



Bernice Smith Clay

September 30, 1930 - September 26, 2015

Ruby Bernice (Smith) Clay was born on September 30, 1930 to Daniel Robert and Ruby Vera (Rich) Smith in White Oak, Texas, the only daughter of six children. She passed away in Austin, Texas surrounded by her children on Saturday, September 26, 2015. She was 84 years old.

Bernice married Charles Edward "Charlie" Clay on July 2, 1949 in Decatur, Texas. She and Charlie were married 63 years and 10 months. Bernice and Charlie owned Clay Enterprises which over the years including Clay's Quick Way Grocery, Gibson's, Clay Mart, C&D Maintenance and Charlie's Mowing. She was an accomplished seamstress. She designed and made everything from men's suits to wedding dresses, and anything in-between for her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and many others. She was a lifetime member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and was very active in St. Mary's Altar Society. She was BPW Woman of the Year and secretary/treasurer of the Winn Hill Cemetery Association many years. But, most of all, Bernice was a loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend to many.

She was preceded in death by her husband Charlie, her parents, and her brothers Louis Hubert, Robert Thomas, Charles "Buddy" Rich and David Ray Smith.

Among the many who will miss Bernice dearly include her children, son Eddie Clay and wife Jan of Eastland, Texas; daughter Barbara Melvin and husband Kenneth of O'Fallon, Illinois and daughter Denice Cadena and husband Hector of Jonestown, Texas. One brother, John Paul Smith of Loving, Texas and two sisters-in-law, Inal Orene Spencer of Hillsboro, Texas and Clara Marie Matlock of Jacksboro, Texas; seven grandchildren, Melissa Shook Young, Charles Edward Clay, III, Monica Clay Howard, Pamela Shook Broten, Kenna Melvin Wittkowski, Joseph Clay Halliburton and Samuel Cadena; twelve great-grandchildren, Jessica Young, Turner Young, Eric Broten, Jeffrey Broten, Dustin Howard, Tyler Mustin, Brandon Theesfeld, Brooklyn Theesfeld, Sage Edward Clay, Kinley Howard, Kaelynn Halliburton and Kenneth Paul Wittkowski. She is also leaving behind many extended family members and friends who will miss her dearly.

Bernice's Celebration of Life will be on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 which would have been her 85th birthday

If so desired memorials may be made to the Jacksboro Fire Department, Concerned Citizens or Winn Hill Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Winn Hill Cemetery

8800 Burwick Road
Jacksboro, TX 76458

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 29. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Coker Funeral Home
152 State Hwy 148
Jacksboro, TX 76458
(940) 567-3778
info@cokerfuneral.com

Rosary

SEP 29. 6:00 PM (CT)

Coker Funeral Home
152 State Hwy 148
Jacksboro, TX 76458
(940) 567-3778
info@cokerfuneral.com

Mass

SEP **30**. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
1186 State Highway 148
Jacksboro, TX 76458

Tribute Wall



“ *Bernice Smith Clay*

October 09, 2023 at 04:16 AM



“ *Bernice Smith Clay*

January 28, 2023 at 12:10 PM



“ *Condolences to you and your family.*

*Cynthia Plumas,
State of Texas
Dept. of Aging & Disability
Residential Reviewer*



cynthia plumas - December 19, 2015 at 06:52 PM



“ *I am a friend/sister to Barbara Melvin. Her family has always considered my husband, Rod Rider and me as family, as did Bernice and Charlie. She was a very giving, kind, and wonderful woman and Rod and I will miss her dearly. I am sure God and Charlie were waiting to welcome her to heaven with open arms. I know she and Charlie are dancing joyously.*



Maggie McMillin and Rod Rider - October 15, 2015 at 10:35 AM

CY

“ Cynthia and Russell Cunningham



Cynthia - October 02, 2015 at 07:37 AM

DK

“ Don And Debbie Kidd lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay



Don and Debbie Kidd - October 02, 2015 at 07:19 AM

JD

“ John & Juanita Damron lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay



john & Juanita Damron - October 01, 2015 at 09:09 AM

JM

“ JR & Melba Mower lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay



JR & Melba Mower - September 30, 2015 at 09:46 PM

DK

“ *Debbie Voyles King lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay* ”



Debbie Voyles King - September 30, 2015 at 09:45 PM

LM

“ *Leo & Carla Marley lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay* ”



Leo & Carla Marley - September 30, 2015 at 06:53 PM

TS

“ *Tammy Shields sent a virtual gift in memory of Bernice Smith Clay* ”



Tammy shields - September 30, 2015 at 06:08 PM

TS

“ *Tammy Shields sent a virtual gift in memory of Bernice Smith Clay* ”



Tammy shields - September 30, 2015 at 06:06 PM

JW

“ James And Jannie West lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay



James and Jannie West - September 30, 2015 at 09:55 AM

JW

Prayers for the family during this difficult time.
James and Jannie West

James and Jannie West - September 30, 2015 at 09:59 AM

BF

“ Butch & Brenda Fuller lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay



Butch & Brenda Fuller - September 29, 2015 at 01:20 PM

TF

“ The Bath & Kitchen Showplace / Moore Supply Family purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Bernice Smith Clay.



