



Geraldine H. "Gerry" Williams

December 30, 1934 - February 7, 2025

Geraldine Helen "Gerry" Williams was born December 30, 1934, in Claremore, Oklahoma, to Herschel Clay Washington and Jewell Dean Nickerson Washington. She died Friday, February 7, 2025, in Owasso, Oklahoma, at the age of 90 years. Gerry completed her secondary education in Claremore and graduated with the Claremore High School Class of 1952. It was during her time as a student at Claremore West Side Elementary School she was influenced by her wonderful teachers that she made up her mind she wanted to be a teacher. It was also during this time she attended First Baptist Church in Claremore along with her family. At the age of nine years old, she realized that even though she loved Jesus and trusted him in her heart, she needed to make a public decision. After talking with her mother, she went forward during the invitation the following Sunday and was baptized the following week. Throughout high school, Gerry worked evenings and weekends at Collins Drug Store. In the fall of 1952, she entered Oklahoma State University (then Oklahoma A &

M College) with the goal of earning a degree in elementary education. During her four years of college, including summers, she was employed with the Student Loan Department in the president's office. This not only afforded her financial assistance, but the opportunity to gain experience in working with people.

It was during college that she met Fred Williams from Van Buren, Arkansas, who was studying to be an agriculture teacher. They were married in Claremore in January of 1956, just after completing requirements for their degrees. In March of 1956, Fred answered God's call to the ministry. In April, Fred and Gerry made the trip to enroll him at Southwestern Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. While there, Gerry applied and was hired for a teaching job during the fall term.

In 1957 and 1958, Fred pastored at First Baptist Church of Bennington, Oklahoma, on weekends. After Fred graduated, he and Gerry moved to Chelsea, Oklahoma, where Fred had been called to pastor First Baptist Church. After pastoring there for four years, Fred and Gerry moved to pastor Bethel Baptist Church in Owasso in July of 1964. After teaching kindergarten in Fort Worth for four years, Gerry taught kindergarten for six years in Owasso and served as kindergarten supervisor for five of those years.

Gerry was very supportive of her husband in his role as a pastor. In 1971 they

learned

about the need for an English-speaking pastor in Brazil. As they had many times before, they

began to pray for God's direction. Soon they were appointed by the Southern Baptist Foreign

Mission Board to serve as Missionary Associates in South Brazil. Fred and Gerry lived for eight

years in Brasilia where they started and nurtured the International Baptist Church focusing on

the English-speaking community of that new Capital City of Brazil. After returning to the United

States in 1979 Fred and Gerry settled in Tulsa where she returned to the career she had always

loved—teaching elementary students, until she retired at which time they returned to Owasso.

During this time Gerry and Fred were also involved in planting Freedom Baptist Church (now known as Freedom Church).

Gerry was musically gifted and was a talented oboe musician. She enjoyed a variety of

pastimes including sewing, reading, and studying the Bible. She also enjoyed researching

genealogy.

Gerry will be missed and leaves behind a lifetime of love and memories with her family,

which includes her husband, Fred L. Williams and daughters, Linda Curtis, Carla Jo Peitz, and

Leslie Marie Holman and husband David.

Nine Grandchildren

Sophie Peitz

Mitchell Peitz and wife Rebekah

Dawnella Holman Haymaker and husband Arch

Sarah Holman Shain and husband Stephen

Rebekah Holman and husband Jash Bangdiwala

Michelle Holman

Perry Allen

Shane Geant and wife Allison

Ian Geant

18 Great Grandchildren and one Great-Great Grandchild

Sister

Judy Ann Washington Edwards

She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, Raymond Wayne Washington,

Bradley Arliss Washington, Frederick Addison Washington and sister, Jewell Faye Washington

Baker.

Visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at Mowery

Funeral Service in Owasso. Funeral service will be 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at

the Mowery Funeral Service Chapel in Owasso with Pastor Deron Spoo officiating. Serving as

casket bearers will be Jim Archer, Ted Vancuren, David Holman, Mitchell Peitz, Stephen Shain,

and Arch Haymaker. Final resting place will be at Fairview Cemetery in Owasso. In lieu of

flowers, donations may be made in Gerry's memory to Reading Partners Tulsa online at

www.readingpartners.org, 918-949-1979. Arrangements and services were entrusted to

Mowery Funeral Service of Owasso.

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

11811 E. 76th St. N.
Owasso, OK 74055

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 11. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Mowery Funeral Service
9110 North Garnett Road
Owasso, OK 74055

Funeral Service

FEB 12. 1:00 PM (CT)

Mowery Funeral Service Chapel
9110 North Garnett Road
Owasso, OK 74055

Tribute Wall

SC

“Gerry Williams will always hold a special place in my heart. She was my first mentor when I began as a teacher at Chouteau Elementary . We had a wonderful staff and she was a servant leader to all. She had a great gift of balancing discipline and love for students and staff. She led by example and was a role model for all of us. She always had that beautiful smile on her face when she spoke about her family, and she certainly cherished her husband. I will always remember her as a woman who served the Lord with all her heart. My condolences to her family.
Sheri (Wakefield) Carpenter.

Sheri Carpenter - February 12, 2025 at 01:54 PM

BC

“Gerry was such a wonderful kind person. She genuinely cared for her students and their success. My many years at Chouteau with her were blessed by her guidance and I learned a lot from her. Our loss is heaven's gain!

Brenda Clay - February 11, 2025 at 09:13 AM

MW

“I always loved Gerry she was my supervisory teacher and insisted that I taught K She will be missed many people.

Murlene Wood - February 10, 2025 at 11:29 PM