



## Gwen Marlene Merchant

September 20, 1950 - October 21, 2022

Gwen Marlene Merchant, age 72, passed away on October 21, 2022, in Huntsville, Texas surrounded by her family. She was born in Houston, Texas on September 20, 1950, the third child of Elton and Catherine Fowler. She graduated from Charles H. Milby High School in 1969 before moving to Dodge, Texas with her family. After moving, she made her way through life at various jobs starting her career as a secretary at KSAM and the Huntsville Item before devoting 30 years of her life as a Legal Assistant for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, where she retired from in 2011.

Along this journey Gwen met Dennis in 1981 and then seven years later they were married on August 20, 1988. She was grateful that they got to spend their life together raising five beautiful daughters, doing puzzles while eating her favorite comfort food; popcorn, making earrings, cooking and baking, and loving her family.

Gwen was an unfailing source of comfort and grace during hard times. She was a devoted, kind, adoring, and gracious mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was preceded in death by her parents Elton and Catherine, her brother Randolph and her grandchildren that are in heaven with her. She is survived by the love of her life and best friend Dennis, her daughters Katherine Jernigan, Sarah Padon, Shaina Morgan, Stacy Merchant, and Stephanie Merchant, her grandchildren Katherine Ochoa, James Tullos, Duron Tullos, Jeremy McLaughlin, LaQuan Tolliver, Jr., and Levi Tolliver, her great-grandchildren Arnulfo Martinez and Hasen Ochoa, her sister Linda

Lewis, niece Lisa Moser and many other extended family and friends.

Gwen's life and legacy will be celebrated at a memorial service on Friday, October 28, 2022, at 1:00 pm, at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home, 1700 Normal Park Drive, Huntsville, Texas 77340. Memorial condolences to the family may be made at [www.shmfh.com](http://www.shmfh.com).

In lieu, of flowers the family requests that donations be made in her memory to her husband to help with expenses. Donations can be made at <https://gofundme.com/d72123ca>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 28. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville  
1700 Normal Park Dr  
Huntsville

## Funeral Service

OCT 28. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville  
1700 Normal Park Dr  
Huntsville

## Graveside Service

OCT 28. 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Dodge Cemetery  
FM 405  
Dodge

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gwen Marlene Merchant*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Rip sweet Marlene, my thoughts and prayers are with your family.*

**Shaunte Obryant** - October 27, 2022 at 05:13 PM



“ *M. Hyvl lit a candle in memory of Gwen Marlene Merchant*



**M. Hyvl** - October 25, 2022 at 12:14 PM