The Bath & Kitchen Showplace / Moore Supply Family -
September 29, 2015 at 12:21 PM

JD

“ *John & Juanita Damron lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



John & Juanita Damron - September 29, 2015 at 10:33 AM

JM

“ *John & Debbie Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



John & Debbie Mitchell - September 29, 2015 at 09:56 AM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Bernice Smith Clay.*



September 29, 2015 at 09:45 AM

WW

“ *Woman to Woman purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Bernice Smith Clay.*



Woman to Woman - September 29, 2015 at 09:44 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bernice Smith Clay.*



September 29, 2015 at 09:15 AM



“ *Bobby & Mary Jackson lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Bobby & Mary Jackson - September 29, 2015 at 08:51 AM



“ *Ben Gunter lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Ben Gunter - September 29, 2015 at 08:17 AM



“ *So sorry we will be unable to attend the funeral. We loved Bernice so much. You will surely be missed. Ben & Carolyn Gunter*

Ben Gunter - September 29, 2015 at 08:14 AM

LS

“ Linda Duggan Stringfellow lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay



Linda Duggan Stringfellow - September 29, 2015 at 08:05 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Video Tribute



Coker Funeral Home - September 29, 2015 at 08:01 AM

PS

“ Philip W Smith purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Bernice Smith Clay.



Philip W Smith - September 28, 2015 at 10:25 PM

JR

“ JaneAnn Rhoten lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay



JaneAnn Rhoten - September 28, 2015 at 10:20 PM

BP

“ *Barb, Ken, & family,*

So sorry to hear of the passing of Barb's mother. May you find comfort in cherished memories.

*Bill & Marilee Pritchard
Gold Canyon, AZ*

Bill Pritchard - September 28, 2015 at 09:15 PM

TP

“ *Tracie Pippin lit a candle in memory of
Bernice Smith Clay*



Tracie Pippin - September 28, 2015 at 09:03 PM

BH

“ *Bruce, Theresa & Blake Heseande lit a
candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Bruce, Theresa & Blake Heseande - September 28, 2015 at 08:16 PM

BH

Keeping everyone in our thoughts and prayers today and all the days ahead.

Bruce, Theresa & Blake Hesteande

Marie Williams

Bruce, Theresa & Blake Hesteande - September 28, 2015 at 08:21 PM

VG

“ Vickie Gunter lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay



Vickie Gunter - September 28, 2015 at 07:33 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bernice Smith Clay.



September 28, 2015 at 06:38 PM

JG

“ Jackie, Jerry, Daniel, Rosalind, Robert, David, Teresa, Geo purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Bernice Smith Clay.



Jackie, Jerry, Daniel, Rosalind, Robert, David, Teresa, Geo - September 28, 2015 at 02:16 PM



“ Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bernice Smith Clay.



September 28, 2015 at 11:56 AM



“ *Blushing Lilies was purchased for the family of Bernice Smith Clay.*



September 28, 2015 at 11:49 AM



“ *Judy & Bill McRoberts lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Judy & Bill McRoberts - September 28, 2015 at 11:25 AM



“ *Edward & Yvonne Smith lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Edward & Yvonne Smith - September 28, 2015 at 10:18 AM



“ *Scott Broten lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Scott Broten - September 28, 2015 at 09:13 AM

FL

“ *Faye Lewis lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Faye Lewis - September 28, 2015 at 09:04 AM

SS

“ *Santiago & Nuvia Salazar lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Santiago & Nuvia Salazar - September 28, 2015 at 08:22 AM

CP

“ *Cathy Poynor lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Cathy Poynor - September 27, 2015 at 09:54 PM

NG

“ *Neoma Pewitt Gwaltney lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Neoma Pewitt Gwaltney - September 27, 2015 at 07:30 PM



“ *Blooming Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bernice Smith Clay.*



September 27, 2015 at 05:17 PM



“ *Rhonda Prince lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Rhonda Prince - September 27, 2015 at 05:11 PM



“ *Rip mrs clay. I love you.*

Lucy Guest - September 27, 2015 at 08:55 AM



“ *John & Juanita Damron lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



John & Juanita Damron - September 27, 2015 at 08:54 AM



“ *Lucy Guest lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Lucy Guest - September 27, 2015 at 08:54 AM



“ *KarenWright And James Clay lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



karenWright and James Clay - September 27, 2015 at 08:17 AM



“ *Vicki Fenter Bean lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Vicki Fenter Bean - September 26, 2015 at 09:23 PM



“ *Rita And Larry Culwell lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Rita and Larry Culwell - September 26, 2015 at 08:07 PM

TM

“ I only remember being at her's and Charlie's home one time in the brief time I've known them. She was a gracious hostess, a loving mother , and will be missed !!! May God be with her family in their time of sorrow...Rest In Peace, Bernice....

Tom Melvin - September 26, 2015 at 08:04 PM

AK

“ Ann Yoder Kimbrough lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay



Ann Yoder Kimbrough - September 26, 2015 at 07:22 PM

GC

“ GRACE CLAY lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay



GRACE CLAY - September 26, 2015 at 06:00 PM

TH

“ TJ Hart lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay



TJ Hart - September 26, 2015 at 05:32 PM

MM

“ *Marianne Myers lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Marianne Myers - September 26, 2015 at 04:30 PM

DL

“ *Dale & Carol Leach lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Dale & Carol Leach - September 26, 2015 at 03:14 PM

AA

“ *Ann Amburn lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Ann Amburn - September 26, 2015 at 02:42 PM

JK

“ *Jim & Gayla Kinder lit a candle in memory of Bernice Smith Clay*



Jim & Gayla Kinder - September 26, 2015 at 12:32 PM

SS

“ Sunny And Deborah Hale Strain lit a candle in
memory of Bernice Smith Clay



Sunny and Deborah Hale Strain - September 26, 2015 at 12:05 PM