



Katherine H. Beene

December 7, 1955 - March 23, 2026

Katherine Hewitt Beene was born on December 7, 1955, in Muskogee, Oklahoma. She was one of nine children, born to Dr. Perry Edwin Hewitt Jr. and Gertrude Helen “Percy” Shelley Hewitt.

She graduated from Haskell High School in 1974, where she sang in the choir, and went on to earn her nursing degree from Bacone College. She spent more than 40 years as a nurse—taking care of people, showing up, doing the work.

Lloyd Wayne Beene started courting Kathy when they both were in their teens. Wayne might say it was the other way around. They met at Sonic. She fell in love with the multi-sport athlete. A few months later they were married on January 12, 1973, at the courthouse in Muskogee...and then, just to make sure it counted, they went back and got married again later at the church. For fifty-three years, Wayne and Kathy devoted their love to each other. In 1975, she was pregnant with Shelley Anne, working as an LPN, living in Haskell, and driving back and forth to Muskogee for her RN degree. Kathy was the kind of person who would start a softball team—the Haskell Comets—even though she never played organized sports a day in her life. But Shelley wanted to play, so Kathy made it happen. In 1978, along came her little boy, Timothy Wayne. Tim loved his momma, bringing her anything she needed. He was always a call away. If you recently looked in her wallet, you’d find a four-leaf clover Tim gave her a few years ago. She held onto the little things like that. The meaningful things.

She is survived by her husband of 53 years, Wayne... her daughter Shelley and partner Becky...her son Tim and his wife Kimberly... and her grandchildren Colton, Gabrielle, and Isabella. She spent many hours patting Colton while in diapers. She loved reading many books to him. He would walk in her house and Kathy always beamed happiness. Gabby lived most of her life with Wayne and Kathy until moving to Japan. Kathy and her sister, Rita, drove with Gabby to Houston to get her student visa to study in Japan. Along came Miss Bella, the horse loving grandkid. Kathy loved spending time with Bella in her horse barn. Kathy loved her grandchildren immensely and supported each one of them until her final day. Bella said it quite well, "I love you, Grandma. Ride all the horses you want. Paint the sky pretty for us." Many former patients and co-workers would see her around town. Kathy's glowing smile lit up the room when they told her the high level of care she provided them or their loved ones. Eventually, she retired from her lengthy nursing career after caring for generations of patients. She had a strong table presence playing bridge during her retirement years. This queen of the deck was known to have a little fun at her table if you were blessed to draw her and her bridge partner. She kept pages turning during retirement with her love of reading.

She was "YFA"—Your Favorite Aunt—to a whole lot of nieces and nephews. And she earned that title.

Kathy leaves behind her siblings, extended family, and more people who loved her than we could ever count.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister Mary Margaret, and her brother James.

And here's something only Kathy would do—her LPN license was issued on March 23, 1978...exactly 48 years to the day she passed, March 23, 2026. Kathy showed us what it looks like to keep going. To take care of people. To love your family big. And, fight until the end. No excuses.

There will be a family conducted celebration of life for Kathy on Saturday, April 18, 2026, at 2 pm at Harmony Hall 206 S. 7th St. Muskogee, OK 74401. The

family asks in lieu of flowers or plants to consider donating to a local animal shelter or CASA.

Previous Events

Family Conducted Celebration of Life

APR 18. 2:00 PM (CT)

Harmony Hall
206 S 7th St
Muskogee, OK

Tribute Wall

BE

“ *Kathy was a friend you always, always enjoyed being around. I loved talking horses, playing bridge and listening to that giggle! She will definitely be missed.*

Betsy - March 29 at 10:56 PM

MH

“ *I'll miss you YFA Kathy!*

Mike Hewitt - March 28 at 12:36 PM

RB

“ *Kathy was a great story teller! At a bridge tournament in Bentonville she kept us laughing so hard talking about growing up in Muskogee. She had a infectious smile and laugh and would Crack us up at the bridge table and then make her bid! She always had a interesting story to tell. She will be missed and thought of often. She will keep them laughing on the other side....*

ROSEMARY BROWN - March 28 at 08:10 AM

RH

“ *From Rob Hewitt - Kathy's oldest brother: Kathy was a sweet natured, spirited, loving person. I loved her and all my siblings. I could have been a better oldest brother. Thankyou to brothers and sisters - Perry, Sally, Tom, Rita, Judy - and to Kathy's daughter Shelley, who administered to Kathy during her illness. Also Thank you doctors, nurses, staff at Saint Francis. Carol and I have made a gift in Memory of Kathy Hewitt Beene to: Saint Joseph School Endowment Fund, 323 North Virginia, Muskogee 74403. Good school that deserves support. Thank you to all. God Bless!*

Robert Hewitt - March 27 at 01:16 PM

SJ

Bob and I had the pleasure of playing in at least three Bridge Tournaments with Kathy and Rita. She was such a delightful person to be around. We always knew where in the room Rita and Kathy were playing because it was the happiest table in the room. She will be missed by all of us. A beautiful soul lost to soon. Bob and Sara Joyner

Sara Joyner - March 29 at 02:30 PM

LG

“ I never met Kathy I am sure she was a sweet woman to Tim & Kim sorry for your loss my prayers for the family.



Linda Hargrove (Kim grandma) - March 26 at 03:49 PM

KS

“ Kathy family so sorry to hear of Kathy’s passing, I worked with Kathy many many years, Loved working with her as a nurse and as a friend. prayers for all the family.

katy smith - March 25 at 09:00 PM

MF

“ Oh Kathy Beene. How I miss you! I loved working with you! You kept us rolling and made it more than a job. We were family. You were a friend that I could go months without talking to and we would pick up the conversation like it had been only been days. You were the best! Love and miss you.

Maddy Freeman - March 25 at 08:15 PM

CH

“ Cheryl sent a virtual gift in memory of Katherine Beene



Cheryl - March 25 at 05:35 PM

B?

“ i love you grandma, fly high and enjoy the horses. ☐💙



Bella 🐦 - March 25 at 02:23 PM

PH

“ Aunt Kathy had a way about her. A way that you don't find in people as much these days as in the past. She rarely filtered her true feelings, so you always received honesty from her. But even when that honesty was not what you might want to hear, it always came in a form of wisdom, so to speak, as opposed to condemnation. I always listened carefully and respected her tremendously for this character trait. Her love and support for her Family was never in question, ever. But her disposition was such that she was able to support and foster growth in their own passions, as opposed to steering them in a direction of her choosing. She was one of those unique individuals who actually listened, as opposed to simply waiting to talk. Her wit and funny bone was top shelf and her laugh was infectious. Our Heavenly Father broke the mold when he made Kathy and I will miss her always. Rest easy Aunt Kathy....love you!

Perry Hewitt - March 25 at 11:29 AM

MF

“ *This is the sweetest obituary I've ever read. Wow!!! What a life well lived. Kathy was loved by all who knew her. She had a sparkle in her eyes and a smile on her face I shall never forget. My love and condolences to all her family.*

Mary Faruqi - March 25 at 10:33 AM