbie Hanna purchased the Simple Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Cathleen Gardner.



Reagan and Debbie Hanna - February 16, 2023 at 02:42 PM



“ Cathleen was one of the sweetest, strongest, most beautiful people I have been blessed to know. She taught both of my daughters, one for 3rd grade and one for 2nd, and with each child she had, she took their unique challenges and personalities and taught them to embrace and accept their uniqueness. My kids looked forward to going to her class for her amazing hugs and even more amazing smile. Our hearts are broken today, knowing that she is gone and will no longer be able to impact the lives of young children who need more teachers like she was, but are so thankful that she is in out of pain and in His arms. Cathleen, from the bottom of my heart, thank you for being an unbelievable teacher and friend for the last decade. The world won't be the same without you.

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**Tiffany Elaine** - February 16, 2023 at 09:35 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish* was purchased for the family of Cathleen Gardner.



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February 15, 2023 at 11:17 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Cathleen Gardner.



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February 15, 2023 at 06:24 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cathleen Gardner.



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February 15, 2023 at 01:22 PM



“ Cathleen was my sweet funny gal! She lit up a room when she walked in! Her positivity and faith was such a huge blessing to so many. I have such wonderful memories of her at our time at ACU. I went and saw her just a few weeks ago and was so very thankful I did. Love you girlie! Until we meet again❤️❤️

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**Teresa Waisner** - February 15, 2023 at 10:55 AM



“ Amy Kincaid purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Cathleen Gardner.



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**Amy Kincaid** - February 15, 2023 at 10:27 AM

KO

“ Oh how I loved Cathleen! I met her at ACU my freshman year as we lived down the hall from each other in Nelson Dorm. Even though we lost touch over the years, Facebook brought us back together. My memories with her at ACU were some of my favorite times there! There was a group of us that would hang out and just laugh the night away. I am sorry that I can't be there for the service but my thoughts, prayers and hugs go out to her family and friends!! I will never be the same.

*Kierstyn Oldenburg*

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**Kierstyn Oldenburg** - February 15, 2023 at 09:34 AM

DB

“ Doris Cearley, Peggy C. and Valerie B. purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Cathleen Gardner.



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**Doris Cearley, Peggy C. and Valerie B.** - February 14, 2023 at 05:18 PM

SH

“ Wow, what can I say about Cathleen? She was one of my dearest friends, she could always make me laugh. We both loved big jewelry and all things that sparkle and cute shoes. We also loved tiny animals and Charming Charlie's. I can't say how much I will miss her. The comfort I get is knowing she is with her parents again. 💜



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**Sherri Hendricks** - February 14, 2023 at 09:11 AM



“ *Rose Garden Heart* was purchased for the family of Cathleen Gardner.



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February 13, 2023 at 10:57 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage* was purchased for the family of Cathleen Gardner.



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February 13, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray* was purchased for the family of Cathleen Gardner.



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February 12, 2023 at 02:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Cathleen Gardner.

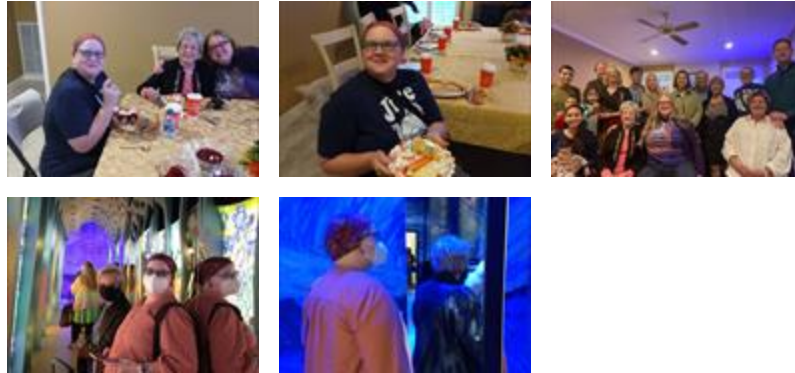


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February 11, 2023 at 09:35 PM

DB

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



**Darlene Beaman** - February 11, 2023 at 04:24 PM

DB

*My time with Cathleen was brief, but I will always remember how she approached life with joy, humor, and kindness. I am glad to have had some time with her, and I will miss her.*

**Darlene Beaman** - February 11, 2023 at 04:29 PM

KB

*One of the best people I have ever known. She will terribly missed and forever loved.*

**Kristen Elizabeth Burks** - February 12, 2023 at 08:44 AM

CR

*Cathleen had high standards and moral convictions and was kind to everyone and made other laugh. She was a beautiful person inside and out.*

**Carla Reichert** - February 14, 2023 at 10:37 AM

RH

*Cathleen will be missed. She was always kind, cheerful, and a beautiful person inside and out. Her dedication to her family was inspiring. We love you so.*

**Reagan and Debbie Hanna** - February 16, 2023 at 02:34 PM

LO

*I remember Cathleen as being my friend in grade school. She went to Mount St. Helen's and brought back ash from the eruption. I remember playing in her backyard in a playhouse. Her neighbors across the street, I think were Hap and Mary. i remember listening to the Statler Brothers at her and her mom being my Blue Bird leader. I remember the organ.*

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**Laurie Overstreet** - February 16, 2023 at 09:32 PM

EM

*Cathleen goes down as the best teacher I have ever known.....and an even better person.*

*My 2nd grade students would often say, "Mr. Mares, I want to be in Ms. Gardner's class!" To which I would reply, "So do !! So. Do. !!"*

*Indeed, Ms. Gardner taught me so much about teaching, and Cathleen taught me even more about life.*

*In class. Out of class. With class! Her humanitarian spirit and her wit were unmatched.*

*Thank you so much for You, Gato! Five dollars on the counter were never forgotten and your stories about aliens made me smile....and think.....*

*Love Always,  
Eligio*

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**Eligio Mares** - February 27, 2023 at 12:50 PM