



## Johnece Ellen Ryerson

January 4, 1938 - May 1, 2018

Memorial services for Johnece Ellen Ryerson will be 3:00 p.m. Friday, May 4, 2018, at the First United Methodist Church with Rev. Dr. Carol Cook Moore officiating. There will be a reception following the service. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Marshall Funeral Home of Alva.

Johnece Ellen (Houghlin) Ryerson, daughter of the late John Froman and Jessie Hilda (Arnold) Houghlin, was born January 4, 1938, in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, and went home to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on May 1, 2018, at Oklahoma City, at the age of 80 years.

Johnece was born and raised in her beloved hometown of Pauls Valley, where she graduated Valedictorian of her 1956 high school class. Following this, she attended the University of Oklahoma and was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority. Additionally, she was involved in numerous campus organizations and activities and was named an OU Top Ten Freshman, Mortar Board, Big Woman On Campus and later graduated with highest academic honors as a Phi Beta Kappa.

While at OU, she met the love of her life, Richard Norman Ryerson. They were married at the Pauls Valley Methodist Church on June 12, 1959. Upon graduation, Johnece taught high school in Lawton while Richard served as an officer in the U.S. Army at Fort Sill. Subsequently, Johnece and Richard

moved back to his hometown of Alva to manage their 3-generation family lumber business. Together they raised two children, Julia (Ryerson) Witherington and John Ryerson.

In Alva, Johnece was an active member of the First United Methodist Church where she was involved in United Methodist Women, Mary Martha Circle, and many children's Sunday School activities. She was a charter member of the ET chapter of P.E.O., active in Holly Club, D.A.R., Woods County Republican Women, and served as co-chairperson of the 2007 Oklahoma Centennial Celebration for Alva. Johnece invested much of her time in other community organizations such as: Alva High School booster clubs, the Alva Public Library, Meals on Wheels, and Northwestern Oklahoma State University. In recent years, she originated the idea, helped design, and funded new signage at Northwestern's Alva campus.

Johnece was preceded in death by her parents, John and Jessie Houghlin.

Johnece is survived by her husband of 58 years, Richard, of Alva; her dear sister and best friend, Lynn Bassett and husband, Fred, of Wichita Falls, Texas; her daughter, Julia Witherington of Plano, Texas; her son, John Ryerson and wife, Amy, of Alva; her six grandchildren, Sarah, Elizabeth, and David Witherington and Ben, Katherine, and Madeline Ryerson; other relatives and many friends.

Memorial contributions may be made through the funeral home to honor Johnece's life to either the First United Methodist Church of Alva or the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Foundation.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY 4. 3:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
626 College Avenue  
Alva, OK 73717

# Tribute Wall



“ *Johnece Ellen Ryerson*

January 30, 2023 at 03:38 AM



“ *We enjoyed our visits with Johnece and appreciated her hospitality over the years. Please accept our deepest sympathies. We are praying for you as you deal with the loss of your wife, mother, and grandmother. She was a lovely lady.*

*Chris and Marilynn Olson*

**Chris and Marilynn Olson** - May 04, 2018 at 05:48 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Johnece Ellen Ryerson.*



May 04, 2018 at 11:03 AM



“ *So sorry for the loss, we always had nice visits with her. Duane & Floriene Carter*

**Duane Carter** - May 04, 2018 at 07:01 AM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Johnece Ellen Ryerson.*



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May 04, 2018 at 12:41 AM



“ *We extend our deepest sympathy.  
Sincerely,  
Kevin & Rhonda Fields*

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**Kevin Fields** - May 04, 2018 at 12:20 AM



“ *Our sympathy and prayers are with all your family. Johnece was a very sweet and kind person. She will be greatly missed in the Alva community.*



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**Virgil and Lavon Wiersig** - May 03, 2018 at 10:04 PM



“ *Sending our sincere sympathy to the Ryerson family, praying loving memories will warm your hearts.*

*Dale & Vaughna Schmidt*

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**Dale and Vaughna Schmidt** - May 03, 2018 at 09:54 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Johnece Ellen Ryerson.*



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May 03, 2018 at 08:07 PM



“ *My deepest condolences for your loss. I know that she will be greatly missed by all who knew her. I always enjoyed my visits with Mrs. and Mr. Ryerson. She was a very classy lady who was also very vivacious.*

