



Donna Kaye Scoggins-Stuber

December 18, 1943 - January 22, 2026

A Celebration of Her Life

Donna Scoggins-Stuber lived a life shaped by intelligence, hard work, strong opinions, deep loyalty, and a genuine enjoyment of the world around her. She believed in doing things well, thinking for herself, honoring tradition, and making the most of each chapter of life - and she did exactly that.

Born Donna Kaye Pherigo on December 18, 1943, in Beaumont, Texas, Donna was the daughter of Shannon and Ruth Marie Pherigo. Her father was a United States Marine who died during World War II. After time in Beeville, Texas, her family returned to Okmulgee, Oklahoma, where Donna's roots were firmly planted.

Donna lost her mother while she was in junior high and was raised by her grandparents, known to all as "Momma and Papa Bradley." From them, and from experience, she learned the importance of family, responsibility, and continuity - values she carried forward and made sure mattered to the people she loved.

Donna attended the University of Oklahoma for two years, where she met Lyman Scoggins, who was attending Okmulgee Tech. They married and became parents to two sons, Mark and Jonathan (Jon). Donna took pride in building a home grounded in stability, shared experiences, and traditions that were intentional and lasting.

While raising her sons, Donna worked steadily at Zebco, Indoor/Outdoor, and Tulsa Community College (TCC), continuing her work at TCC through her own return to college. In 1988, Donna and Lyman divorced - a turning point that opened a new chapter of her life.

After the divorce, Donna returned to the University of Oklahoma, joining classrooms filled with students more than half her age - at the same time both of her sons were attending college themselves. During that time, she also discovered that she enjoyed running, eventually participating in several local races and completing the Tulsa Run seven times - something she took quiet pride in. She graduated from OU Health Sciences in 1992 as an occupational therapist.

During this second chapter at OU, Donna met Rick Stuber, who became her best friend and life partner. Their relationship was built on shared values, mutual respect, and genuine enjoyment of one another. Rick was central to Donna's life, and she was proud of

the partnership they built and deeply appreciative of his care and devotion, especially in her later years.

Donna went on to build a meaningful career at the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute in Okmulgee, where she eventually became Department Head and remained until retirement. Her work often took her throughout northeastern Oklahoma providing home health care. She believed people deserved to be treated fairly, listened to, and taken seriously - and she made sure they were.

Outside of work, Donna enjoyed life in ways that were unmistakably her own. She loved the outdoors, especially gardening and learning about native plants, and was happiest with her hands in the dirt. She never passed up a good estate sale and collected anything unique, interesting, or useful. Her home reflected curiosity, practicality, and an appreciation for things with a story.

There was one book that mattered deeply to Donna: Miss Twiggley's Tree. She made sure each of her grandchildren received an inscribed copy – a lasting expression of how she understood growth, roots, and family.

Donna loved her alma mater, the University of Oklahoma, and took particular pleasure in reminding her largely Oklahoma State-leaning family of that loyalty. Few messages were sent with more consistency than a well-timed "Boomer Sooner." She also had very clear feelings about the color orange, and they were not favorable.

Donna valued friendship, church, summer trips, time near the water, and people who said what they meant. She rarely spoke poorly of others, but she did not lack conviction, and she saw no reason to disguise it.

Donna passed away on January 22, 2026, at home, after a long battle with cancer. She met that time with bravery, clarity and gratitude for the life she had lived and the people she loved.

She is survived by her husband and best friend, Rick Stuber; her sons Mark Scoggins and Jon Scoggins; daughter-in-law Amy Scoggins; grandchildren Daniel, Jazmin, Barrett, Madison, T.J., Dax, Taiga, and Melisa; great-granddaughters Naya and Mia; brothers and sisters-in-law Alan and Debra Wilke and Steve and Melissa Mitchell, and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her grandparents, her brother Ron Pherigo, and two infant grandsons, Kalyan Scoggins and Shia Scoggins.

Donna's life was well lived - marked by steady effort, deep roots, meaningful work, strong traditions, gardens tended, stories collected, and love that was real and enduring. Her family is proud of her - and always will be.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to University United Methodist Church, the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, or the American Cancer Society.

