



Norma Rumage

February 10, 1933 - October 29, 2012

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Norma Rhea Moore Rumage was born in Weatherford, Texas on February 10, 1933 to Jewel Josephine Combs Moore and Bert Leon “Buck” Moore. In the late 1930’s, her parents, her brother Gerald Moore and she moved to Jacksboro where she lived for the remainder of her life. She married Robert Owen “Bunk” Rumage on June 25, 1955 at the Memorial Christian Church in Jacksboro, Texas, where her service is to be held on Saturday, November 3rd at 11:00 a.m. Her husband preceded her in death on August 12, 1978. She is survived by her daughter, Roxanna Rhea Maddox and husband, Bob Maddox, of Jacksboro, and son, Robert Randall Rumage, and wife, Marie Yamamoto, of Los Angeles, California, as well as two very special grandsons, Murray “Miles” Maddox of Houston, Texas and Madison “McCall” Maddox of Fort Worth, Texas. She is also survived by her brother Gerald Moore and his wife Sammie Ellis Moore of Carlsbad, New Mexico. Norma leaves behind sisters-in-law Sarah Rumage, Julia Rumage, Bernice Rumage, Olive Rumage, and Ophelia Henderson; cousin Linda Hale; and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. In addition to her being preceded in death by her brothers-in-law J.T. Rumage, Carl Rumage, Warren Rumage, and C.M. “Junior” Rumage, she was preceded in death by a niece Melinda Rumage, in 1972, a nephew John Moore, in 1997, and sister-in-law Katherine Moore, in 2008.

In her almost 80 years on earth, Norma lived a colorful and eventful life. In her younger days, Norma liked to change residences almost as frequently as she changed occupations. Over a period of 15 years, she and her family lived in 13 different homes in Jacksboro, as she enjoyed renovating and redecorating each and every residence. Norma was always on the cusp of trends in fashion and style...even during the 1970's heyday of avocado-hued appliances, shag carpet, and orange-colored Formica countertops. Years after Norma selected and installed a wild floral 1970's print wallpaper in her bathroom, she discovered that Suzanne Pleshette's TV character on "The Bob Newhart Show" went out and selected the exact same print for their fictional Chicago apartment. Over the course of Norma's working life, Norma's occupations ranged from head bookkeeper at the local bank to independent oil producer. Perhaps her shortest employment was her tenure at Fort Wolters Air Force base in Mineral Wells, Texas with friend Jean Elenburg. Norma and Jean were required to keep track of the number of planes that landed...which happened about three times per day, leaving hours of downtime with nothing to do. Although this was during a time of peace, Norma had but one speed...and it was fast-paced, so she ended her military service almost before it was time to break for lunch.

Her work experience scurried from stints at the Jack County Court House to the Superintendent's office and beyond. Realizing her true talents weren't being fully utilized in public service, she quickly became an entrepreneur. Norma owned and operated for many years a women's clothing store on Belknap Street which she named Norma's Dress Shop. This job allowed her to select her merchandise from the many fashion clothing vendors at The Fair Market in Dallas. However, for most of her career, she worked at the First National Bank in the bookkeeping department where her whirlwind speed with figures (as with her favorite pastime, playing cards) allowed her to leave work early practically every day as she processed mounds of checks and

statements at a frenetic pace. Norma was unfamiliar with the phrase "leading a leisurely paced life."

In 1966 she abandoned the desk jobs, the dress shop, and managing two different local motels (The Image Motel and The Aztec Hotel) in order to become a licensed beautician; owning and operating, with her friends Jean Elenburg and Betty McAnear, a beauty shop. Although the business was a financial success, Norma became restless with the daily task of trying to beautify the women. Although the shop was called "The Magic Mirror," Norma was the first to admit she was no miracle worker, so instead she turned to bottle-feeding and raising baby calves...a logical progression. Norma always said it was easier to please the calves than the public.

With her family she invested in real estate (both undeveloped land and residential properties), formed an oil production partnership, and owned an oil fracturing/acidizing business. For a brief period, she returned to the former site of Norma's Dress Shop and transformed it into The Pantry, which was a lunchtime favorite among the locals, known for its homemade soups, salads and sandwiches. For someone who didn't like to cook, Norma had a way with macaroni and cheese that no one else could replicate. Norma liked her jams, jellies and pies very runny (or, in her words, "I don't like a stiff pie.") When you would slice her meringue pies, the custard filling would run all across the plate. Rather than a fork, you needed a spoon and a straw. When she was questioned about the consistency of her pie custard filling, she said, "No one's ever choked on my pies." Norma was making 30-minute meals long before Rachael Ray. Then her meal preparation time was reduced drastically when she acquired a microwave oven and a pressure cooker. Not known for reading recipes or directions, Norma once baked a canned ham in the oven without removing the ham from the can. Fortunately no one was in the kitchen when the pressurized heat inside the can caused the ham to explode, bolting open

the oven door, and projecting shards of metal and shredded meat all over the ceiling, walls and floors.

