



Leola Ardele Odom

JUN 4, 1928 - NOV 18, 2022



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Tulsa Funeral Service
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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5
Media	Page 6



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Leola Odom Obituary

Leola Ardele Baldrige Odom

June 4, 1928 thru November 18, 2022

Leola Ardele Baldrige was born June 4, 1928 to George W. Baldrige and Dora L. Dowler in Beggs, Oklahoma. She had a brother, George W. (Bud) Baldrige and a sister, Janet C. Baldrige Mulkey both deceased. Her family moved to Depew, Oklahoma when her father went to work on the Gas Line. She was a very talented basketball player. She taught school to the black students during segregation. While in middle school, she received an award from the Red Cross for saving a man's life who was choking. She moved to Sapulpa, Oklahoma her senior year in high school.

Ardele as she was known to most friends and family was baptized at the age of 14 and remained an active and faithful member of the Church of Christ until she died.

On January 10, 1946 she married William Ray Gann and had three natural children, Wesley R. Gann preceded her in death in 2004, Linda S. Gann Smothers, spouse Lee Smothers, of Kansas City, Missouri, and Terri (Teresa) L. Gann Moore of Bixby, Oklahoma. She leaves five grandchildren: Liz Anne Smothers, Leah Smothers, Anthony Gann with Kendall Basore, Malinda (Lindy) Easley with spouse Bobby Easley, and Peter Smothers with wife Megan Smothers. Six great-grandchildren; Katherine (Katie) Smothers, Lauren Gann, Summer Gann, Travis Zenthoefler, Dustin Lykins, and Megan Baise. Four great-great grandchildren, Zackari (Zack) Gann, Otto, Oxley, and Colton Zenthoefler. She married William L. Odom December 26, 1961, also deceased. She leaves behind many family members, nieces, nephews, and cousins whose lives she has touched.

Ardele loved to have fun. Hobbies included fishing, hunting, running up and down ball fields and dressing up for Halloween. Her favorite activities included caring for her family and her Church family in need, providing food, singing, and fellowship.



Obituary

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She took many children into her home when they needed somewhere to live. They always had a safe place to go. She pulled many teeth of her children's friends paying them a dollar. Fifty to one hundred trick or treaters flocked to her home for their treats and knocked on the door anytime for cookies.

She is known for her love, kindness, giving, and caring heart.

Ardele passed away at her home in Bixby, Oklahoma November 18, 2022. God gained a beautiful soul and she will be missed by many.

Favorite Verse in the Bible:

John 11:35.

Jesus Wept.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

To send flowers
to the family or plant a tree
in memory of Leola Ardele Odom, please visit our floral store.

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Tribute Wall

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Bixby Funeral Service shared a **Video**.



April 22 at 7:32 AM



Jerry Mulkey posted:

I know that God put this particular angel on the earth to do many great works and she never hesitated when called upon, one particular loving act was being there for me, and my two other loving brothers, Jeff and Chris Mulkey when our mother, aunt Ardell's sister, tragically passed away in a terrible motorcycle accident when my brothers and I were in our younger years of life. I don't know what we would've done without my aunt Ardey as we called her, and she was known to us. I'll never forget the shock I had when I first met her as she was the spitting image of my mom. God gave her the most precious gift, and that was being an example of how to live our life how to walk through life, I think there are lots of great people out there that take this gift from God for granted, and never look at it as a gift from our father in heaven, sure there are other gifts that this world looks upon that are greater but the kingdom of heaven and the body of Christ knows the greatest gift he could give us is being an angel in this world, and walk the example Jesus told us to do, that gift was not in very many people, but it was set as stone in our aunt Ardey. There is a great family gathering in heaven on this day and week. Thank you, father for the blessing that just came natural from her that you blessed her with.

November 22 at 3:12 AM



Terri Moore-Daughter posted:

To the best loving mother a daughter could ask for. Always forgiving when we would fall. I will miss you until we meet again, "Later" Love you

November 21 at 12:38 PM



Media

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Bixby Funeral Service shared a **Video**.

April 22 at 7:32 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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