



Jo Ann Hurd

October 5, 1951 - October 9, 2025

Jo Ann Arney Hurd, 74, of Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, passed on October 9, 2025. Born on October 5, 1951, in Gore, Oklahoma, she was the beloved daughter of Henry and Georgia (Smith) Arney. She married Billy Ray Hurd Jr. on July 3, 1970 at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Jo Ann graduated from Gore High School and continued her education at Connors State College and Northeastern State University, where she earned her master's degree. Her dedication to education led her to a distinguished career as an elementary teacher, reading specialist and special education professional. Jo Ann touched countless young lives with her passion for teaching and her unwavering belief in every child's potential. She also served as a foster parent with the Bair Foundation, providing love and guidance to children in need.

Jo Ann's life was rich with interests and pursuits. She loved traveling and exploring new places, enjoyed thrifting and collecting unique treasures, and cherished time spent with her family and friends. Her warmth, kindness, and infectious smile brought joy to all who knew her.

A woman of deep faith, Jo Ann was a devoted member of Okay First Baptist Church, where she found community and spiritual fulfillment.

Jo Ann's legacy is one of compassion, service, and love. She will be dearly missed by her family, friends, former students, and all whose lives she touched.

May her memory be a blessing and her spirit live on in the hearts of those who

loved her.

Jo Ann was preceded in death by her parents, Henry and Georgia Arney; siblings, Mary Lou Brannon, Johnny Arney, Jimmy Arney, Norma Fisher, Charles Arney, Michael Arney; aunt, DeAnna Tullis; and uncle, Jimmy Tullis. She is survived by her husband Bill Hurd of the home; son, Shane Hurd of Fairbanks, AK; daughters, Breonna, Janie and Lanie Hurd of Fort Gibson, OK; grandsons, Alex and Christopher Hurd of Fairbanks, AK; siblings, Benny and Ruth Arney of Knob Noster, MO, Robert Arney of Webbers Falles, OK, Rhonda and Don Siler of Fort Gibson, OK, Donna Arney of Muskogee, OK, Steve and Claudene Arney of Gore, OK; and many nieces, nephews, ex-students and many friends.

In honor of Jo Ann and her love of red roses, her family would love to see her service decorated with beautiful flowers to cherish her memory.

A celebration of Jo Ann's life will be 1 PM, Friday, October 17, 2025 at Okay First Baptist Church with Rev. Donnie Echols officiating. Interment will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery with Frank Brannon, Seth Arney, Bryan Tramel, Aron Buzzell, Agustin Torres and Farley Fisher serving as pallbearers.

Honorary pallbearers will be Gabriel Torres, Alex Hurd and Christopher Hurd.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

7600 Old Taft Rd.
Muskogee, OK 74401

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **16**. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

CORNERSTONE FUNERAL HOME
1830 N York St
MUSKOGEE, OK 74403

Service

OCT **17**. 1:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Okay
3700 E. 75th St. N.
Okay, OK 74446

Tribute Wall



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Jo Ann Hurd.*



October 16, 2025 at 11:06 AM



“ *Matt and Susan Roberts planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jo Ann Hurd.*

Matt and Susan Roberts - October 16, 2025 at 11:06 AM



“ *Michelle Hurd-Bautista purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Jo Ann Hurd.*



Michelle Hurd-Bautista - October 16, 2025 at 09:58 AM



“ *Michelle Hurd-Bautista planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jo Ann Hurd.*

Michelle Hurd-Bautista - October 16, 2025 at 09:58 AM

DD

“ Carol and I have known Jo Ann for 50 years, spent many evenings, birthday parties, Christmas celebrations at their house and they at ours and I must remember eating at Casa Bonita with them too. This hurts.



Darrel Drumm - October 16, 2025 at 02:19 AM

RB

It saddens me to learn of JoAnn's passing. We were good friends at Connors State College. We had many heart to heart discussions til the wee hours of the morning. She always encouraged me. My prayers are for the family.

Ruth Ballard - May 01 at 10:24 PM

DD

“ Darrel and Carol Drumm purchased the Fiery Lily and Rose for the family of Jo Ann Hurd.



Darrel and Carol Drumm - October 16, 2025 at 02:15 AM

TH

“ The Okay Women's Helping Hands purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Jo Ann Hurd.



The Okay Women's Helping Hands - October 15, 2025 at 05:48 PM



“ I had the pleasure of teaching third grade with Jo, for many years, at Jefferson Elementary School, in Sapulpa. Her beautiful smile was always present. She was an excellent and very caring teacher to all of her students. I loved how she made photo albums for each of her students, a a keepsake for their year with her. But I especially admired her work as a Foster Parent. I know it was very difficult at times, but obviously it was part of God's plan for her life. I also admired her stamina as a runner in the later years, she was truly an inspiration to us all. I am praying for all of her family during this difficult time. She will truly be missed by all who were fortunate to have known her. God Bless, Karen Dagg

Karen Dagg - October 15, 2025 at 10:48 AM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Jo Ann Hurd.



October 15, 2025 at 10:46 AM



“ Love from Aunt Susie Hurd purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Jo Ann Hurd.



Love from Aunt Susie Hurd - October 13, 2025 at 04:54 PM

JD

“ Jack & Rhonda Nettkes. And Pam Dupre purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jo Ann Hurd.



Jack & Rhonda Nettkes. And Pam Dupre - October 13, 2025 at 12:19 PM

MF

“ Mark Wolf, Bob Shepherd, LD Ferguson purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jo Ann Hurd.



Mark Wolf, Bob Shepherd, LD Ferguson - October 13, 2025 at 10:35 AM

MF

“ Mark Wolf, Bob Shepherd, LD Ferguson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jo Ann Hurd.

Mark Wolf, Bob Shepherd, LD Ferguson - October 13, 2025 at 10:35 AM

CB

“ We all know miss hurd as our petty water lady as our teacher very nice very thoughtful. Been a very nice respectful person and concerning?, miss hurd was there for our class and teaching. Her careness and her voice would tell you she carred we will miss her she was really thought about or asked about how's she doing what's been going on her way taking care of other children, she wasn't like other teachers. Thank you for teaching our class we listened we heard as you be in a better way your teaching was carried on

Chris Bailey - October 13, 2025 at 04:54 AM

BB

“ So sorry for your loss. Praying for the family.



Brenda Bennett - October 12, 2025 at 07:48 PM

SL

“ Jo was such a nice and caring person. I taught with her for many years at Jefferson School in Sapulpa. I was so proud of all the awards she won in her running . I liked to hear her talk about living and teaching in Alaska. She will be missed. Prayers for peace for her family.

saundra Larson - October 12, 2025 at 01:03 PM