She had quite the entrepreneurial spirit and was fearless when it came to trying “something new and innovative.” Her motto was “lead, follow, or get out of the way.” She instilled this fiery and disciplined work ethic in her children and grandchildren. Another favorite adage of hers was “Life is like a piano. What you get out of it depends on how you play it.” Despite her hitting some sour notes, it never stopped her from playing the game of life.

Although she had not traveled much prior to sending her children to Europe for summer vacations during their high school years, Norma embarked (with her children and nephew Bryan Moore) on a ten-state northeastern U.S. tour following her son’s graduation from college. She survived two roundtrip road trips from Texas to California, but preferred making the trips to Los Angeles (sometimes with her daughter, son-in-law, grandsons, niece Carla Beth Horton and great nephew Derek Horton to visit her son, daughter-in-law, and nephew Bryan Moore inside an American Airlines jet. On one occasion, she was selected to “come on down” on the television game show “The Price Is Right” where she won a trip to Holland, Germany and Belgium in spite of confusing a Krackel bar with a cracker (as well as flustering Bob Barker in the process). She brought her daughter and son with her on that European trip. At the time, The Netherlands was celebrating Queen Beatrix Day, and the streets were lined with tens of thousands of citizens. Although Norma had no sense of direction and couldn’t speak a word of Dutch, she always took the lead...and among the hordes of crowds there for the Queen’s parade, Norma vanished from sight, and almost became an “Unsolved Mystery” of her own in a foreign land.

Norma loved comedians....Bob Hope, Carol Burnett, Bea Arthur, and, yes, even Chris Rock. She loved to sit around the piano and sing her favorite

songs...“Swanee,” “Hello Dolly,” “Mame,” “Bad, Bad Leroy Brown,” “Frankie And Johnny,” “The Glory of Love,” “All I Care About Is Love,” “If My Friends Could See Me Now,” and “Side By Side.”

Norma was a two-time survivor of cancer (in 1977 and in 1999). She was treated at the Baylor Hospital in Dallas, at M.D. Anderson in Houston, and at Faith Community Hospital in Jacksboro. She was greatly appreciative of and indebted to all the healthcare professionals who brought her back from the brink of death, not the least of which was Dr. Jamal, who continued to faithfully care for her for the next 13 years, until her death on Monday. She was also assisted by her longtime friend-for-life, the late Quintina Salazar, and Quintina’s daughter Maria Huerta, both of whom steadfastly helped Norma around the house for many years and provided dedicated service in Norma’s time of need.

Although she will be missed by many, no one will miss her more than her family. She was the first to admit her faults, and often jokingly remarked, “If I knew I was going to live this long, I would’ve taken better care of myself.” In spite of her self-admitted shortcomings, she was always fun-loving, kind, generous, dedicated to her children, and caused many a laugh with her natural witty sense of humor. She was funny without even trying. The world was a much better place by having been graced by Norma Rhea Ramage.

Adapted from one of her favorite songs, “The Glory of Love”:

She told us, “Give A little, take a little,
And let your poor heart break a little.
That’s the story of,
That’s the glory of love.”

She said to, “Laugh a little, cry a little

Before the clouds roll by a little.
That's the story of,
That's the glory of love."

And now there's just a few of us
Who still remember her funny lines.
She taught us all to love and learn,
And how to have good times.

She said to "Win a little, lose a little,
And always have the blues a little."
That's the story of
Norma's glorious love.

Previous Events

Service

NOV 3. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Christian Church
115 North Knox Street
Jacksboro, TX 76458

Tribute Wall



“ *Norma Rumage*

October 09, 2023 at 04:16 AM



“ *Norma Rumage*

January 28, 2023 at 12:10 PM



“ *Monte Garner lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Monte Garner - November 25, 2018 at 11:41 PM



“ *Roxanna, I am so very sorry to hear of your mother's passing. A mother never really leaves you....a day never passes that I don't think of my mother,Billie Crawford. Norma was a delightful lady and always a good friend to Mother. Please know that my thought and prayers are with you and your family.*

Mary Jo Crawford Jansson

MaryJo Jansson - November 04, 2012 at 05:26 AM



“ *Roxanna,just now found out about your mother. I am sorry for your loss.Our thoughts and prayers are with you.....George Fulbright*

George Fulbright - November 03, 2012 at 01:09 AM

AP

“ Autumn & Steve Pardue lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage



