



## Jeanne Wisdom Parker

February 28, 1923 - February 2, 2016

Barbara Jeanne Wisdom Parker

Jeanne Parker was born on February 28, 1923, in Boynton, Oklahoma, where her father, George Wisdom owned a men's clothing store and her mother worked as an abstractor in an Abstract and Title Co.

Jeanne had two sisters, Joyce and Joan who each preceded her death. The family moved to Muskogee where Jeanne attended school and graduated from Central High School.

Throughout her life, Jeanne's love of music guided her to study voice at Oklahoma A and M College (now OSU), While at OSU she earned membership in several music societies and won numerous awards. She followed her renowned voice instructor, Mrs. Inez Silberg, to Oklahoma City University on another scholarship which enabled her to refine her talented voice and participate in many musical productions. Jeanne was encouraged to go to New York and audition for one of the choruses at the Metropolitan. She was chosen to participate, however World War II had entered the European theater and her husband, Kenneth Parker, was about to be shipped overseas. She decided to stay in Oklahoma City where she taught music for several years and performed in many different venues.

After the War was over, she moved back to Muskogee, and taught music at Connors College and several Elementary Schools. She taught voice lessons

after school and had several notable students, such as Barbara McAlister. Her love of the French language led her to teach French in elementary schools and was awarded a Fullbright Scholarship to study in Strasbourg, France, for eight weeks. She lived with a French family, traveled and earned 8 hrs. of graduate credit at the University of Strasbourg.

Jeanne's life has been full of activity as she belonged to The New Century Club where she gave numerous book reviews, PEO, chapter EA; She was a Founding member the Musical Arts Society; A member of Muskogee Teachers Association, Oklahoma Education Association, A 50 year member of First Presbyterian Church, Phi Kappa Phi, A Phi Beta Kappa Scholar, and many other professional and service organizations.

Jeanne is a grandmother to her daughter, Melissa's children, Zackary Robinson (Fonda); Elizabeth Robinson Knowles (Ben), Chase Robinson (Tiffany), and to Jennifer Parker Neely's children, Robert Neely and (Kori ;) Rebecca Neely Yeager (Kevin). She has 9 great-grandchildren, James Neely, and Gracie Neely, Maisie Knowles, Lillian Robinson, Chandler Robinson, Lynnen Robinson, Andrew Robinson, Kainan Yeager, and Jenaly Yeager.

Jeanne has had a full life since her retirement taking care of her beautiful home, her many flowers, and satisfying her love of reading books on history, gardening, and French History.

Jeanne is survived by her two daughters Melissa Jane Parker of Tulsa and Jennifer Lea Neely and husband Jim of Oktaha, OK.

The family will receive friends from 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at Cornerstone Funeral Home Chapel.

A celebration of Jeanne's life will be 2:00 P.M., Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at

Cornerstone Funeral Home Chapel with Chaplain Cindy Culver officiating.

The family requests memorial be made to the First Presbyterian Church, 2000 Haskell Blvd, Muskogee, OK 74403.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

FEB 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Funeral Home Chapel  
1830 N. York St.  
Muskogee, OK 74403

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jeanne Wisdom Parker*

October 23, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *Jeanne's memorial service today was literally a celebration of a life lived fully. Her family is a reflection of her life and teaching, full of grace and joy, from the oldest to the very newest! My wife Jo and I were so blessed to be a part of that celebration!*

**Skip Klingman** - February 09, 2016 at 08:44 PM



*Thank you Skip. So great seeing you and Jo.*

**jennifer neely** - February 24, 2016 at 09:23 PM



“ *I don't remember year the but I remember Ms Parker when she first came to Whitter...she wasn't my teacher but she was always so kind...sending my most sincere condolences..*

**Bruce Moore** - February 09, 2016 at 06:46 PM



*Thank you for sharing.*

**jennifer neely** - February 24, 2016 at 09:22 PM

 Cindy  
Buckskin

“ *Mrs Parker was my favorite teacher in school. She always encouraged me in my singing. She also gave me my one and only spanking inschool! Actually, it was just a swat for jumping on the stairs. I truly admired her.*

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**Cindy Buckskin** - February 09, 2016 at 12:22 PM

JN

*Thank you, Cindy. Precious memories.*

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**jennifer neely** - February 24, 2016 at 09:23 PM

LV

“ *A GREAT LADY.MRS. PARKER WAS MY 5TH GRADE TEACHER AT WHITTIER ELEMENTARY WAY BACK WHEN...SHE HAD A GREAT VOICE AND WOULD OFTEN SING TO US IN CLASS... A TRULY VERY SPECIAL LADY- CONDOLENCES TO HER FAMILY, LARRY VANBEBER*

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**LARRY VANBEBER** - February 08, 2016 at 12:23 PM

JN

*Thank you Larry.*

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**jennifer neely** - February 24, 2016 at 09:21 PM



“ 78 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Cornerstone Funeral Home and Crematory - February 08, 2016 at 10:14 AM

TA

“ *I was part of a group of excited fourth graders at Whittier Elementary when your mother announced that we would soon begin learning the French language! I thought of her and my classmates when I was fortunate enough to be able to visit Paris in 2012. Your mothers kindness and enthusiasm touched many lives and broadened more than a few horizons. Tim Anderson*

Tim Anderson - February 08, 2016 at 10:11 AM

JN

*Thank you Tim. That was a very good time in Mother's life.*

jennifer neely - February 24, 2016 at 09:20 PM

PT

“ Your mother was my fourth grade teacher at Whittier Elementary. Several of the boys stayed after school and she would hug them before they went home for the day. Apparently they had been teased about this, so your mom stood before the class and stated SHE needed hugs, and had asked these special boys to hug her each afternoon, and she hoped they would continue. She then told the class anyone else who would be willing, she needed as many hugs as she could get. As a child i thought it was sweet. As an adult I realize that was grace and kindness. I have never forgotten that.  
*Paula Porter Tarkington*

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**Paula Tarkington** - February 08, 2016 at 12:27 AM

LJ

“ Dear Melissa and Family - So very sorry to read of your Mothers passing. When I had my Mother in the nursing facility last year I saw your Mom and visited with her. She was such a sweet lady. I know she will be missed by many.

*With my deepest sympathy - Linda (McKenzie) Johnson*

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**Linda Johnson** - February 07, 2016 at 12:55 PM

MB

“ Mrs. Parker was my favorite teacher and one of the few I really remember. She taught me when I was in the 5th grade, and it was in her class that I discovered a love for archaeology. She was very nice to me and I will never forget her. My deepest sympathies to her family.

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**Margaret Butler** - February 05, 2016 at 09:34 PM

JU

“ *She was a wonderful teacher and was an inspiration for me becoming a teacher. She was a very caring person and I loved her French and music class. She will be missed. She's singing with the angels prayers for the family.*

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**Janis Hawkins Upchurch** - February 03, 2016 at 11:39 PM