All done... off we go.

Arrangements and services were entrusted to Mowery Funeral Service of Owasso.
www.moweryfs.com

Previous Events

Memorial Fund

FEB 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

University United Methodist Church
2915 East 5th Street
Tulsa, OK 74104

Memorial Fund

FEB 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

American Cancer Society
7645 East 63rd Street
Tulsa, OK 74133
<http://www.cancer.org>

Memorial Fund

FEB 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

The Oklahoma Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 14274
Tulsa, OK 74159
<https://oknativeplants.org/>

Memorial Service

FEB 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

University United Methodist Church
2915 East 5th Street
Tulsa, OK 74104

Tribute Wall

DB

“ Donna B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donna Kay Scoggins-Stuber.

Donna B. - February 04 at 11:27 AM

PT

“ 1 file added to the album Donna Kay Scoggins-Stuber



Paula Thomas - February 03 at 11:13 AM

PT

“ Donna was one of the best buddies anyone could ever have. We met when working at Tulsa Community College in the 1980s and discovered we both enjoyed children's poetry books. When we learned we also had mutual passions for fishing, gardening, quirky humor, and shared the same birthday in December it was the beginning of a near 40 year friendship! Through good times and hard times she and our 2 other friends, Connie and Mary, made up the 4 Muskateers, one for all and all for one. Many outings together over the years in search of good restaurants, native plants, antiques, fun work at October fest and exploring to name a few. She even helped me paint a house in the early days, now that is a true friend. She also had a very mischievous side and once with Connie hung some big plastic pink flamingos from trees in my yard during the night, as it was a long standing joke how that I hated them...I only found out who did it years later! But besides being a best friend I admired Donna's commitment to get her Physical therapy degree as a working single woman, and her endless generosity and dedication to many people and good causes she was passionate about, and of course to her always growing family and her wonderful husband and our friend Rick. I asked her how she did it and she replied "one foot in front of the other". Love you always, miss you greatly, and see you on the other side Donna!

Paula Thomas - February 03 at 10:49 AM

RD

“ Rebekah & Bill, Rachel & Dennis planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donna Kay Scoggins-Stuber.

Rebekah & Bill, Rachel & Dennis - February 02 at 10:25 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donna Kaye Scoggins-Stuber.



February 02 at 10:25 PM

PT

“ Paula T. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donna Kay Scoggins-Stuber.

Paula T. - February 01 at 05:06 PM

KK

“ I had the privilege of working with Donna at George Nigh Rehab, she was a OT when I started working there back in 1995. Donna was a AWESOME OT, she was the type therapist that only had ONE SPEED(it wasn't fast and it wasn't slow), Donna was CONSTANT. She and I would Co-treat on the toughest pts that passed thru the rehab doors. She taught me how to Slow Down and let the patient try and figure it out and not just do it for them to be able to move to the next task. Donna did so many things behind the scenes making sure the patients had what they Needed and going on home visits to make recommendations to get the house ready for the patients. I remember her getting a group of us together after work and half of us painted while the other half moved furniture and cleaned things up so when the patient got home things were in order and set up for them to succeed. There for a while Donna did Home Health and one time on our lunch break at the Rehab she talked me into going with her out to a patients house that just got put in a Nursing home and she wanted to rescue ALOT cats and Kittens (there was so many cats you couldn't count them all), I said Donna there is no way we are gonna get them all and she said We need to get all we can because the son will be out after work take care of them for good. By the time we was done her van was FULL of Cats. I don't know what she did with all of them but she made sure they were cared for. Donna did the little things for her patients and those little things, the patients noticed and it meant so much to her patients. Donna made a Huge Positive impact in So Many people's lives and it was a Privilege to learn from and Work with Donna, she was a Good Friend 🙏

Ky Kiger - January 30 at 01:47 PM

LS

“ Donna was a very special person in our lives and we loved her. Thank you for sharing your home and friendship with us, Rick.

Loretta Shelton - January 29 at 11:13 AM