



## Janice Marie Davis

November 6, 1958 - September 14, 2024

It is with love and heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Janice Marie Ward Davis of Gilmer, Texas, on September 14, 2024, at the age of 65 years. She was born on November 6, 1958, to Herman Arleigh and Edith Ozell Harris Ward. She married her best friend, Coy Eugene "Gene" Davis, on December 28, 1984. This year marks 40 years of their life together. Janice and Gene have one daughter, Brittany Ann Davis Gowin, and son in law, Randy Gowin. Janice loved the outdoors. From her beautiful flower gardens spanning the majority of her two-acre homestead, to the Azalea Trails of Tyler, to the Dallas Arboretum, to the many road trips looking at Texas Bluebonnets and Indian Paintbrushes, and to the many fall road trips taken to see the multicolored foliage. She loved to travel with her husband, but refused to step foot on an airplane. So whether it was Salt Lake City, Utah in the winter; Santa Fe, New Mexico in the summer; Pigeon Forge, Tennessee in the fall, or a hundred places in between, she and Gene enjoyed life on the road. In 2009, she became a journeyman electrician for Davis Electric, and spent each day side by side her husband. When she wasn't working with Gene, she was on Pinterest. From cross stitch, to baking, to various creative holiday crafts, Janice enjoyed creating items that brought joy into the world. She loved hosting parties--whether it was for individuals or large groups, she loved using her crafty talents to bring people together for good. Known as "Little Miss Sunshine" to many, she was always willing to volunteer to bring happiness into the lives of others. When it came to touching someone's soul, Janice

always seemed to know when a word or gesture of comfort was needed. Janice was a devout member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and was baptized on November 22, 1966. She and Gene were sealed for time and all eternity in the Dallas, Texas temple on April 10, 1993. Throughout her years of service in the church she held many callings of which she served vigilantly. She loved hosting group celebrations for the Primary, Young Women, Relief Society, Young Single Adults, and Couples activities. Those left to carry on her memory include her daughter Brittany, her husband Randy, their son Colin and his wife Jordin, and daughter Hannah, all of Emory. She is survived by her three sisters and five brothers Michael and Virginia Ward Denton of Gilmer, Larry and Lana Ward Smith of Rosewood, David and Judy Ward of East Mountain, Randy and Joycelyn Ward of Pine Tree, Elwyn and Terry Ward of Kelsey, Danny and JoAnn Ward McBride of Kelsey, Kevin Ward of Kelsey, Fred Ward of Rain Tree Lakes, and 29 Nieces and Nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Gene Davis; her parents Herman Arleigh Ward and Edith Ozell Harris Ward; her brothers Herman Oscar Ward, Harold Arleigh Ward, Ragnald Ocho Ward; and sister Judy Carolyn Ward White.

The family extends gratitude and love to the amazing teams of Hospice of East Texas and Choice Hospice, who cared for the family as a whole throughout the past month of her and Gene's hospice journey. Additionally, the family is grateful to all the staff of the UT Health East Texas Hope Cancer Center, the UT Health Tyler North and Main campuses. To the family and friends who have extended their love and service over the years, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Funeral services will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Saturday, September 21, 2024, at 10:00 am. Interment to follow at Rosewood Park Cemetery. Visitation will be held at McWhorter Funeral Home on Friday, September 20, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Please visit Janice's online registration book at [www.mcwhorterfh.com](http://www.mcwhorterfh.com) to leave a memory for the family.



# Cemetery Details

## Rosewood Park

1884 FM 1844  
Longview, TX 75605

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **20**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

McWhorter Funeral Home  
1074 St. Hwy 300  
Gilmer, TX 75645  
(903) 734-7070  
[info@mcwhorterfh.com](mailto:info@mcwhorterfh.com)  
<https://www.mcwhorterfh.com>

## Service

SEP **21**. 10:00 AM (CT)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
1122 Pine St,  
Gilmer, TX 75644  
(903) 843-3307

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Janice Davis Funeral Service*



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**McWhorter Funeral Home** - September 21, 2024 at 03:15 PM

JA

“ *Janice was always a good friend. Rare and beautiful* ❤️

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**Jeri Alexander** - September 20, 2024 at 11:38 PM

RM

“ *Ryan and Robin McCubbin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Janice Marie Davis.*

