



Imagene Margaret Tyree

September 15, 1930 - July 6, 2020

Imagene Margaret Tyree, daughter of the late Jene Vaughan and Margaret Victoria (Umber) Tyree, was born September 15, 1930, in Alva, Oklahoma, and passed away July 6, 2020 in Alva, Oklahoma, at the age of 89 years, 9 months, and 21 days. She requested that she be cremated and that there be no services.

Imagene graduated from Alva High School with the Class of 1951 and received her Bachelor's Degree from NWOSU. She taught school several years, then served as an administrator at NWOSU.

She was a member of the Alva First Baptist Church and a Cofounder of the Friends of the Alva Public Library.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Harry Tyree and her brother-in-law, Milt Lehr.

Imagene is survived by one brother, Jon Vaughan Tyree and wife, Glenda, of Granada, Colorado; one sister, Rebecca Jane Lehr of Alva; her sister-in-law, Bernice Tyree; several nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews; other relatives and friends.

Memorial contributions may be made through the funeral home to the Friends

of the Library.

Tribute Wall



“ *Imagene Margaret Tyree*

January 30, 2023 at 03:38 AM



“ *My heart goes out to the Tyree family. To have lost one so dear. Imagene was my neighbor for 10 years and my penpal for 7. When we were neighbors we visited often, she'd listen quietly then offer a kind, wise answer. After our families moved to Kentucky, she began writing to me. I could always count on her letters. She was so faithful, a little encouraging note or story. I will always see her tending her yard or helping to remove weeds from a neighbor's yard. I asked her how she did it and she smiled, "a little at a time." That became an enormous lesson in my life. I learned much from my friendship with Imagene. I feel so blessed to have known her.*

Dedee McCurry - July 14, 2020 at 01:46 PM



Your story is wonderful! I my loved her neighbors as much as she loved writing notes, cards and letters. She never missed a birthday, holiday or just thought of the day. The outpouring her family has received from so many is a tribute of a life well lived. Thank you for sharing, thank you for being such a wonderful neighbor and thank you for keeping in touch and caring for her with such love! Her life was immensely full because of friends like you. Blessings to you and your family.

Sheila Lehr - July 14, 2020 at 03:42 PM

JD

“ *What a beautiful woman! We are sorry to learn of her passing. Imy and my mom, Vesta (Butler) Rundle-Ross, became friends when Mom's family moved to Alva. They were in 6th grade together and remained close friends until today, exchanging correspondence. Although Mom's memory has failed, Imy continued to write to Mom - even sometimes just a "thought for the day". When Imy's most recent correspondence arrived and was delivered to Mom, her face lit up and she definitely remembered her dear friend. Her life and friendship was a blessing to Mom for nearly 80 years! May she rest in peace, and may her family find comfort in knowing that her life was a sermon to so many!*

Janice J Druez - July 12, 2020 at 01:05 PM

SL

Once a friend, always a friend! That is how Imy looked at it! Her life was so full writing to someone daily! Then she always walked to the post office to deposit them in the out going mail. So many were still corresponding with her! She truly had room in her heart for everyone that entered her life. Her family greatly thanks you for sharing such a heartwarming story. Blessings to you and your Mother.

Sheila Lehr - July 12, 2020 at 03:18 PM

TL

“ *This breaks my heart, Ms. Tyree was a woman who made an impact on my life from day 1. It would be well into adulthood before I even grasped the depth. I admired her in so many ways and I came to adore her enormous love she shared with absolutely everyone. To this day, I can recite the Presidents in order. She's a woman that will never be forgotten. Sending love and prayers to all who's lives she touched. They just don't pack that much love in such a tiny person for no reason. She was meant to change the world and I believe she absolutely did one kid at a time....*

Talia Lewis - July 11, 2020 at 02:06 PM

SL

Her family greatly appreciates all of the kind words and great memories her former students and colleagues have shared. She truly was incredible and will be missed by many. She so loved teaching and we so loved hearing her stories of the many children she taught! Thank you for sharing.

