



Maggie Bernice Copley

July 6, 1933 - October 29, 2025

In Loving Memory of Maggie Bernice Copley

It is with our deepest sorrow that we announce the passing of Maggie Bernice Copley, known to most simply as Bernice, who went home to be with the Lord on October 29th, 2025 at the age of 92, due to natural causes.

Bernice was preceded in death by her beloved son Klon David Ellis and his father Klon, her husband Oley Copley, her parents Ethel and John Russell, and her siblings Ray, Lorene, Ladonna, Howard, Gaynell, Michael, Ernest Glen, and Edsel, along with many in-laws, family members, and lifelong friends.

She is lovingly remembered by her daughters Valerie McKenzie (William) and Melinda LeVasseur (John), her daughter-in-law Pam Ellis, her sister Tennessee Arrowood (Glen), her grandchildren Rhiannon Nader (Nate), Lindsey Stewart (Craig), Courtney Stewart (Simone), Abigail (Abby) Stricker (Chris), and Jordan McCown (Colin), and Lakyn Sheffield (Logan), and her great-grandchildren Madison, Brighton, Mason, Bryson, Payton, and little Mason, as well as many sister-in-laws, nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

Born at home in East Lynn, West Virginia, Bernice grew up as one of ten siblings and among the five oldest. She loved sharing stories from her childhood—always with laughter, a mischievous grin, and a sparkle in her eye. Family vacations to Michigan and West Virginia were filled with laughter and storytelling on patios, surrounded by her siblings, reliving the happiest times of

their lives.

Faith and family were at the center of Bernice's world. She loved caring for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, playing Phase 10, Yahtzee, and Rook, and joining in whatever the family was doing. Though quiet by nature, Bernice was often braver than she let on—riding horses, driving bumper boats, and even riding a jet ski (despite claiming she couldn't swim!). In her 60s, she attended a music festival with her grandkids in San Antonio and floated down the Guadalupe River—proof that her spirit was always young at heart.

Her sense of humor was subtle and sweet. When asked how she was feeling, she'd reply, "With my hands." Or when asked where to turn, "turn left," she'd mischievously say, "Right," just to get a laugh, as it could be construed as actually turning right vs left. Her radiant smile and loving nature shone brightest when surrounded by family, standing proudly in the center of every photo with joy in her eyes.

Bernice worked for many years in dietary supervision at what is now Memorial Hermann Memorial City, later continuing her service in the Leander Independent School District near Austin. She loved her work and her coworkers, retiring at 74 years old. She spent her later years near family—first in Leander with her grandchildren, and great-grandchildren for 4 years, and then in Conroe, Texas, and New Waverly, TX, where she lived with her daughter Melinda and son-in-law John. The LeVasseur family welcomed her with open arms, and she shared in countless birthdays, holidays, and celebrations filled with love and laughter.

She will always be remembered for her kindness, generosity, and quiet strength—the first to help with dishes, the one who gave without asking for anything in return, and the heart that held her family together. Her legacy of love will forever live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

"Her smile, her kindness, and her laughter will remain with us always. May she rest in peace and remain a beautiful memory in each of our hearts."

Funeral service will be live streamed at the time of services using the link

below.

<https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/a25101704265534>

A private burial will take place at a later date at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach Road
San Antonio, TX 78209

Previous Events

Funeral Service

NOV **10**. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Willis
10129 FM 1097 Rd. W
Willis, TX 77318

Tribute Wall



“ *Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Maggie Bernice Copley*



Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - November 10, 2025 at 07:03 PM



“ *Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Maggie Bernice Copley*



Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - November 10, 2025 at 07:03 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Maggie Bernice Copley.*



November 10, 2025 at 08:44 AM

DK

“ Dennis, Toy and ALL the kids planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maggie Bernice Copley.

Dennis, Toy and ALL the kids - November 10, 2025 at 08:44 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Maggie Bernice Copley.



November 07, 2025 at 09:32 PM

MH

“ Michael, Juanita, and Ryan Horowitz planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maggie Bernice Copley.

Michael, Juanita, and Ryan Horowitz - November 07, 2025 at 09:32 PM

SS

“ Shirley and craig scott purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Maggie Bernice Copley.



Shirley and craig scott - November 05, 2025 at 12:12 PM

TF

“ The Apache Construction Family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Maggie Bernice Copley.



The Apache Construction Family - November 04, 2025 at 10:14 AM

TF

“ The Apache Construction Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maggie Bernice Copley.

The Apache Construction Family - November 04, 2025 at 10:14 AM

TF

“ Tennie and family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Maggie Bernice Copley.



Tennie and family - October 30, 2025 at 08:02 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Maggie Bernice Copley.



October 30, 2025 at 12:26 PM

SP

“ Sue Poshard planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maggie Bernice Copley.

Sue Poshard - October 30, 2025 at 12:26 PM

YG

“ Your friends at Apache (Lunch group) purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Maggie Bernice Copley.



Your friends at Apache (Lunch group) - October 30, 2025 at 12:25 PM

LS

“ Larry, Cherry, Alex, Mark and Susan purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Maggie Bernice Copley.



Larry, Cherry, Alex, Mark and Susan - October 29, 2025 at 07:05 PM