



Joyce Blackwell Parks

MAY 10, 1927 - MAR 4, 2016



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Joyce Parks, born Edna Marie Blackwell, on May 10, 1927 in Houston Texas, passed away peacefully on Friday, March 4, 2016 at 9:35 a.m. surrounded by her family at the Mandeville home she shared with Karla Mackey Parks and Thomas Carlton Parks, Sr., beloved daughter-in-law and son.

Joyce attended Lamar High School in Houston and Feather and Feather Art School, now The Art Institute of Houston. Upon graduation, she entered the field of advertising as a commercial artist designing billboard campaigns and album covers. She and her family moved to Mandeville in 1957 where she continued to express her artistic talent as a loving wife, mother and volunteer. She and her husband, Bill, built pirogues for local charity fundraisers. As an active member of the Mandeville school system PTA, Joyce served as set and costume designer for numerous theatrical productions in addition to acting as a substitute art teacher. She created the design used by the Krewe of Juno for their Mardi Gras doubloon. Additionally, Joyce was an avid gardener, an animal enthusiast and a self-taught electrician/contractor. There was no dying plant she could not save; there was no animal that Bill brought home that she did not care for and love; and there was no home repair job that was too big. Joyce was a long time member of St. Timothy United Methodist Church and a volunteer at The Good Samaritan Center. After Bill's death in 1985, she worked at Citizens Bank and Trust for a short time before moving to Dillard's Department Store where she was employed for twenty years, retiring at age 81. In her retirement, Joyce delighted in the company of her children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends.

Joyce, also lovingly referred to as Joycie, GM and Mamoo, is survived by her adoring children, Lorri Parks Mayhall (Van) of Baton Rouge, William Monroe Parks, Jr. (Lu-Ann) of Abita Springs, Charles Michael Parks (Julie) of Metairie, and Thomas Carlton Parks, Sr. (Karla) of Mandeville. The joys in "Mamoo's" life included her eight



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grandchildren, Sunny Mayhall West (Hampton), Ann Walthall Booth (Kevin), William M. Parks, III (fiancée Catherine Kidd), Benjamin Michael Parks, Luke Owen Parks, Mary Grace Parks, Thomas Carlton Parks, Jr. (Fernanda), and Timothy Keith Parks; her three great-grandchildren, Declan Booth, Nicholas Booth, and Alma Joyce Parks, along with her many nephews, nieces, great-nephews and great-nieces. Joyce was also honored by her very special and long-term friendships with Audrey Williams Dobson and Tilly Anderson, as well as the Sexton family, Maureen, Billy Jo, Billy T. (Melissa), Jimmy (Paula), Georgia Brown and Susie. Joyce was preceded in death by her husband, William Monroe Parks, Sr., her parents, Carlos Carlton Blackwell and Maude Lorraine Owen Blackwell, and her brother, Owen Thomas Blackwell.

The Parks family would like to extend a special thank you to Lora Grinnell, Annie Simon, Cat Anderson and the dedicated nurses, technicians and doctors at St. Tammany Parish Hospital, as well as Donna Berbling, Cheryl Bays and the staff of STPH Hospice Program, all of whom cared for Joyce with such thoughtfulness and grace. Special thanks also to Pastors James Mitchell and Josh Elder at St. Timothy UMC for their ministry to Joyce, especially in her final days. Finally, the Parks family would like to thank their dear friends for the outpouring of love and affection we have received on behalf of our Mom. God bless you all.

A funeral service honoring Joyce will be held at St. Timothy's United Methodist Church, 335 Asbury Drive, Mandeville, LA 70471, on Saturday, March 12, 2016, with visitation at 10:00 a.m. and the memorial service at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, we invite you to honor Joyce's memory with a donation to her favorite charity, the Louisiana Methodist Children's Home (www.lmch.org/).



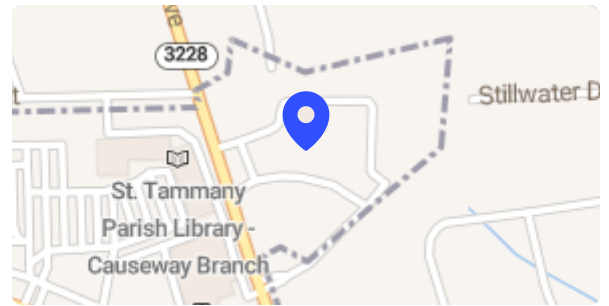
Events

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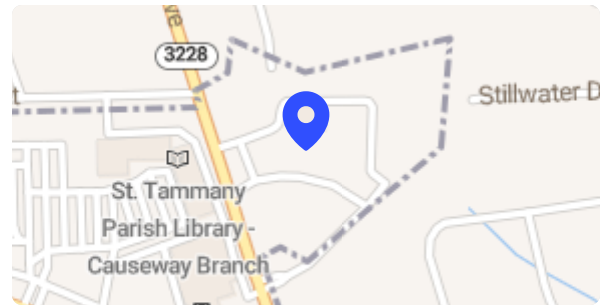
Visitation

- Saturday**, March 12, 2016
- 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT
- St. Timothy on the Northshore**
335 Asbury Dr., Mandeville LA 70471



Funeral

- Saturday**, March 12, 2016
- 11:00 AM CT
- St. Timothy on the Northshore**
335 Asbury Dr., Mandeville LA 70471





Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Parks family.



March 12 at 4:53 AM



Georgia Brown posted:

Watching her cockatoo Zsa Zsa fly out of the house to nearby tree tops. She always flew back when Mrs. Parks called her. Now I have six parrots. One is a cockatoo! Ofcourse!!

March 9 at 3:09 PM



Gayle Sloan posted:

Joyce was as beautiful outside as she was inside. I have wonderful memories of a lovely, caring lady who was always ready to listen and laugh. My mom was a dear friend of Joyce's and my family loved her dearly. Gayle Sloan

March 9 at 9:02 AM



Cindy Caruso posted:

To the entire Parks family - our deepest sympathy in the loss of your beautiful Mom. She was a sweet and gentle soul who will be missed. Pete and Cindy Caruso

March 9 at 8:02 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Joyce by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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