Sheila Lehr - July 11, 2020 at 02:25 PM

RM

“*To Imy’s family, I express my deepest sympathy. My friendship with Imy began when she and I helped start Friends of the Alva Public Library in 1999. She was always so sweet and kind, and she sort of “adopted” me. She clearly demonstrated that a person does not have to be loud, boisterous or the center of attention to make a huge impact on others. I will always cherish my memories of her. Imy, may you rest In peace in God’s arms.*

Reva Maddox - July 11, 2020 at 01:44 PM

SL

Her family thanks you for sharing. We feel she "adopted" many with every new adventure she took on. Oh how she loved books and felt they were the window to the world around us.

Sheila Lehr - July 11, 2020 at 02:29 PM

AS

“ Ms. Tyree was my second grade teacher. She always had fun ways to teach, I remember doing marches around the classroom memorizing the presidents and states. Over the past 20 years we have also kept in touch as pen pals. She was a wonderful teacher and staying in touch over the years has meant a lot to me. She will be missed.



Ashley - July 11, 2020 at 09:38 AM

SL

Such a wonderful story! The picture is priceless! Her family thanks you for sharing.

Sheila Lehr - July 11, 2020 at 11:36 AM

AL

“ Shawn found this photo given to him by lmy in 2011. The back says " lmy and Rebecca with the dolls 1935"



Amber Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 11:52 PM

SL

So glad you shared...those two were always close!

Sheila Lehr - July 11, 2020 at 12:13 AM

SL

“ Our daughter in law captured the picture on her way to work one morning! For anyone who knew lmy this will make you smile:)



Sheila Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 03:06 PM

DM

When I was her neighbor, I was so concerned that she tumble off that ladder! Once I asked her how she kept up, she said well that's easy, I just do a little at a time. Then she smiled in cheerfully. I learned so much from her, and miss her dearly.

Dedee McCurry - July 10, 2020 at 07:01 PM

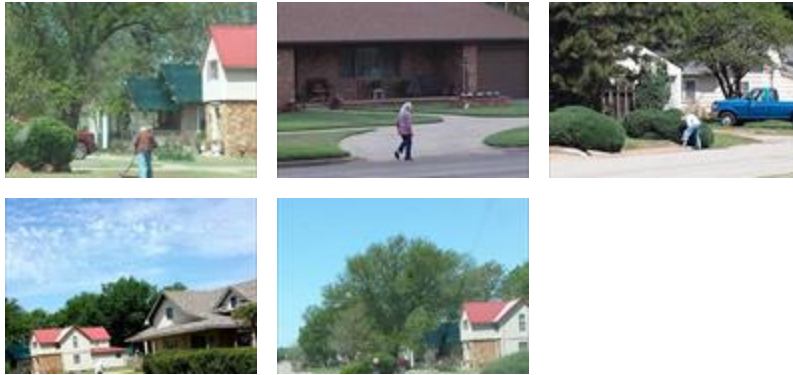
SL

She was an amazing woman. She loved her neighborhood and chatting with the many who moved in and out. We as her family have enjoyed hearing from several of her neighbors past and present. Yes she will be missed by many. Thanks for sharing.

Sheila Lehr - July 11, 2020 at 03:08 PM

AL

“ A few photos of Imy in her yard, walking back home from the post office, and working in the yard pulling weeds and mowing with her reel mower. ♡



Amber Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 02:01 PM

SL

So glad you shared! I love those pictures!

Sheila Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 02:03 PM

RM

What wonderful pictures! You have definitely captured the real Imy. I first met Imy when we helped start Friends of the Alva Public Library in 1999. She and I really seemed to connect and from that day forward I always admired her and greatly enjoyed her company. Imy certainly had a positive influence on lots of people!

Reva Maddox - July 11, 2020 at 12:25 PM

TF

Thank you for posting these, Amber. ♡♡

Tena Floeter - July 21, 2020 at 07:14 PM

AL

“ Captured these photos at Shay and Erin's wedding. Love the one with Imy's big sister Becky leaning in and whispering something to her. ♡



Amber Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 01:42 PM

SL

Sisters that have always been best friends!

Sheila Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 02:18 PM

JA

“ Miss Tyree was a very special person to every student she had during her long career as a teacher. She lived close to where my mother lived in Kinsley and she was always outdoors mowing with her reel mower or trimming something. My best friend, Mary Kallaus, was a teacher with her at Southside for many years. She told me just how nice Miss Tyree was and loved teaching with her. It was good to read all the comments left in her memory and read the names of people I have known for so long. It was nice to read the comments made by a family member. I have not seen that before and it is truly a wonderful tribute to a wonderful lady!!!

