



Pamela Lee Turnbull

September 14, 1954 - January 20, 2025

Pamela Lee Turnbull, 70, of Muskogee, Oklahoma passed away on January 20, 2025 after a year-long, courageous battle with lymphoma.

Pam was born on September 14, 1954 in Palo Alto, California to Bill and Joy (Brindle) Youngs. They moved from California to Idaho when Pam was a little girl, and she graduated from Meridian High School in 1972. She attended the University of Idaho to study music education and also met her husband John there.

The two were married on November 1, 1975 in Star, Idaho and welcomed their three children Jace, Becca, and Miley. They moved to Oklahoma in 1984, and shortly thereafter Pam began teaching elementary music and had an incredible 30+ year career at Pershing Elementary and Sadler Arts Academy. She touched the lives of thousands of students and was given an Oklahoma Elementary Music Educator of the Year award.

Pam was an avid gardener, spending more than ten years as a certified Master Gardener. For the last twenty years, she and John transformed their backyard into a beautiful haven, always willing to share it with family, friends, and neighbors. Her work was featured in Oklahoma Gardener magazine and an episode of OETA's Oklahoma Gardening. Those who had the privilege of spending time in her garden know the haven it was, a place of true peace and

beauty matched only by her gift of hospitality.

Pam was a member of Boulevard Christian Church for more than 40 years, serving faithfully in the Celebrate Recovery program leading step groups, hosting many discipleship groups and Sunday School classes, and greeting at the front door with a warm smile and big hug. Her intimate relationship with the Lord empowered her to reach others with the Gospel and its beautifully redemptive story.

Pam's favorite title of all was "Grammy." She cherished her nine grandchildren and loved being in the stands or audience for all of their sports and activities. Many a summer was spent at "Camp Grammy" with the grands helping work in her garden, cooking and baking in the kitchen, crafting, playing Minute-to-Win-It games, camping, kayaking, swimming, and more. She prayed daily for these nine and always made sure they knew just how much she loved and cherished them.

Pam's legacy of love, truth, joy, and generosity will live on in the hearts of those who had the distinct privilege of knowing her.

Pam is survived by her husband John Turnbull; sister, Gwen Colberg of Star, Idaho; son, Jace (Liz) Turnbull of Union, Kentucky (Parker, Addison, Vance); daughter, Becca (Jason) Van Valkenburg of Owasso, Oklahoma (Emerson, Jax, Hayden), and daughter, Miley (Eric) Potter of Metamora, Illinois (Avery, Hudson, Saige).

She was preceded in death by her parents, Bill & Joy Youngs; her brother, Will Youngs and brother-in-law, Cal Colberg.

A family conducted celebration of Pam's life will be held at 2pm on Saturday, February 8 at Boulevard Christian Church in Muskogee.

Previous Events

Family conducted memorial service

FEB 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Boulevard Christian Church
1700 W. Shawnee
Muskogee, OK 74401

Tribute Wall

PC

“ Pam was a longtime valued customer and a joyous, warm spirit. My daughter had the privilege of having Pam as a teacher at Sadler. RIP dear lady.

Pete (Borovetz) Carson - February 09, 2025 at 05:39 PM

DJ

“ Debbie and Jessica purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Pamela Lee Turnbull.



Debbie and Jessica - February 07, 2025 at 04:20 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Pamela Lee Turnbull.



February 06, 2025 at 09:16 PM

RO

“ Pam had a smile that could light up a room. She was always friendly. I visited her home on several occasions for a flower ministry through Boulevard Church. She had a gift of encouragement. She is the kind of person that leaves a legacy that will live on in others for generations.

Ronellebaker@yahoo.com - February 06, 2025 at 07:15 PM

SF

Had such wonderful memories of Pam at Pershing with my daughters. Then here she comes to Sadler and my grandson got to enjoy her enthusiasm in music too. What a beautiful lady and such a ray of sunshine❤️❤️

Sally Funk - February 07, 2025 at 08:45 PM

JO

Pam was a lovely lady with a beautiful smile, I remember her most as a door greeter...and member of Boulevard Church. She was such a shining example of a Christian.. praying for her family during this 🙏 time

Joyce - February 08, 2025 at 01:39 PM

SB

Larry and we're going through some tough times in the midst of Pam's cancer journey. It was such a surprise and a blessing when I received texts from her to learn how we were doing, because she was praying for us during her own time of need! She was such a blessing!

Sandra Beattie - February 25, 2025 at 11:41 PM

BL

“ Blessings, George & Pam Lewis purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Pamela Lee Turnbull.



Blessings, George & Pam Lewis - February 04, 2025 at 04:21 PM

DD

“ The Turnbull family were always so nice. Always smiling:) I did not know that Pam and I share our birthday SEPT. 14 we will visit again soon! All the best, Dice

Dice Dawson - February 01, 2025 at 09:16 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Pamela Lee Turnbull.

January 31, 2025 at 04:01 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Pamela Lee Turnbull.



January 31, 2025 at 04:01 PM



“ Every memory of Pam is a good one. Probably the most memorable is the time that my family and some of my siblings were at their home gathered around the piano as John played and we all sang. In the middle of one song, John said that he was a little tired, at which Pam sat down beside him and seamlessly slipped one hand, then the other under his hands, and "voila" she was playing without any of us able to tell that a note was missed. I think that everything in their life together was that kind of a partnership. I have always felt their love for each other and for all of us when I have been around them.