Autumn & Steve Pardue - November 02, 2012 at 10:33 PM

CN

“ Chris Norris lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage



Chris Norris - November 02, 2012 at 10:31 PM

LW

“ I didn't know Norma Rumage but I read of her passing in the Times Record News in Wichita Falls, TX. First off the size her obituary caught my eye and intrigued me even though I didn't recognize her name. And, I must tell you that I am so glad that I read the memories of this amazing lady. I laughed, grinned and cried over someone I didn't even know. In fact I was so touched by her obituary that I even posted on my Facebook page that people needed to read page 5A about Norma and at the end of the day I had over 60 responses of people that had read and reposted. Coincidentally, one friend of mine of FB knew her and agreed with the article. My hat is off the person or persons that wrote such a wonderful tribute for this wonderful lady. I would like to extend my sincere condolences to her family and pray that her legacy lives on through you all. Sincerely, Leesa Wachsman Wichita Falls, Texas

Leesa Wachsman - November 02, 2012 at 07:55 PM



“ *Ann Amburn lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Ann Amburn - November 02, 2012 at 06:02 PM



“ *Lesa Warren lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Lesa Warren - November 02, 2012 at 05:14 PM



“ *Tracie Martin Pippin lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Tracie Martin Pippin - November 02, 2012 at 04:16 PM



“ *Lanna Moxley lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Lanna Moxley - November 02, 2012 at 03:54 PM

MS

“ *Martha And Jim Salmon lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Martha and Jim Salmon - November 02, 2012 at 03:50 PM

BJ

“ *Beverly & Bob Johnson lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Beverly & Bob Johnson - November 02, 2012 at 02:24 PM

BJ

I loved Norma Rhea dearly.

Beverly & Bob Johnson - November 02, 2012 at 02:25 PM

RM

And Mother loved you as well. I don't suppose a birthday ever went by that you didn't recognize her special day with a call or a card. She so appreciated your thoughtfulness. We were blessed with her for thirteen years more than we ever thought possible and are forever grateful for that. I will never forget her quick wit, dry sense of humor and infectious smile. Every daughter should be lucky enough to have had a Mom like mine. Love you Beverly. Roxanna

Roxanna Maddox - November 07, 2012 at 10:49 AM

RP

“ *REY & DEISY PIEDRA lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage*



REY & DEISY PIEDRA - November 01, 2012 at 09:46 AM

AP

“ *ALONSO & BETY PIEDRA lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage*



ALONSO & BETY PIEDRA - November 01, 2012 at 09:46 AM

MP

“ *MIGUEL & CONSUELO PIEDRA lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage*



MIGUEL & CONSUELO PIEDRA - November 01, 2012 at 09:45 AM

JG

“ *Dear Roxanna and family, What a beautiful tribute this is to your dear mother. I am enjoying the photos. You must have gotten your fiery spirit from her! We are thinking of and praying for your family at this time. Love to you all from Jenita, Mike and Crista Guthrie.*

Jenita Guthrie - November 01, 2012 at 07:04 AM

LB

“ *LaDonna Rater Brundige lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



LaDonna Rater Brundige - October 31, 2012 at 10:52 PM

JR

“ *James And Jane Ann Rhoten lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



James and Jane Ann Rhoten - October 31, 2012 at 06:36 PM

PG

“ *Pack & Neoma Gwaltney lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Pack & Neoma Gwaltney - October 31, 2012 at 05:55 PM

GD

“ *Greg And Susan Damron lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Greg and Susan Damron - October 31, 2012 at 04:14 PM

LS

“ *Linda And Carroll Stringfellow lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Linda and Carroll Stringfellow - October 31, 2012 at 03:14 PM

TS

“ *Tom And Jana Sessions lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Tom and Jana Sessions - October 31, 2012 at 02:25 PM

SS

“ *Santiago & Nuvia Salazar lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Santiago & Nuvia Salazar - October 31, 2012 at 12:44 PM



“ *Cathleen Poynor lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Cathleen Poynor - October 31, 2012 at 11:30 AM

JS

“ Thank you so much for sharing these precious pictures! I have great memories of being at the Rumage home as a kid, from hotels with shaking beds to singing and dancing in the parlor while Randall played the piano! Bunk and Norma were the greatest, they drove us all over the place to dance with Dottie’s Dancing Dolls, football games, sneaking us in to the drive-in and just about anything else we all participated in. One of my funniest memories of Norma was her putting a cloth over the head of a fish at dinner so it wouldn’t look at her! There are so many more memories of Norma that make me smile. She was so funny and I never remember her without a smile. Roxanna and Randall, I am sorry for your loss, but what beautiful memories you have to hold always. Love to you all
Julie Fenter Springer



Julie Springer - October 31, 2012 at 11:24 AM

KC

“ Looking through the pictures I have such wonderful memories of Norma - and can still hear her laugh today. My time in her home growing up are some of my best times of my teenage years. She was such a lady, a fixture in our community, and a fabulous wife and mother. She will be greatly missed, but I know she and Bunk are having a wonderful time up in heaven!