Julie (Riisoe) Ackerman - July 10, 2020 at 01:00 PM

SL

Another tribute so well written! Her family thanks you for sharing your fond memories of such a special lady. She loved the students that passed through her classroom and the small community she taught in! We all are better having known her!

Sheila Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 02:32 PM

SL

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Sheila Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 12:35 PM

SL

This is a picture of Imy and her big sister Becky!

Sheila Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 12:37 PM



This is a favorite of mine.

Tena Floeter - July 17, 2020 at 11:54 PM

SG

“ *Miss Tyree was beloved by students and parents alike. All three of my children considered her their favorite teacher ever, and I remember so many excited conversations about her bug collection, and yes, the tarantula! Her classroom newsletter with the students' poems was so special. I later used her idea while teaching English. She was very caring and helpful to me during my early days as a single parent, and we corresponded for years after she retired and left Kinsley...a peaceful, beautiful soul, may she rest in peace.*
Shawn Gallagher

shawn gallagher - July 10, 2020 at 08:15 AM

DO

Thank you for the kind comments, we her family greatly appreciate them. I can guarantee that she was also a favorite aunt of her nieces (in-laws) and nephews, along with the greats.

Dot - July 10, 2020 at 10:02 AM

SL

For such a small woman she sure lived a full life. She talked often about her former students and what they meant to her. She truly loved teaching! We as her family thank you for sharing.

Sheila Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 11:07 AM

AW

“*Ms. Tyree was my 2nd grade teacher. She is so memorable to so many of us. I have wrote her on and off for the past 25 years. My daughter wrote her a letter all in cursive recently, I knew Ms. Tyree would appreciate it. She told me every year how her “Burkhart mums” were doing. And I still have a cactus she gifted me. I will miss writing her, reading her letters and cards for each holiday. Much love to her family.*

Ashley Burkhart Walker - July 09, 2020 at 11:47 PM

SL

Her family thanks you for keeping in contact with her, as that is how she filled her days! Between yard work and writing notes, card and letters her life was full! Yet another wonderful story about an amazing woman!

Sheila Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 11:13 AM

JH

“*So sorry to hear this. As a child, I remember watching her mow her yard with an old manual mower. She wouldn't use anything else! Nothing cut any better!*



Janita Hofen - July 09, 2020 at 09:04 PM

SL

Until this year she still used a reel mower! We are going to miss her!

Sheila Lehr - July 09, 2020 at 09:41 PM

MP

“ I am so sorry to hear my 2nd grade teacher passed. Even more sorry to have lost touch with her. She was such a kind and caring teacher to such a timid and shy child. I remember feeling so safe and comfortable in her classroom. She taught me so much but i remember the Ant Farm the most. My God comfort her family and friends.

Michelle (Hicks) Peterson - July 09, 2020 at 07:02 PM

SL

It has been wonderful reading the outpouring of memories from her former students. Her family thanks you for sharing.

Sheila Lehr - July 09, 2020 at 07:23 PM

JE

She was my FAVORITE teacher! I moved around a lot as a child and the fact that she kept in touch meant a lot to me, especially as a young child. I'm still amazed at all the students she kept in touch with over the years. I will miss her card every holiday. She will be very missed. 💕💕

Jena - July 10, 2020 at 02:40 AM

SL

Yes for sure a life well lived! She never had children of her own...yet she cared for so many! Her family thanks you for sharing your story.

Sheila Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 03:14 PM

LE

“ My thoughts & prayers are with the family of Imogene. I taught with her several years at Kinsley starting in 1990. Have many great memories of her & have shared them with others this week. She was very caring to her students, taught them so much that we don't have time to teach now, was small but mighty, & scared me to death the first time she shared with me her classroom tarantula! I wrote to her recently to tell her how we were dealing with online teaching. I will miss my yearly Christmas card from her! Rest In Peace, Miss Tyree!

Lisa Ebert - July 09, 2020 at 06:49 PM

SL

We as her family are so touched by the many former students and colleagues that have shared memories with us. Yes the mail will be much lighter as so many will miss receiving a card or letter from her!

Sheila Lehr - July 09, 2020 at 07:30 PM

BS

A wonderful woman and teacher. So happy that two of our kids had her.

Bronwen Smith - July 09, 2020 at 11:44 PM

SL

We as her family have so enjoyed hearing from so many of you. Thank you for sharing.

