



## Carlene Mary Kaun

July 2, 1939 - August 12, 2025

Carlene Chellberg Kaun

Carlene Kaun passed away peacefully at home on August 12, 2025, surrounded by the love of her family, as her courageous battle with illness came to an end. Ready to reunite with her beloved husband, Jim, she entered her heavenly home with joy in her heart.

Carlene was preceded in death by her husband, James “Jim” Kaun; her parents, Edna and Johnnie Chellberg; her sister, Joan Chellberg; her daughter-in-law, Candy Kaun; William and Eva Kaun; Bill Kaun; Bev Kaun-Nicholson; and Roger and Karen Adams.

She is survived by her children, Charles Kaun (Patti), Russell Kaun (Antoinette), and Sara Wise (Lon); her grandchildren, Ashlie Kaun, Mackenzie Wise, Crystal Wensmann, Cody Kaun, and Taylor Wise; and her great-granddaughter, Adley Wensmann. She is also survived by her brother, Johnnie Ray Chellberg (Lisa); Ann and Marv Uecker; and numerous nieces and nephews who loved her dearly.

Born in Iowa and raised in McAlester, Oklahoma, Carlene’s early years were filled with the joy of riding horses alongside her sister and attending rodeos across the state—a love she carried into adulthood. She met Jim at Tinker Air Force Base, and in 1961, they were married. Together, they built a beautiful

life in Long Prairie, Minnesota, where Carlene embraced her role as a devoted wife, mother, and friend. She was deeply involved in her children's lives, attending every game, band performance, and school trip—often as both chaperone and their biggest cheerleader.

Carlene cherished her home on Lake Latimer, with its peaceful views, abundant fishing, and the thriving vegetable garden she so lovingly tended. Later in life, she returned to school and proudly earned her college degree from St. Cloud State University, showing her family that it is never too late to pursue a dream.

Upon retirement, Carlene and Jim moved to Oklahoma, living first in Edmond and later in Ponca City. After Jim's passing from ALS, she moved next door to Sara and Lon, staying actively involved in the lives of her grandchildren. Her days were filled with family activities, Bible study, coffee with friends, and cheering for her favorite teams—OU football and softball, and the Minnesota Vikings.

Carlene's warmth, humor, and determination touched all who knew her. She had a gift for making people feel welcome, a deep love for the outdoors, and a sparkle in her spirit. In her later years, she treasured time in the sunshine, surrounded by those she loved. In the end, she never left home without her lipstick.

Her legacy is one of love, perseverance, and devotion to family and friends. She will be deeply missed but forever remembered in the hearts of all who knew her.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG **29**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church  
Skiatook, OK 74070