Randy Turnbull - January 29, 2025 at 10:52 AM

BL

“ *Bob and Diana Miller, West Linn, Oregon purchased the Favorites Gift Box for the family of Pamela Lee Turnbull.*



Bob and Diana Miller, West Linn, Oregon - January 26, 2025 at 01:21 PM

AG

“ *I met Pam through a friend and felt like I had known her forever. Her kindness, love for her family and friends showed like a beacon of inspiration to emulate. Many prayers for her family.*

Adele Gruber - January 25, 2025 at 12:40 PM

AG

“ *Allen K Gilford planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Pamela Lee Turnbull.*

Allen K Gilford - January 23, 2025 at 05:16 PM

AG

“ *Allen K Gilford purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Pamela Lee Turnbull.*



Allen K Gilford - January 23, 2025 at 05:16 PM

PG

“ Phyllis G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Pamela Lee Turnbull.

Phyllis G. - January 23, 2025 at 05:01 AM

MM

“ Pam made THE BEST homemade bread, directed some pretty epic homemade movies (where she made each one of us feel like the “star” of the show!), and she was always a positive voice of reason and encouragement on the cross country course. She was a true blessing to us all. Thank you for sharing her with us! ❤️

Mindy Madewell-Baker - January 22, 2025 at 10:26 PM

PE

“ Pam was such a GODSEND In the most darkest and trying times of me and my family lives She, John and the family were there for us. I will NEVER FORGET I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER. She was a GREAT FRIEND AND PRAYER PARTNER day or night I could always call on her and we would PRAY. I admired her playing the piano and leading worship. Now she is worshipping the KING OF KINGS AND THE LORD OF LORDS. In the words of JESUS WELL DONE THOU GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT ENTER IN THE JOYS OF THE LORD. We will meet again. Phyllis Essert & Family



Phyllis Essert - January 22, 2025 at 08:14 PM

VD

“ I went to Boulevard Christian Church before I married Wendell. The beauty of Jesus showed through her. One day, we will have a family reunion in Heaven. Vicki Davis

Vicki Davis - January 22, 2025 at 07:18 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Pamela Lee Turnbull.

January 22, 2025 at 03:23 PM



“ Meat & Cheese Wooden Gift Crate was purchased for the family of Pamela Lee Turnbull.



January 22, 2025 at 03:23 PM



“ Jeanora Mairs purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Pamela Lee Turnbull.



Jeanora Mairs - January 22, 2025 at 01:57 PM



“ What a privilege to call this beautiful soul Mom. And what a privilege for my kids to call her Grammy. She represented Christ in everything she did, in every interaction and act of service. The legacy she leaves behind is one most people hope for... Grammy LIVED it. I love you, precious GrammyGirl. I will look for you when your perennials bloom this spring. I have no doubt the Lord met you with gardening gloves and a wide-brimmed hat on Tuesday. #grammythewarrior

Becca Vanvalkenburg - January 22, 2025 at 12:18 PM

SD

Pam I met at Star Christian Church. We went through grade, middle and high school together. Yes, I always loved her smile . She was a high stepping drum majorette for the band , I was in drill team. It always amazed me how high she could march . I was in chore with her but she could sing the highest soprano truly a amazing voice . She truly was a Proverbs 31 woman. I followed her garden growth on fb and she was amazingly talented . I learned to implement ideas into my garden. She was my friend from afar and such an example of living a godly life . When we all get together what a wonderful day that will be 🙏.

Sandi Dixon - January 22, 2025 at 01:49 PM

PM

“ Soo many memories as we road together to work/fun at Pershing Elementary..Then our Prayer friend group met every week to talk and pray to our Jesus for His Will be done in soo many different journeys!!Loved talking about our families and praying for all!Then she moved to Muskogee and I retired and haven't got to spend time with her!!She was always there when I didn't know I needed her there!!Such a loving friend..Goodbye Pam til I see you in Heaven with our Savior !!love you

Pat Moses - January 22, 2025 at 11:39 AM

CH

“ I always wanted to know Pam better because she was so caring, talented and charismatic. I knew her best through my relationship with precious Becca, whom I cherished as a student and friend. I have followed her story this past year and can only pray that I make a small impact on some lives as she did for so many. I feel my spiritual journey will be improved through her words and those of John and her children. Bless you, dear family.

Cheryl - January 22, 2025 at 11:19 AM

LE

“ Pam was the most caring, loving woman. During the most trying time of my life she called me everyday to pray and tell me how my life had purpose. She was an angel and the most God loving and encouraging woman you would have ever met. I will always remember her kindness she always showed to many. She will be greatly missed!

Leslie - January 22, 2025 at 10:39 AM

JG

Couldn't be any better. Wish I could have known the rest of the family. She will be missed by all that new her. There will be pictures for memories for ever. Known John for around 70 years.

Jerry Griffin - January 22, 2025 at 11:10 AM

JG

What extrodenary friends

Jerry Griffin - January 22, 2025 at 11:15 AM

DB

Pam was such a sweet Godly woman with a beautiful smile. Her and john were a true christian couple who made you feel welcome always. Will miss you sweet lady. See you in heaven

Debbie Baker - January 22, 2025 at 01:51 PM

DM

Pam's strength and grace were truly inspiring. She reached out to me during a challenging time for both of us. John has been a great friend since Jr. High. I know Pam is a cherished friend to so many and her memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew her. Please know that our hearts and thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.

Diana L Miller - January 24, 2025 at 01:24 PM