



## Mary Frances Graves Stanfield

October 31, 1937 - July 11, 2023

Mary F. Brannon Graves Stanfield was born on October 31, 1937 in El Paso, Texas to parents Ralph and Ernestine Brannon. She went to her heavenly home and met her Lord and Savior on July 11, 2023.

Mary and husband Bill moved to Richards in 1972. She worked at Shell Oil Company while raising their children. Mary moved up the ranks from being a secretary to scheduling ships, tug boats and barges in the Houston Ship Channel. Even when she had to drive from Richards to downtown Houston every day, she still made time to have breakfast ready for her children and call to wake up them up in time for school. Mary took the time to write the years of her life in decades, from birth to her seventies. She wrote of changes and experiences in her own life and how all of this molded her into the person she was today. Most importantly she loved her Lord and in her later years., when she couldn't do much more, she posted a devotional to the Richards Methodist Church every day until her last days.

Mary came back to Richards and worked for the post office for a short time but while her husband Bill was ill with Alzheimer's, she continued to work to support the family. When he died in 1983, she went back to work for Shell. Mary had more than 20 years with the company. Mary lived in various cities and towns in her life, including El Paso, Milano, Fort Worth and Houston, Texas, as well as Charleston, South Carolina. Her children remember her telling them stories of how her grandfather was the last mounted Texas Ranger and also the Police Chief of Waco for a time. She was proud of that

history and loved to share it. She loved to read, do crossword puzzles and travel all over. She supported her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in whatever sporting event they were involved in and always made sure she was there to cheer them on. She always enjoyed spending time with her family and will be greatly missed by many.

Mary is survived by her children Jeannine Shead and husband Roger, Larry W. Graves and wife Wendy; grandchildren Amy Shead King and husband Shawn, Bradley Shead and wife Alexandria, Heath Graves, Zachary Zunker and wife Taylor and Garrison Zunker and fiancé Alyssa; great-grandchildren Sloan King, Stetson King, Axel Shead, Rhylynn Zunker, Briggs Zunker and Ramsey Kaye Zunker that is due to arrive in December. She is also survived by her sister-in-law Lucile Brannon, her special friend Roy Lee Walker, The Stanfield Family and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents; step-mother Ilene Brannon; husband William S. "Bill" Graves; son John William Graves; late husband Arnold E. Stanfield; siblings Gene, Robert, John and Leon Brannon and Lois Brannon Nicar.

A visitation will be held on Friday July 14, 2023 from 6:30 to 8:00pm at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville. A funeral service will be Saturday July 15 at 11:00am at Richards Methodist Church in Richards, Texas. Graveside service will follow at Bays Chapel Cemetery and a reception at Bays Chapel Church. Memorial condolences to the family may be made at [www.shmfh.com](http://www.shmfh.com). In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to be made to Richards Methodist Church, P.O. Box 576, Richards, TX 77873 or Richards I.S.D., 9477 Panther Dr., Richards, TX 77873.

# Cemetery Details

## Bay's Chapel Cemetery

Richards, TX

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 14. 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Service

JUL 15. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Richards Methodist Church  
6639 FM 1486 Rd  
Richards, TX 77873

## Graveside Service

JUL 15. 12:15 PM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Bays Chapel Cemetery  
Bays Chapel Cemetery Rd  
Richards, TX 77873

## RECEPTION

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JUL 15. 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Bays Chapel  
Bays Chapel Rd  
Richards, TX 77873

# Tribute Wall

TB

“ Our hearts go out to Larry and Jeannine and your sweet families. Our whole family has you all in our thoughts and prayers asking for strength and comfort as you get through these next days. There are so many great memories I have of her! I always admired Mary. She was a class act and always amazed me how she would get up at 4:00 in the morning cook a full breakfast and put it in the oven, go to work at Shell downtown all day and then come home and cook dinner! I saw her do this and make it look so easy! She made me feel like one of her kids and I will never forget her and Bill. She was so proud of her family and rightfully so! It's not always easy blending families but she made it fun when she married Arnold. She loved each of his children and their babies were hers! She had a big heart and loved big! What a legacy she has left! There's no doubt that she will be remembered and missed. I know I sure will.

Tylyne Boulware Brooks - July 15, 2023 at 02:33 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Frances Graves Stanfield.



July 14, 2023 at 04:24 PM

M.

“ M.Hyvl lit a candle in memory of Mary Frances Graves Stanfield



M.Hyvl - July 14, 2023 at 04:16 PM

TK

“ So sorry for your loss! My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this sad time! Mrs. Mary was a kind and one Amazing Lady who will be missed by all who knew her!



Tina Kelley - July 14, 2023 at 01:26 PM

PA

My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Ms. Mary had the sweetest smile, she didn't just smile with her mouth, she smiled with her eyes as well. Sending love and prayers to her family and friends 🙏🌸🙏

Paula Alford-Bennett - July 15, 2023 at 12:09 AM

CD

“ Cindy & Waymon Wooley, Kim & Brad DeVos purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mary Frances Graves Stanfield.



Cindy & Waymon Wooley, Kim & Brad DeVos - July 14, 2023 at 11:39 AM

AK

“ I love you soooo much!



Amy King - July 14, 2023 at 09:55 AM

TF

“ *The Boulware Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mary Frances Graves Stanfield.*



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**The Boulware Family** - July 13, 2023 at 11:02 PM

KW

“ *To the entire family of Mary -we are so sorry for your loss. Mary was such a sweet and kind hearted lady. Just know she is in heaven watching over all of you as your Guardian Angel and protector. Prayers for all of you and know she will be very missed by everyone who had the wonderful opportunity to know her. God bless each and every one of you.*  
*The Ken Westbay family*

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**Ken & Theresa Westbay** - July 13, 2023 at 06:40 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Frances Graves Stanfield.*



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July 13, 2023 at 02:52 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Frances Graves Stanfield.*

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July 13, 2023 at 02:52 PM

SH

“ 1 file added to the album Memories



Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - July 13, 2023 at 02:50 PM



Love this!

Amy Shead-King - July 13, 2023 at 08:43 PM

LG

They sure had a lot of fun together!!

Larry Graves - July 14, 2023 at 05:22 PM

MK

“ Loved her so much even tho we did not know each other long. Her smile 😊 was so beautiful & one I will always remember.

Marjorie E. Kerchner - July 13, 2023 at 02:07 PM

BB

“ I know she will be missed terribly by all who knew her but especially her family whom she loved so completely! Such a true and kind lady in every sense of the word. Hugs and prayers for you all as you move through this time of mourning such a great loss. RIP Mrs. Mary.  
Becky Barnes



Becky Barnes - July 13, 2023 at 12:53 PM



Thank you Becky 🥹

Amy Shead-King - July 13, 2023 at 08:44 PM

CM

“ Larry, Jeannine and family  
Please accept my most sincere sympathy for the loss of your mother. From what I always heard she was such a very good, loving mother. I know you will miss her for the rest of your lives. My heart hurts for your pain.  
Cindy Martin  
Montgomery, Texas

Cindy Martin - July 13, 2023 at 12:46 PM

IH

“ In Loving Memory, Henry and Sherry Hoke purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Mary Frances Graves Stanfield.



In Loving Memory, Henry and Sherry Hoke - July 13, 2023 at 11:55 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Frances Graves Stanfield.



July 13, 2023 at 10:45 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Mary Frances Graves Stanfield.



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July 13, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Frances Graves Stanfield.

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July 13, 2023 at 08:41 AM