



Diana Denise Downing Mashburn

May 14, 1965 - February 11, 2026

Diana Denise (Downing) Mashburn passed peacefully from this life to the next on February 11, 2026 in Oklahoma City. She was born on May 14, 1965, to Charles and Mary Downing of Muskogee, Oklahoma. She graduated from Muskogee High School in 1983.

Diana was an Associate Professor of the Anna Vaughn School of Nursing at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa. She considered this her supreme professional accomplishment: Coming full circle to be a faculty member since her undergraduate college experience began at ORU as a pre-med student.

After changing her major to Nursing, she earned an Associate of Arts from Bacone College, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Northeastern State University, and a Master's of Science in Nursing from the University of Oklahoma.

Diana completed a Ph.D. in Nursing from the University of Minnesota in 2012, becoming a member of an elite group. At that time, Dr. Mashburn became one of fewer than 15 Native American nurses in the United States holding this doctoral credential.

Board-certified as a Medical-Surgical Nurse and Certified Nurse Educator, she taught nursing at nearly every level, from Certified Nurse Assistant to doctoral

levels. She filled the role of Director of Nursing at Northeastern State University and Director of Nursing and Allied Health for Connors State College.

She has served as a Peer Evaluator for the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. Diana held leadership positions in the Oklahoma Nurses Association, the Oklahoma Indigenous Nurses Association, and the Zeta Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau. In July of 2018, Diana was selected by Northeastern State University to travel to Beijing, China to meet with nursing educators and students to compare notes and offer her professional advice on these programs. She was also a regular volunteer at Muskogee's Baptist Free Health Clinic.

Diana belonged to Muskogee Hope Chapter No. 401 Order of the Eastern Star. She served the Oklahoma Grand Chapter as Grand Lecturer in 2017. Diana was a member of the Muskogee-Indian Territory Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary, Post 474 Muskogee and the Clement A. Evans Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Tulsa.

Diana worshipped at Grandview Baptist Church in Muskogee alongside her husband, Greg Mashburn. The couple had no children but shared a love for their “fuzzy love puppy”, Usdi.

Diana was preceded in death by her father, Charles Downing and her grandmother, Willie Justice. She is survived by her husband Greg; mother, Mary (McLain) Downing; sister, DaRhonda (Downing) Clabaugh; brother-in-law, Seth Clabaugh; nephew, Matthew Clabaugh and his wife Morgan (Beal) Clabaugh; and niece, Mary Dawn Clabaugh.

Diana's life will be remembered at 10AM, Thursday, February 19, 2026 at

Grandview Baptist Church with Brother Jay McAlister and Dr. Danny Mills officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers nursing scholarship donations in Diana's name to Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Connors State College in Warner or Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB **19**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Grandview Baptist Church
3608 S Cherokee Dr
Muskogee, OK 74403

Tribute Wall

DA

“ You were a blessing to me as my instructor and a nursing colleague. You always greeted me with your sweet smile. Your gentle spirit will always be remembered and I will carry it with me through this life. My deepest condolences to your family.



Dr. Karen Taylor, DNP, MSN, APRN-CNP... - February 19 at 02:46 PM

MB

“ Midge Blue lit a candle in memory of Diana Downing Mashburn



Midge Blue - February 19 at 01:42 PM

MD

“ Meg Dominguez lit a candle in memory of Diana Downing Mashburn



Meg Dominguez - February 19 at 09:22 AM

SK

“ Dear Mary, Greg, and Family,
I was heartbroken to hear the news of Diana’s passing. There are no words that can quite capture the depth of a loss like this, especially given how closely our families have been linked for so many years.



Our connection to Diana truly spans generations. My grandmother always spoke so fondly of the days she spent babysitting Diana and her sister. It’s a rare gift to have grown up alongside someone and watched their life unfold. Diana’s presence was a thread that ran through so many parts of our lives, and she will be deeply missed by all of us.

Please know that our entire family is thinking of you during this incredibly difficult time. We are holding you all in our hearts.

With deepest sympathy,
Sandy and the entire Bell family

Sandy Kripp - February 19 at 12:13 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Diana Denise Downing Mashburn.



February 17 at 09:45 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Diana Denise Downing Mashburn.

February 17 at 09:45 PM

AS

“ I was so very sorry to hear about Diana’s passing. She was truly one of the very best nursing professors I had the privilege to learn from and later work alongside. Diana had an incredible gift for teaching and mentoring, and she so openly shared her passion for nursing education with both students and colleagues.



What always stood out to me was her generosity with her knowledge and experience, she never held back, and she genuinely wanted others to grow and succeed. Her dedication to the profession and to her students made a lasting impact, and I feel grateful to have known her both as a professor and as a colleague. She will be deeply missed.

Amber Sanchez - February 17 at 01:37 PM

RE

“ Reganall's lit a candle in memory of Diana Downing Mashburn



Reganall's - February 17 at 10:48 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Diana Denise Downing Mashburn.



February 17 at 10:29 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Diana Denise Downing Mashburn.*



February 17 at 09:58 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Diana Denise Downing Mashburn.

February 17 at 09:58 AM



“ *Dee Dunn lit a candle in memory of Diana Downing Mashburn*



Dee Dunn - February 17 at 09:35 AM



“ *I had the privilege of working with Diana at NSU Muskogee. She was a very caring, compassionate educator. I am so sorry to hear of her passing.*

Dr. Tim McElroy

Tim McElroy - February 16 at 09:51 PM

DE

“ I am so sad to hear of Diana's passing. She was one of my oldest playmates. Her family lived next door to my grandmother and we played on her "fancy" swingset/jungle gym when I was there. We came in and out of each other's lives growing up and often had classes together since we were the same age. I had not seen her in years. As soon as I saw her face, I remembered what an absolute sweetheart she had always been. Unsurprising that she was so accomplished. My condolences to all who loved her. Rest in peace Diana. You were definitely one of a kind.~Denise Bradley

Denise - February 16 at 08:37 PM



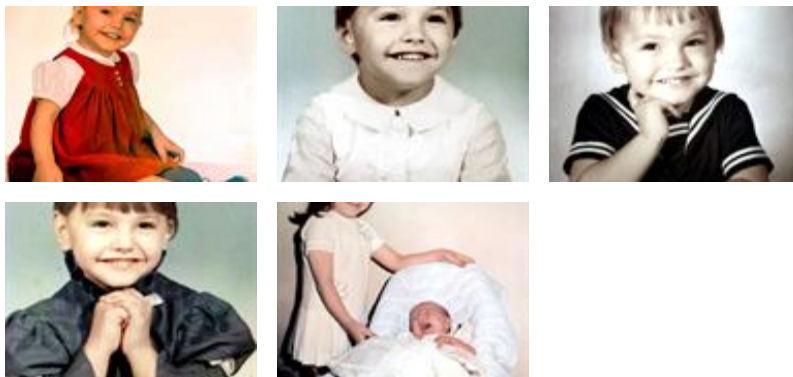
“ Monica Mabry lit a candle in memory of Diana Downing Mashburn



Monica Mabry - February 16 at 08:02 PM



“ 70 files added to the album Life Tributes



Cornerstone Funeral Home and Crematory - February 16 at 03:51 PM



“ *CHERYL CUNNINGHAM lit a candle in memory of Diana Downing Mashburn* ”



CHERYL CUNNINGHAM - February 16 at 01:01 PM