Karla King Chapman - October 31, 2012 at 09:40 AM

RS

“ Rocky And Shirley lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage



Rocky and Shirley - October 31, 2012 at 08:52 AM



“ *Norma was such a bright light in all happenings in Jacksboro. A lovely lady who had such a zest for life. She blessed so many lives. We'll miss her. Pete and Sue*



Pete Sue Peterson - October 31, 2012 at 08:34 AM



“ *Roni Winters lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Roni Winters - October 31, 2012 at 08:14 AM



“ *Margaret Collins lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Margaret Collins - October 31, 2012 at 12:03 AM



Roxanna, Randall and family, you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Margaret Collins - October 31, 2012 at 12:06 AM

WW

“ *Walter & Clydene Webb lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Walter & Clydene Webb - October 30, 2012 at 11:10 PM

DL

“ *Dale & Carol Leach lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Dale & Carol Leach - October 30, 2012 at 10:48 PM

SL

“ *Shannon Lane lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Shannon Lane - October 30, 2012 at 08:23 PM

JM

“ *Jerry & Tina Mower lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Jerry & Tina Mower - October 30, 2012 at 06:55 PM



“ 78 files added to the album Memories Album



Coker Funeral Home - October 30, 2012 at 04:27 PM

JK

“ *Jim & Gayla Kinder lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Jim & Gayla Kinder - October 30, 2012 at 02:06 PM

MJ

“ *Mike And Leslie Jackson lit a candle in memory of Norma Rumage*



Mike and Leslie Jackson - October 30, 2012 at 12:41 PM

HP

“ *Harold Gene And Debra Pankey lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage*



Harold Gene and Debra Pankey - October 30, 2012 at 12:38 PM

RM

“ *Ron & Carol Miller lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage*



Ron & Carol Miller - October 30, 2012 at 12:26 PM

SH

“ *Sharon, David, And Lindsay Hicks lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage*



Sharon, David, and Lindsay Hicks - October 30, 2012 at 11:49 AM

JJ

“ *Jim And Sondra Jackson lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage*



Jim and Sondra Jackson - October 30, 2012 at 11:03 AM

MM

“ Mike & Rhonda Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage



Mike & Rhonda Mitchell - October 30, 2012 at 10:10 AM

JH

“ Jesse & Kim Hart lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage



Jesse & Kim Hart - October 30, 2012 at 10:08 AM

RC

“ Robert And Ellen Crombie lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage



Robert and Ellen Crombie - October 30, 2012 at 10:02 AM

CK

“ Carla Kinder lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage



Carla Kinder - October 30, 2012 at 09:55 AM

CT

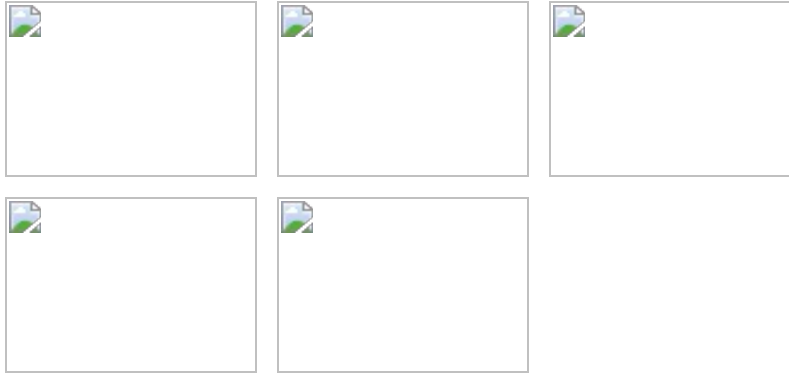
“ Cozy Lowrance Turner lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage



Cozy Lowrance Turner - October 30, 2012 at 09:42 AM

RR

“ 78 files added to the tribute wall



Randall Ramage - October 30, 2012 at 12:40 AM

TC

“ Tina And Tim Cushman lit a candle in memory of Norma Ramage



Tina and Tim Cushman - October 29, 2012 at 08:33 PM

LS

“ *Roxanna, Randall and all the family,*

Your mom was a jewel of a person and you have lost a treasured lady. She leaves behind a host of wonderful memories that will be a great strength to you in the years to come. Our families go back a long way, and we have been blessed by your dad, your mom and each of you. I pray that the memorial service will be a great blessing to each of you and to all who attend. God bless and strengthen you.

Larry

Larry Shields - October 29, 2012 at 04:32 PM



Roxanna, Randall, and families

Norma was such a sweet and loving lady, and I know you will miss her. Know that she is with your Dad, and singing with the Angels! May your many memories bring you peace and comfort. With loving thoughts and prayers.

Cathy Poynor and family

Cathleen Poynor - October 31, 2012 at 11:29 AM