



Tommie Jean Palmer

June 23, 1936 - August 9, 2022

Tommie's journey began on June 23, 1936. She was born in Kountze, Texas to Tom Benton Trahan and Catherine Lucille Trahan (McWilliams).

Tommie Jean started her education at Kirbyville Elementary School in Texas. She attended Junior High- High School in Blackfoot, Idaho. After graduation she used various skills that she learned in the many secular positions she held, such as a secretary, bookkeeper, office manager and various other titles she acquired as well. She was a hard worker and served her employers well. But she looked forward to her well-deserved retirement in the mid 1990's, making it possible for her to travel to new places with family and friends.

In another chapter of her life, she met her husband R.M. Palmer and married him on October 12, 1956. He brought with him three young daughters, whom she loved as if they were her own, Marian (Palmer) Falkner, Angie (Palmer) Brown, and Laura (Palmer) Adams. But it did not stop there. Together they had an additional five children to add to the brood. Anita Palmer, Thomas "Mitch" Palmer, Cathy Palmer, Paul Palmer and last but not the least, Michael Palmer.

Tommie Jean's adventures had her living in various places. From Texas, Idaho, Tennessee, England, Louisiana, North Carolina, and Georgia all leading up to her settling in Florida. Of course, this does not even cover the places she was able to visit which added to her history.

Tommie Jean was what you would call "Old School," where quit was not in her vocabulary. On multiple occasions throughout her life, Tommie Jean was

described as a strong woman. Now, if you were to ask her, she would not agree that she indeed was a strong woman. But she would need to be strong when she was proceeded in death by her husband R.M. Palmer on June 21,1977.

Tommie Jean's journey had a spiritual path as well. After her brothers Mike and Benny McWilliams introduced her to the faith of Jehovah's Witnesses and continued with her sister Brenda Richardson and Sister-in-Law, Karen McWilliams, and Big Mama, lovingly recalled as a "family effort" that consisted of discussions lasting at times from night to early hours of the morning.

Tommie dedicated her life in baptism January 1979, as one of Jehovah's Witnesses. She loved to teach others about Jehovah and shared the resurrection hope in a paradise on earth. At one point she pioneered in the preaching work. Her favorite part of The Bible was Psalms and would often turn to The Bible for guidance, comfort, and strength.

She had multiple passions in life that included dancing, sewing, painting, crocheting, crafting, gardening, and quilting. The best way to put it is, she was a renaissance woman concerning her capabilities. She shared her talents and was able to teach many of her family members thus carrying on a family tradition.

She loved the mountains and the beach. Both, she said brought her calm. The ocean waves as she said, "washed away her troubles and concerns." She would always "treasure hunt" for seashells.

There was one regret about which she would talk. She always wanted to be an archeologist. She even went as far as to subscribe to an archeologist magazine. Just because she could not achieve this goal does not mean her passion for it did not exist. She was also fascinated with space. She was able to encounter a couple of, "once in a lifetime events." It was heartwarming when she got to see Jupiter and Saturn with its rings one evening through a telescope and she giggled in awe at the sight of them.

Sadness entered her life again with the passing of more family members. Besides her husband R.M. Palmer. Tommie Jean Palmer was proceeded in

death by her father Tom Trahan, her mother Catherine Lucille (Trahan) McWilliams and Luther Arthur McWilliams her father by marriage who she loved as her own, which she and others fondly called Big Mama and Big Daddy both from Chance Loeb (Lumberton), Texas. Her daughters she had gained in marriage, Maria n (Palmer) Falkner, Angie (Palmer) Brown both of Kirbyville, Texas, a sister, Catherine Trahan of Orange, Texas, a brother, Billy Trahan of Sour Lake, Texas, an infant grandson, Troy Mark Brown of Kirbyville, an infant granddaughter, Claudia Danielle Palmer of Tennessee and a great granddaughter, Arya Faye Palmer of North Carolina.

Tommie's journey ended on August 9,2022. She leaves behind her daughter by marriage Laura Adams of Kirbyville, Texas, her daughter, Anita Palmer of Angier, North Carolina, her son, Thomas "Mitch" Palmer and his wife, Elizabeth Palmer of Angier, North Carolina, her daughter, Cathy Palmer of Kirbyville, Texas, her son, Paul Palmer of Beaumont, Texas and her son, Michael Palmer and his wife, Keri Palmer of Lehigh Acres, Florida. Siblings, Brenda Richardson of Silsbee, Texas, Michael McWilliams and his wife Karen McWilliams of Edinburg, Virginia, Benny McWilliams and his wife Edna McWilliams of Jasper, Texas, Pam Baker and her husband Johnny Baker of Zavalla, Texas, Nancy Smesny of San Antonio, Texas, and Clara Lou, last known residence was Texas.

From these branches her tree included fourteen grandchildren (two of which she "unofficially adopted" but loved as if they were her own), seventeen great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. Her pasture included nieces, nephews, cousins, and an uncountable number of friends. Each and everyone of them enriched her life as she did theirs, leaving a legacy behind. She was a great listener and on multiple occasions her advice helped people which proved to be invaluable to them. The love and memories that each of us hold, offers a story that can be shared. She may have left us and as unfair as it may be, Tommie Jean will not be forgotten.

As her son Michael said, "Sometimes things are just how they are. It's not fair

but unfortunately that is how it is. If you have your faith, you know that this is not the end. It just ends the first part of a story. I never know for sure everything I believe but I know this is not the end. And if that's the case the best is yet to come”!

Rev. 21:3,4

August 27th,2022

2:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

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Passcode: 051891

Tribute Wall



“ Michael Cooper and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tommie Jean Palmer.

Michael Cooper and Family - July 09, 2024 at 10:36 AM



“ Michael Cooper and Family purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Tommie Jean Palmer.



Michael Cooper and Family - July 09, 2024 at 10:36 AM



“ Tommie Jean Palmer

October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ Tommie Jean Palmer

January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM

EP

“ I will not forget the time is lived with us. We both liked to sew and she was making the great grand daughter a pair of pants. Well she sewed the wrong pieces together and held them up and said “ what is wrong with this?” I looked and just started laughing!!! She held up a bow-legged pair of pants! She looked at them again and realized what she had done... and we both kept laughing and laughing until we was crying! It was so funny. I loved that memory. It’s a sweet one

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Elizabeth Palmer - August 16, 2022 at 06:21 PM