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**Rita Felton** - May 03, 2018 at 08:03 PM



*Rita she loved your excuse me story I would crack up everytime she told the story... we are going to miss her.. love ya :(*

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**Julia** - May 11, 2018 at 03:26 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. She was a special person and always had a smile for Jerry and I. Hugs and Prayers for your family.*

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**jerry and joyce egner** - May 03, 2018 at 07:16 PM



*Thanks for the sweet message. I still can't believe she is gone. Love you both! Julia*

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**Julia** - May 11, 2018 at 03:26 PM

AS

“ *Annette Schwerdtfeger lit a candle in memory of Johnece Ellen Ryerson*



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**Annette Schwerdtfeger** - May 03, 2018 at 12:46 PM

RM

“ *Big hugs Ryerson family! She was one of my favorite moms growing up...Always so sweet and welcomed me in your home like I was one of hers!*

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**Raelyn Meyer** - May 03, 2018 at 09:21 AM

BB

“ *Bill And Linda Beeler lit a candle in memory of Johnece Ellen Ryerson*



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**Bill and Linda Beeler** - May 02, 2018 at 08:26 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Johnece Ellen Ryerson.*



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May 02, 2018 at 08:14 PM

KI

“ So sorry about your loss. I know that she was a wonderful mother friend, grandma. She's a very sweet lady that helped within the community.



Kim - May 02, 2018 at 06:46 PM

JR

Luv ya Kim! We gave her a run for the money with my careless driving huh 🤔

julia Ryerson - May 25, 2018 at 02:04 PM

JM

“ Thoughts and prayers for the family! Joy Modeland Minton and the Modeland Family

Joy Minton - May 02, 2018 at 06:23 PM

CS

“ I remember mrs ryerson always in the kitchen when all of Julia's friends would swarm in for sleepovers or just drop ins. She always had a smile and offered a snack (usually healthy!)she was a sweet and inviting woman.  
My prayers during your time of loss.

cris seevers - May 02, 2018 at 05:00 PM

JU

Thanks Lil Red.. those sleepovers were always entertaining and sometimes a little tough on good ole mom... esp when we or Anne broke the bed.. luv ya Julia

Julia - May 11, 2018 at 03:28 PM



“ *Richard, Julia, and John,  
My prayers go out to you to comfort and guide  
you in the loss of your loved one.  
May God be with, and know that you will see  
her again in a glorious celebration in heaven.  
Raymond Knabe*



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**Raymond Knabe** - May 02, 2018 at 04:05 PM

JR

*Thank Yoj so much Dad John and I aorreciate your words so much  
Julia*

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**julia Ryerson** - May 25, 2018 at 02:04 PM

JS

“ *John & Cherie Snell purchased the Small Garden  
Dish for the family of Johnece Ellen Ryerson.*



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**John & Cherie Snell** - May 02, 2018 at 04:00 PM

VT

“ *Richard, Julia, John & families, I am so sorry  
for your loss. Johnece was a beautiful Lady  
inside and out. I pray for a comforting arm  
around each and every one of you as you go  
thru this sad time in your lives.*



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**Valerie Tuxhorn** - May 02, 2018 at 02:44 PM



“ *It is such sad news to learn of the passing of Johnece Ryerson. I read the obituary with great appreciation for her involvement in many community events and activities. She will be missed by many, but especially Richard and their family. My very sincere condolences to her family and friends.*

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**Sandie Olson** - May 02, 2018 at 02:34 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Johnece Ellen Ryerson.*



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May 02, 2018 at 09:48 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are being sent to all of you: Mr. Ryerson, Julia and family and John and family. Our families have known each other a lot of years and share many memories together. Mrs. Ryerson was a wonderful, gracious and lovely lady. I loved to visit your house growing up. I remember Mrs. Ryerson always had white poodles and I didn't know that they could get that big until I saw yours. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her. I pray that you all will find comfort in the beautiful memories that she lives behind and the knowledge and wisdom that she imparted to those whose lives she touched. May God grant you peace.*



*Donise (Sterba) Cinnamon*

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**Donise Cinnamon** - May 01, 2018 at 05:30 PM

JG

“ *Bless this wonderful family at this time of loss.  
God be with you.*



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**Jane Gaskill** - May 01, 2018 at 04:58 PM