Sheila Lehr - July 10, 2020 at 03:32 PM

E(

“ She was an amazing teacher. We kept in contact through letters. She will be deeply missed

Elizabeth Keller (Roller) - July 09, 2020 at 05:53 PM

SL

It is amazing how she filled her days keeping up with former students, colleagues and family! All without the help of social media:) many will miss her cards, notes and letters. Her family thanks you for sharing.

Sheila Lehr - July 09, 2020 at 07:34 PM

MG

“ Miss Tyree was a great person. She was always willing to help my children. Always had a wonderful smile on her face. I'm sure she is busy helping those in heaven.

Marie Gilchrist - July 09, 2020 at 04:47 PM

SL

Her family thanks you for sharing your memories of her. She touched so many lives!

Sheila Lehr - July 09, 2020 at 07:36 PM

JO

“ Mrs. Tyree was one of my favorite teachers not only was she kind and caring but she was the epitome of class and grace. She truly made a difference in the life of many children in the Kinsley community. Prayers to her family and friends.

Jodi - July 09, 2020 at 04:43 PM

SL

Thank you so much for sharing. We as her family loved to hear her tell stories about her years as a teacher. She truly adored her students.

Sheila Lehr - July 09, 2020 at 04:47 PM



Clayton
Riisoe

“ *Best teacher I ever had was in the 2nd grade! I can still ramble off all the presidents, and am passing that off to my kids. My son has learned them already! We learned about Slavery, Frederick Douglas, Harriett Tubman, Amelia Earhart from her. We learned to spell the states, and the presidents in order by name, competed in arithmetic, had us reading and teaching to our class. She sent letters to her students, some of our work she sent to students when they graduated highschool. She was truly amazing. She touched so many lives.*

My deepest condolences to the family. She was truly a wonderful person.

Clayton Riisoe - July 09, 2020 at 03:37 PM

SL

Thank you so much for sharing sure a wonderful story! She always told us stories of how she loved her students. We as her family so appreciate hearing from you.

Sheila Lehr - July 09, 2020 at 04:29 PM

CH

“ *Best teacher I ever had. She would be over at Southside School Kinsley, KS. I would go see her after school hours and knock on window she let me in all the time. Then in 1991 Desert Storm she sent me letters and articles from the school paper that I had written things in. Very nice lady.*

Chad Hutchison - July 09, 2020 at 03:20 PM

SL

Your kind words are greatly appreciated by her family! Thank you for sharing. She truly loved teaching and we so enjoyed hearing her reminisce about her students.

Sheila Lehr - July 09, 2020 at 04:35 PM

BL

“ *A very strong lady. Loved her very much. She was a very kind, quiet lady.*



Bill and Linda - July 09, 2020 at 08:33 AM

KR

“ *My niece, 3 years old, would always make her Mom stop the car when they were driving and saw Mrs. Three outside so that she could wave and say Hello to her.*

Kimberly Rodgers - July 08, 2020 at 11:06 PM

KR

Sorry for the misspelling of Mrs. Tyree's name.

Kimberly Rodgers - July 08, 2020 at 11:09 PM

SL

Thank you for sharing such a sweet story. We as her family greatly appreciate hearing about how she touch so many lives. She will be missed by many!

Sheila Lehr - July 09, 2020 at 04:41 PM

CS

“ *We were very sorry to read of Miss Tyree's passing. The corner down the block will never be the same without her and her reel mower. May God be with your family in these sad times.*



Cleo/Jim Scribner - July 08, 2020 at 10:48 PM

SL

You can be sure she is mowing and trimming bushes in Gods vast Heaven!

Sheila Lehr - July 09, 2020 at 07:39 PM

VW

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the Tyree family. I remember Imagene working at the college when I attended and she was a very sweet lady. We always admired her getting out and trimming her bushes with a big hat on her head. Heaven has gained another angel.*



Virgil and Lavon Wiersig - July 08, 2020 at 11:00 AM

OL

*Love & prayers for the Tyree Family! Our thoughts are with you all!
Gary & Oleta Lemmons*

Oleta Lemmons - July 09, 2020 at 12:21 AM

AA

“ *Our thoughts and prayers to your families at the loss of Ms. Tyree.*

AK, Shirley Blue Armstrong - July 08, 2020 at 10:07 AM