



Diane Elizabeth Dixon

January 13, 1939 - April 2, 2021

Diane Elizabeth Dixon passed away Friday, April 2, 2021, at age 82 from complications of cancer at her home in Bartlesville, OK. Diane was born January 13, 1939, in Florida to Elizabeth and Arnold Gaines, soon after which the family moved to Baton Rouge, LA. She graduated from St Joseph's Academy High School in 1957 and received a BS in Education from Louisiana State University in 1961. Diane began her long career as an elementary school teacher. She was married to Thomas Dixon on March 4, 1967, in Baton Rouge, LA and the couple was living in Austin Tx when they had their two children. Diane earned her Master's Degree in Education from the University of North Texas just before moving to Bartlesville, OK where her husband Tom began working for Phillips Petroleum, and Diane continued her career in elementary education with the Bartlesville Public School system. She would go on to implement the very successful Gifted and Talented program working with kindergarten through third graders on an accelerated curriculum focused on creative thinking, art, science, and problem-solving skills. Diane started the Northeastern Oklahoma Science Camp, a weeklong sleepover camp full of daily science experiments, discovery, and fun. Diane was a skilled and animated storyteller and would visit schools dressed in costume to enchant children with cultural mythology dressed as Johnny Appleseed, a Witch for Halloween, and an entire generation of Bartlesville children would grow up knowing her as simply The Leprechaun, who came to their classes in March to tell them stories of ancient Ireland and her secret pot of gold. Diane retired

from teaching in the early 1990s at which time she continued being very active with Mary Martha's Outreach, Catholic Charities, The Women's Network, and other organizations working for better community available resources for all Bartlesville residents. In 2018 she was honored by being inducted into the Bartlesville Teacher's Hall of Fame. She joined the Salty Seniors Theater group in 2017 and played roles in several live plays at the Heritage Theater in Dewey, OK where she brought down the house with precision comedic timing. Diane was truly a force of nature, highly motivated, always ready to work with others toward a goal, generous with her time and energy. She grew sunflowers three times her size, fed armies of teenagers with her famous spaghetti and meatballs, and loved sharing her life with people. She is preceded in death by her parents, Elizabeth and Arnold Gaines, her sister Sibyl Echiverri, her brother Billy Gaines, and her husband, Thomas Dixon. She is survived by her children, Scott Dixon and Amy Hardy, her daughter-in-law Beth Dixon, her grandchildren Helen Dixon, Anna Dixon, Sebastian Hardy, Ayden Hardy, Brendan Hardy, Alexander Dixon, Lily Dixon, and Ellie Dixon, and numerous nieces and nephews in Texas and in Ohio. A funeral mass will be held for Diane on Thursday, April 8, 2021, at St. John's Catholic Church in Bartlesville, OK at 4:00 pm. A reception is planned following the funeral mass at Hopestone Cancer Support Center located at 120 SW Frank Phillips Blvd. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hopestone Cancer Support Center of Bartlesville: www.hopestonecancer.org Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Stumpff Funeral Home and Crematory. Friends who wish may sign the online guest book and leave condolences at www.stumpff.org.

Previous Events

Memorial Mass

APR 8. 4:00 PM (CT)

St John's Catholic Church
715 S Johnstone Ave
Bartlesville, OK 74003
(918) 336-4353

Reception

APR 8 (CT)

Hopestone Cancer Support Center
120 SW Frank Phillips Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74003

Tribute Wall



“ *Diane Elizabeth Dixon*

October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ *Diane Elizabeth Dixon*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Diane and I went to high school together and reminded friends for 68 more years . We all loved her bubbling personality as a high school buddy and she never changed. I am amazed at all the things that she accomplished in her life in Oklahoma. It makes me feel very humbled that I have accomplished so little compared to her. I will miss you Diane and I pray for your family. Rest in peace my friend.*

Wanda Hidalgo SJA Class of 1957



Wanda Hidalgo - April 11, 2021 at 06:16 PM



“ *Dear Scott, so sorry to hear of your mom's passing. You are in our prayers in such trying times for your family.*

Ali Khan - April 09, 2021 at 05:50 PM

DL

“ Scott and family, I am terribly sorry for the loss of your mother. Although I didn't know her personally, your kindness and positive influence on people around you are a testament to her legacy. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Dani L - April 09, 2021 at 11:48 AM

KB

“ Mrs. D was my next door neighbor for 14 years and I couldn't have asked for a more enthusiastic, inspiring person than her. I grew up with her visiting my elementary school telling stories and she always had the best Halloween display on her front porch with cauldrons of bubbling dry ice for us to play with. I was fortunate to attend her gifted and talented program in which she challenged and stimulated our Cre8iV minds. So many good memories of her influencing my life in my formative years. Thank you Mrs. D! Rest In Peace and know how much good you did for the world. Help us be as inspiring, you set a HIGH bar!
Kevin Box

Kevin Box - April 08, 2021 at 09:40 PM

JH

“ Diane truly brightened any room she entered. She was always upbeat, happy, and busy. She was the most genuine person I ever knew. Words cannot express how very blessed I feel to have been her neighbor and one of her many, many friends. She had a childlike charisma that drew everyone into her circle. What a treasure, she will be missed.
JoEllen Hall

JoEllen Hall - April 08, 2021 at 01:19 PM

MB

“ When we first moved into our house in Bartlesville, Diane was the first neighbor that I met. I was sitting on the back step and she walked through the field that connected our yards and said “I am making coffee.....come join me”. That was the first of thousands of cups and the beginning of an amazing adventure that would be our friendship. Diane never thought there was anything I couldn't do. She helped me step outside of myself and into the wonderful world that was her imagination. There will never be another like her. We are so blessed to have had her in our lives. Rest easy lil' buddy. I love you.’

mary lou bray - April 08, 2021 at 09:37 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Diane Elizabeth Dixon.



April 07, 2021 at 10:10 PM

KT

“ I have known Diane since they moved to Bartlesville. My husband hired her husband, to work for him at Phillips. Since we were both teachers we shared many common interests. She never hesitated to be our storyteller, even if it was the middle of the night at our special reading award sleepover at Hoover. Diane had an original way of getting students excited about science and math. She would not hesitate to help anyone, even teaching my daughter the basics of tennis. Her husband adored her and was so proud of the children they raised together.

Kayleen Thomas - April 07, 2021 at 04:39 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Diane Elizabeth Dixon.



April 06, 2021 at 09:37 AM



“ I am truly blessed to have known Diane . . .Cul-de-sac neighbor,while teaching,friend. . . many others have been touched and blessed by Diane . . .I'll treasure many memories

Marsha Sauter - April 06, 2021 at 08:26 AM



“ I met Diane when I moved to Bartlesville in 2007. She was delightful and always had a smile to share. I so admired her work as an educator and enjoyed our conversations about education. She was such an asset to the community and generations of children who were in her classes. Thank you for sharing your talents with others Diane, you will be so terribly missed. Sending deepest sympathies to Diane's family and legion on friends, students, and colleagues who will miss her dearly.

Michelle Martin - April 05, 2021 at 11:06 PM



“ Diane Delightful, selfless and limitless in her path to up lift others. . . ,

Sandra McElroy - April 05, 2021 at 08:32 PM