



## Lynne Merrill

January 3, 1937 - October 4, 2025

Lynne Elizabeth Merrill left this world on October 4, 2025, to be with Jesus Christ, her Lord and Savior and other loved ones who preceded her. Her age was a mystery, but knows you can do the math, so she'll just leave it that she was young at heart.

She was born in Elkhart, Indiana on January 3, 1937, to Elizabeth and Rollin Evans. She grew up in Indiana and Illinois and at 16 moved to Dallas, Texas with her parents. After graduation from Highland Park High School in Dallas, she attended Austin College in Sherman, Texas where she majored in biology and met the love of her life, Roy Merrill. Lynne took education courses from the University of Texas and Southern Methodist University and taught science for a year in Dallas. She and Roy were married there in 1960 and also lived in Lansing, Michigan, Muskogee, Oklahoma and Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. They were blessed to raise two wonderful sons, David Thomas Merrill and Stephen Evans Merrill, who brought them so much fun and joy. Lynne and Roy accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior in 1963, a decision that changed their lives, and many others that they shared the love of Jesus Christ with. They helped start Grace Bible Church in Muskogee and she enjoyed studying God's Word and taught children in Good News Clubs and Sunday Schools. After her sons reached teenage years, she taught 7th grade life science at Hilldale Schools in Muskogee for 20 years and loved almost every minute of it. She always encouraged her students (whom she loved) to THINK, and established a "Great Thinkers List" that her students set as a goal

to be on. She enjoyed playing card games and was obsessed with the Catch Phrase game. Those she played with can attest to the special “Lynne Rules” of the game, which no one seemed to understand but her, and oddly came into play when things were not going in her favor.

She loved being a wife, mother, grandma, great-grandma, and friend to many. One of her greatest joys was time with her grandkids. When they visited, she and Roy would take them on small trips and outings that often turned out to be filled with unplanned hilarious twists and turns. She was also known for her creativity and wit with Christmas gifts tied to solving puzzles and riddles tied to scavenger hunts. As her grandkids got older, her way of keeping in touch was through texting corny quirky jokes they were asked to guess the answer to. Lynne is preceded in death by her loving husband. She is survived by her sons: David, his wife Barbara; Stephen, his wife Lori; grandchildren: Joshua, his wife Haley; Jonathan, his wife Kelly; Brooke, her husband Asher Griffin; great-grandchildren: Jack, Madeline, Bradley, Mackenzie and Evans. She took special joy and comfort in the personal faith every member of her family has in Jesus Christ as their Savior.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to all the medical professionals, caregivers and hospice personnel for their compassionate care and kindness during Lynne’s final days. Your dedication and love made a difference, and we are forever thankful for the support you provided.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to:

Our Daily Bread Ministries

PO Box 2222

Grand Rapids, MI 49501

Or donating online at [www.odbm.org](http://www.odbm.org)

The Gideons International

PO Box 140800

Nashville, TN 37214

Or donating online at [gideons.org](https://gideons.org)

# Previous Events

## Viewing

OCT **13**. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home  
1660 South Elm Place  
Broken Arrow, OK 74012  
(918) 258-9623  
hayhurstfuneralhome@gmail.com

## Graveside Service

OCT **14**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Park Cemetery  
7600 Old Taft Rd  
Muskogee, OK 74401-8532  
(918) 682-1311

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lynne Merrill.*



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October 14, 2025 at 09:42 AM



“ *Mrs. Merrill was such an amazing teacher and more importantly, she was someone who cared. She stepped up for me when I was in the 7th grade. She took me into her home, she and her husband mentored me. They did it because they cared and they will never know how life changing it was. God bless her family. She truly changed lives.*

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**Charla Jackson** - October 12, 2025 at 05:07 PM



“ *Lynne not only taught one of our boys, but she and Roy were our neighbors in Muskogee. She was always eager to watch the guys when needed and would reluctantly call, in the middle of the night, when Roy had a need due to limited mobility. I can't even begin to say how much Jackie and I loved this precious lady and her dear husband. Our love and prayers go out to her family. Rest well Lynne, and we'll see you soon! Chuck & Jackie Myers*

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**Chuck Myers** - October 10, 2025 at 05:29 AM

BM

“ Beth, Jerry, Michelle and Maylee purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Lynne Merrill.



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**Beth, Jerry, Michelle and Maylee** - October 09, 2025 at 08:19 AM

BM

“ Beth, Jerry, Michelle and Maylee planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lynne Merrill.

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**Beth, Jerry, Michelle and Maylee** - October 09, 2025 at 08:19 AM

DP

“ I had the extreme pleasure of working with Lynn as her Middle School Principal for a few years. She was an awesome teacher and even better person. I am glad my boys were able to attend her 7th grade science classes. She will be sorely missed!

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**dewayne Pemberton** - October 08, 2025 at 01:01 PM

TF

“*Lynne was an amazing role model and friend to me as I began my career at Hilldale. Lynne’s passion for teaching and her commitment to her students touched countless lives. She retired after twenty years of service, leaving a legacy of kindness, patience, and compassion. Lynne’s gentle spirit, unwavering faith, and loving heart will be deeply missed by all who knew her. Her legacy will live on in the lives of her family and the many she inspired during her lifetime.*

*Her famous mantra: THINK !*



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**Tracy Fenton** - October 08, 2025 at 09:58 AM

BL

“*David, Steve and families: We have a request. Please put Evelyn and I in the guest book somewhere for remembrance. We will not be able to attend the reception nor the gathering at Muskogee.*

*Did you guys know our daughter Lynetta was named after Lynne.*

*We certainly are going to miss her in our lives on this world. We were very close to them and love them tremendously. Our closest companions in relationship with God by means of the Lord Jesus Christ and true scriptural absolute truth. Wonderful believers!*

*She IS a great blessing to us over the many years. But we will have a great reunion with she and Roy - not too distant future. Give our support and grace wishes to everyone.*

*“Bob and Evelyn Lyon”. In the family’s guest book.*

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**BOB and EVELYN LYON** - October 07, 2025 at 11:11 PM

MB

“ *Lynne, was a beloved member of our Baptist Village of Broken Arrow family. She was loved and respected and enjoyed. We will miss her dearly, but are thankful she is with her Lord and Loved ones and without pain and suffering forever more.*

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**Monty Baggett** - October 07, 2025 at 09:07 PM

HH

“ *It is our honor and privilege to serve the Merrill family and to provide this permanent tribute website in memory of Lynne.*



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**Hayhurst Funeral Home** - October 06, 2025 at 09:50 AM

JG

*We sure loved this beautiful woman! She was such a sweetheart! She taught our boys in Sunday School and they thoroughly enjoyed her class. The Gilbertsons*

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**Julie Gilbertson** - October 07, 2025 at 01:20 PM

JR

*Lynne was a shining star that made every room she entered a brighter place. Working with her at Hilldale was a pleasure. She was one of my son's favorite teachers.*

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**Joyce Rock** - October 08, 2025 at 11:25 PM