



Tsianina "Nini" Neel

June 25, 1956 - July 6, 2025

Tsianina "Nini" Neel, age 69, passed away peacefully on Sunday, July 6, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of warmth, laughter, and loving devotion to family and friends. Born on June 25, 1956, in San Francisco, California, to Wayne and Lola (Grubb) Neel, Nini's life was one marked by generosity, humor, and an unwavering dedication to the people and passions close to her heart.

Nini attended public schools, where her intelligence and caring spirit began to shine. Pursuing her calling, she graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Nursing, embarking on a journey of service and compassion that would touch countless lives.

Before finding her vocation in nursing, Nini spent time in the banking business, working at the American Exchange Bank in Henryetta. She then embraced her role as a registered nurse at the Jack C. Montgomery Veterans Administration Medical Center in Muskogee, where she served her community and veterans with kindness and professionalism. She retired in 2025, closing a chapter of heartfelt care and dedication.

Outside of her career, Nini found great joy in life's simple pleasures. She was an avid reader, often getting lost in the pages of a good book, and delighted in the humor and camaraderie of television favorites like "Frasier" and "Friends."

Nini cherished cooking for her loved ones, filling her home with irresistible aromas and laughter. Her fondness for her cats and dog was matched only by her playful spirit—she often sent her democratic daughter Fox News articles, always sparking lively, loving debates. Nini's collection of all things leopard was legendary among family and friends, a testament to her personality: bold, vibrant, and unforgettable.

She will be remembered for her infectious laughter, her gift for reminiscing, and her ability to make every gathering a cherished memory.

Nini was preceded in death by her beloved parents, Wayne and Lola Neel.

She is survived by her loving daughter, Tsianina Benedict of Muskogee; granddaughters, Reese Dunzy of Muskogee, and Sarah Donaldson and her husband Chase of Norman; and a host of treasured friends and wonderful coworkers who will forever feel her loss.

A memorial service celebrating Nini's life will be held at 2:00 PM, Friday, July 11, 2025, at Cornerstone Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Bob Hancock officiating.

In honoring Nini, we remember a life lived with humor, compassion, and a love that will continue to inspire all who knew her.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 11. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Cornerstone Funeral Home and Crematory - July 11, 2025 at 05:34 PM

FT

Such a beautiful service for an amazing friend. Rest in peace T.... I love ❤️ you and will miss you forever.

Fran (Grader) Tobias - July 12, 2025 at 05:05 PM

VL

*I could not make it to Nina's memorial so it meant the world to me to see it. Thank you so much for posting. RIP my dear sweet sister Nina.
Vicki*

Vicki Lambert - July 13, 2025 at 01:32 PM

MB

Thank you for sharing this spot on tribute to Nina. The moment that the Nurses Honor Guard brought the tears. The song Respect was perfect as that was so very Nina.

Thank you Nina, for sharing late night conversations chatting about our youth and checking the boxes of getting older. Chatting about how great being with Christ will be. Thank you Nina for the renewal of friendship. I will always cherish the moments of praying together for the important things on our hearts, for being a strong prayer warrior.

M.Inez Bredt - July 16, 2025 at 01:18 AM

SN

“ Hello. I went to nursing school with Tsianini. We used to study together and do group projects together. I really enjoyed her! I'm so sorry for your loss. Gone but not forgotten! I will be at her nurse honor guard tribute today.

Shannon Nanaeto - July 11, 2025 at 11:22 AM

JC

“ John and Tina Cates purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Tsianina "Nini" Neel.



John and Tina Cates - July 11, 2025 at 10:35 AM

AC

“ Antoinette Chiesa lit a candle in memory of Tsianina Neel



Antoinette Chiesa - July 11, 2025 at 12:54 AM

AC

“ Nina and I went to school together. She was always so kind. She stated to me that she loved my name Antoinette. That made me feel so special. Nina always has a smile on her face and I was so grateful to meet up with her again on Facebook. We had planned on meeting up with others that we didn't see at our 50th class because we couldn't make it and have our own reunion. I am so sad she's gone. My heart goes out to her daughter and others. Nina, you will always be missed. You will always be in my heart and mind. Thank you for who you are. Gods gift. 💖 I love you Nina.

Antoinette Chiesa - July 11, 2025 at 12:52 AM

CB

“ What a beautiful, wonderful woman, and such a legacy of love, laughter and genuine friendship. We worked together at American exchange Bank in Henryetta Oklahoma, and she was forever a true friend, loving each person, individually and knowing each one so close in her heart. We love you T Anne And Reese and Sarah. Treasure your beautiful, precious memories, because there are so many. She loved you all with all of her heart. At one time when we were working together, she asked me if anything ever happened to her, would I raise T-Anne. What a blessing to my heart, that she loved me enough to entrust me with her beautiful wonderful daughter. Thank God that never happened but what a What a blessing to my heart, that she loved me enough to entrust me with her beautiful wonderful daughter. Thank God that never happened but what a precious soul she was always worried about her beautiful daughter, Please always know how much she loved you and those beautiful granddaughters. I will forever treasure our friendship and our memories. Thank you for being such a wonderful daughter and thank you beautiful granddaughters for being such beautiful wonderful granddaughters to her heart. May God bless each of you, and please know of our love, and our prayers , CARROL H (SONNY) AND LINDA KAY HALEY BEEN.

Carrol H (Sonny) & Linda Kay Haley Been - July 10, 2025 at 11:43 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Tsianina "Nini" Neel.*



July 10, 2025 at 09:18 PM



“ *Nina and I met at Bellevue elementary school in Santa Rosa Ca. We were friends all through to high school graduation. As is typical, we each took our own path in life. I was able to reconnect with Nina years later and have been in contact through social media . I so enjoyed our conversations about past and present , family, grandkids and life in general. She was so proud of her granddaughters and cherished them immensely . I will miss this power house lady . Rest Nina. You've earned it .*

Benita Barri-Lamb - July 10, 2025 at 07:26 PM



“ *Nina has been our neighbor for 11 years & in that time we grew to love her so much. She was the best & absolutely our favorite neighbor ever. We are going to miss her every single day. We love you Nina* 💜



Kathy Medeiros - July 10, 2025 at 04:23 PM



“ *Karen N. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tsianina "Nini" Neel.*

Karen N. - July 10, 2025 at 04:14 PM

LK

“ Nina was one of my patients at my work and she was always such a joy to see! She always made me laugh and smile ❤️

Lindsay Kline - July 10, 2025 at 03:08 PM

VL

“ Nina is my sister from another mother. We have shared so many good fond memories from bbqs at Richmond drive to family events. I can't believe that she is gone but she will always hold a special place in my heart. My condolences to her daughter and granddaughters. I love you my sweet sister. Vicki

Vicki Lambert - July 10, 2025 at 01:50 PM

SI

“ Nina and I became friends through our girls, Nina and I enjoyed many conversations together. T'Ann just know you have all our love and prayers

Sherry Ingold - July 10, 2025 at 12:23 PM

LH

“ Nina and I met over 50 years ago and spent many wonderful hours together through the years. She was part of my family - my parents loved her like one of their own, and I felt the same about her parents . Although time and distance limited our ability to spend time looking each other in the face, we talked on the phone often, sharing many great memories that usually left us laughing until we cried. Nina was the sister I never had, the keeper of some wild memories from our younger years, my true friend always. Rest in peace girl...you are always in my heart. Love you.

Linda Tighe Helton - July 10, 2025 at 11:36 AM

EF

“ *Eric Reddick and Family purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Tsianina "Nini" Neel.*



Eric Reddick and Family - July 09, 2025 at 11:10 PM