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**Ryan and Robin McCubbin** - September 20, 2024 at 10:23 AM



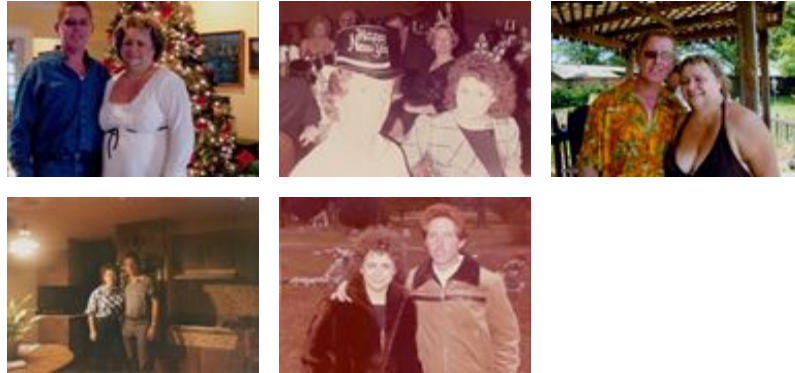
“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Janice Marie Davis.*



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September 20, 2024 at 10:23 AM



“ 400 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**McWhorter Funeral Home** - September 19, 2024 at 05:36 PM

AJ

“ *Janice was my family’s neighbor for around 40 years. Brittany and I grew up together, we use to spend the night with each other for years. Mrs. Janice always treated myself and my sister like family. There was never a day I saw her without Gene or Brittany growing up. She was devoted to her family and always made me feel like family when I entered her home. I will forever be grateful for having the privilege of knowing her and her beautiful family. Not only did she watch my sister and I grow up but she watched my son grow up. Mrs. Janice had a heart of gold and she will be missed.*

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**Amy Johnson** - September 17, 2024 at 05:42 PM

BG

*She loved you very much* ☐

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**Brittany Gowin** - September 23, 2024 at 11:46 AM

AJ

“ Amy and Shelly Johnson purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Janice Marie Davis.



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**Amy and Shelly Johnson** - September 17, 2024 at 09:54 AM

BG

“ I’ve known Janice for quite a few years , & I consider her a close & special friend. I didn’t get to know her that well until after she & Gene got married we moved into the same ward as she & Gene were in, @ that point in time we all became good friends visiting with each other, & attending various activities together. It has always been & honor & pleasure to have associated & Known Janice the wonderful & caring Special daughter of God that she is, not to mention wonderful wife to Gene, & loving mother to Brittany. My special Love, Condolences, & Prayers goes out to all Family, friends, & love ones at this time & all days to come.

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**Bobby Gray** - September 16, 2024 at 05:23 PM

KC

Janice was a “ray of sunshine”. She was always smiling and had a kind word. My love and sincere condolences to her family. K.cochran

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**Kathy Cochran** - September 16, 2024 at 09:56 PM

LM

Jean and Janice were always good friends. We had a long acquaintance with each other. Jean was always there if you needed help for something he was great working with trees as we know, but that was for service. Janice was always there with them. I referred to them as the dynamic duo, they will be missed prayers to the family.

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**lewis miller** - September 17, 2024 at 09:42 AM

CJ

“ *Janice was a senior at Harmony when I returned to teach/coach in 1976-77. She was always respectful and did her work. I grew up with the Wards and consider them all my friends. My prayers and thoughts are with you.*

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**Charles Johnson** - September 16, 2024 at 02:05 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Janice Marie Davis.*



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September 16, 2024 at 01:49 PM

PW

“ *Janice was always Ms. Sunshine to me.no matter how she felt,she always had a smile on her face.janice and Gene were always together at work or at events at church.great service they devoted to their Savior. Janice always looked like a kid to me,young at heart.janice will be truly missed but rest assured she is smiling and happy. Love always,Paula whorton*

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**Paula whoeton** - September 16, 2024 at 12:32 PM

BG

*Thank you* ☐

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**Brittany Gowin** - September 16, 2024 at 01:06 PM

BG

“ *I love you, Mom. I promised you and Dad that I would get you home, and you did the work needed to help me keep that promise. I am so grateful your final days were at home with people you love.* ”



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**Brittany Gowin** - September 16, 2024 at 11:59 AM