



Gloria Jean Schmidt

May 21, 1949 - February 13, 2026

Gloria Jean Schmidt, age 76, passed away peacefully on February 13, 2026, surrounded by the love of her family.

Gloria was born on May 21, 1949, in Chicago, Illinois, to George and Helen Sherlock. She grew up with a strong sense of compassion, loyalty, and generosity that would shape the way she lived her life and cared for others. She is survived by her loving husband of 47 years, Bill Schmidt; her son, James Schmidt and wife Kim; her granddaughter, Kristen Bullington and husband Brandon; her grandson, Kyle Schmidt; her beloved great-niece, Susan McGuyer, and many more cherished nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Elnora McGuyer.

Gloria met the love of her life, Bill, in 1977. Together they built a life rooted in dedication, partnership, and love. After raising their son James, they moved to Texas in 1979 with dreams of slowing down and starting something of their own. They were married later that year on September 29 in their backyard, surrounded by close friends and family. What began as plans to open a small hot dog stand soon evolved into something much larger when, in 1981, they founded Schmidt Tool Machine Shop. Gloria worked alongside Bill and their son, James, helping to build not only a successful company but a lasting family legacy.

Above all, Gloria was a devoted and loving mother to James. She supported him through every stage of life with encouragement, pride and unwavering

belief in him. She was equally proud of the man he became, both as a husband and father, and of the role he continues to carry forward in the family business. She was also a deeply loving grandmother who cherished her time with Kristen and Kyle, celebrating their accomplishments, offering guidance when needed and surrounding them with constant love and support. Her family was always her greatest joy.

Gloria was known for her selfless heart and quiet generosity. She often gave anonymously to charities supporting veterans, animal shelters, and families in need, never seeking recognition, only wanting to help others. She sent care packages and gifts to soldiers, supported those around her during difficult times, and offered comfort through her warmth and unforgettable hugs.

Her faith in Jesus Christ was an important foundation in her life. She believed deeply in prayer, compassion, and caring for others, and her actions reflected the love she felt called to share. Her family finds peace in knowing she is now healed, whole, and resting in the presence of the Lord.

She had a deep love for life's simple joys. Gloria enjoyed cooking for those she loved, relaxing and enjoying a good glass of wine. She loved German Shepherds, cherished time by the pool and could often be found relaxing on the lake in the pontoon boat with Bill. She proudly drove her Corvette and especially loved her DIVCO milk truck, which held a special place in her heart. Whether traveling the open road, attending car shows, or spending quiet time with family, she found happiness in being surrounded by the people and moments she loved most.

Over the past several years, Gloria faced significant health challenges with remarkable strength and perseverance. She underwent dialysis for more than three years, endured multiple major heart surgeries, and suffered a stroke. Through it all, she continued to fight with determination, supported by her family and the love that surrounded her. Her resilience during these trials reflected the same strength of spirit that defined her entire life.

She was deeply patriotic and took pride in her country and her family. Above all else, she loved her family fiercely and was happiest when surrounded by

the people she cared about most.

Her strength, kindness, faith, and unwavering love will be remembered always by those who knew and loved her.

In lieu of flowers, Gloria asked for donations on behalf of veterans to:

Frank & Andrea Plescia

9611 N. US Hwy 1 #200

Sebastian, FL 32958

100% of proceeds go directly to veterans in need. Anyone who donates "In Memory of Gloria Schmidt" will receive an acknowledgement.

Visitation with family and friends will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 pm on Tuesday, February 24th at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Willis. A celebration of her life will follow at 4:00 pm with food and fellowship.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 24. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Willis
10129 FM 1097 Rd W.
Willis, TX 77318
(936) 890-0454
greg@shmfh.com

Funeral Service

FEB 24. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Willis
10129 FM 1097 Rd W.
Willis, TX 77318
(936) 890-0454
greg@shmfh.com

Reception following service

FEB 24 (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Willis
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Willis, TX 77318
(936) 890-0454
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Tribute Wall



“ *Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Gloria Jean Schmidt*



Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - February 24 at 11:49 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gloria Jean Schmidt.

February 23 at 12:33 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray* was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Schmidt.



February 23 at 12:33 PM



“ *Terry & Mark Bourgeois* planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gloria Jean Schmidt.

Terry & Mark Bourgeois - February 23 at 12:27 PM

TB

“ Terry & Mark Bourgeois purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Gloria Jean Schmidt.



Terry & Mark Bourgeois - February 23 at 12:27 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Schmidt.



February 23 at 09:23 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gloria Jean Schmidt.

February 23 at 08:08 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Schmidt.



February 23 at 08:08 AM

KF

“ Kelly Hunter and Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Gloria Jean Schmidt.



Kelly Hunter and Family - February 23 at 06:54 AM

LG

“ Lonnie and Cheryl Glaze purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gloria Jean Schmidt.



Lonnie and Cheryl Glaze - February 20 at 05:40 PM

TF

“ The Switalski Family purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Gloria Jean Schmidt.



The Switalski Family - February 19 at 11:00 AM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Schmidt.



February 19 at 09:55 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Schmidt.*



February 18 at 09:14 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Schmidt.*



February 18 at 04:06 PM



“ *Janette Stephan purchased the Country Basket B looms for the family of Gloria Jean Schmidt.*



Janette Stephan - February 17 at 01:21 PM