



Thelma Lightle

April 22, 1945 - October 18, 2025

Thelma Lightle, 80, of Muskogee, OK passed from this life on October 18, with her loving family by her side. She was born April 22, 1940, in Laredo, TX to Remigio Vigil Sr, and Stella Olivarez. Her family later moved to Lubbock, TX, where she lived until she met Joe William Lightle in 1979.

They were married on December 6, 1980 and moved to Muskogee, OK, and briefly Norman, OK, before moving back to Muskogee to raise their children. Her warmth, generosity and faith were evident throughout her life and relationships.

As a founding member of Muskogee Church of Christ, she was involved in serving her congregation and community. Some of her fondest events were mission trips to Mexico and serving others during critical times. Her dedication to helping those in need was evident in every aspect of her life. She was happiest when surrounded by her family and dear friends. She delighted in cooking for family gatherings, tending her yard and cherishing time with her children and grandchildren. Her wonderful sense of humor and love for life brought joy to every occasion. An avid Elvis Presley fan, she enjoyed music and going to concerts as well as cheering on her Texas Football teams.

Throughout her life, Thelma served others by being a dedicated caregiver to many in their later years. She also worked for Muskogee Public schools for 15 years as an English language tutor to Hispanic students, retiring in 2019 to

help care for her grandbabies. She was fondly known among her coworkers as a loving and kind person.

Thelma's legacy is one of faith, love and joyful service. Her laughter, kindness and unwavering support enriched the lives of those around her. She leaves behind treasured and lasting memories, and an enduring example of a life well-lived. Though she will be deeply missed, her spirit will continue to guide and inspire all who knew her.

Thelma was preceded in death by her parents, Remigio Vigil and Stella Olivarez; siblings, Margaret Raymond, Sylvia Vigil, Eloy Vigil, and Elia Sandoval; her mother in-law Lucille Lightle, father in-law Jess Lightle, and brother in-law Jerry Lightle.

She is survived by her husband Joe, of 44 years, son Jason Lightle, daughter Lauren Nickell and her husband Brandon all of Muskogee; grandchildren, Reece Jones, Gaven Lightle, Landon Lightle, London Lightle of Milton, FL, Pierce Nickell and Catherine Nickell of Muskogee. She is also survived by her brothers Ramey Vigil of Lubbock, TX, Homer Vigil of Slaton, TX, Gilbert Vigil of Del Rio, TX, Rick Parada of Canyon Lake, TX, and Danny Parada of League City, TX. Thelma is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews, other family members and a host of dear friends who will miss her greatly.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to the Muskogee Church of Christ Adoption fund, or the Scroggins Foundation Aid to Children's fund.

Thelma's life will be celebrated at 10AM, Friday, October 24, 2025 at Muskogee Church of Christ.

The family would like to thank her caregiver Shannon at complete Hospice for

her care during her illness.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **24**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Muskogee Church Of Christ
3206 N. York St.
Muskogee, OK 74403

Tribute Wall

JE

“ RIP THELMA

John Estep - October 26, 2025 at 11:24 AM

MS

“ Matt & Skylar Sandoval purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Thelma Lightle.



Matt & Skylar Sandoval - October 23, 2025 at 01:20 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thelma Lightle.



October 23, 2025 at 11:00 AM

FA

“ Frank, Natalie, Henry & Abby planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thelma Lightle.

Frank, Natalie, Henry & Abby - October 23, 2025 at 11:00 AM

DD

“ *When i met Thelma for the first time I knew she was special. She would let me tell her updates on Lubbock. She was such a sweetheart.*



Dee Dunn - October 22, 2025 at 09:14 PM

JW

“ *Jan Whittiker lit a candle in memory of Thelma Lightle*



Jan Whittiker - October 22, 2025 at 06:31 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thelma Lightle.*



October 22, 2025 at 03:14 PM

DN

“ *Thelma Lightle, you always lit up a room when you made your entrance. It was always a joy to be around you. You had a way about you that made everyone feel special. I'll miss the wonderful meals you made for me every time I came to Oklahoma. The frijoles, the Mexican rice, Mole', incredible tamales, and always prepared with lots of love. Lauren can hopefully carry on your traditional recipes. You will be missed sweet lady, but never forgotten.*

Dennis Nickell - October 21, 2025 at 08:25 PM

TS

“ *Loved this woman! Worked with Thelma at Creek Elementary, such a caring woman and considered her a cherished friend! Prayers to all!*

Thea Speer - October 21, 2025 at 02:22 PM

KT

Oh Thea, I loved her too so very much. She was so sweet and do very precious. I miss her already just knowing I can never talk to her or see her again. Thelma was the Best of the Best 🙏❤️🙏

Kathryn Thomas - October 21, 2025 at 10:25 PM