



# **Martha Louise Wheeler Armstrong**

OCT 13, 1927 - OCT 26, 2014



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*Rader*  
FUNERAL HOMES  
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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# Martha Louise Wheeler Armstrong

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## M artha Louise Wheeler Armstrong

Martha Louise Wheeler Armstrong, 87, passed away Sunday, October 26, 2014 in Longview Regional Medical Center following a lengthy illness. Martha was born October 13, 1927 in Longview, Texas, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Wheeler. She was a graduate of Longview High School, Class of 1945. After graduation, she worked as a staff journalist for the Longview News Journal. She also worked as a secretary for the County Extension Office, and later for Joseph Schlitz Brewery. She married Ray Thomas Armstrong August 21, 1946, and they moved to Big Springs, Nebraska, where they were blessed with 3 daughters. They lived there for 9 years, before they moved back to Longview.

One of the greatest sources of pride and joy was the children's store, The Carriage Crowd, that she opened with her daughter in 1978. The store originally opened on Reel Road, and moved to Longview Mall when it opened in 1980. The most unique aspect of The Carriage Crowd was that it was truly a family run business from beginning to end, with Martha and her daughters running the business and all 7 grandkids modeling the clothes. Martha always believed that your customers are family and that is how she treated them; with respect, kindness and generosity, and that is what made the store so special and memorable.

Martha was a member of the Longview Regional Medical Center Auxiliary and also served as a board member of the Longview Chamber of Commerce and Longview Mall Merchants Association. A member of Mobberly Baptist Church, she demonstrated her love for her Lord throughout her life. She was a very giving, thoughtful, caring individual which could be seen in her preparation of countless meals for her family, neighbors, friends and employees. She will be dearly missed by all.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Ray Thomas "Tom" Armstrong; her daughter, Patricia Armstrong Karrh; and her infant great grandson, Gage Aaron Metzler. Those left to cherish her memory include her daughters, Rhonda Richards and husband, David and Linda DeArmon and husband Larry all of Longview; and son-in-law, Dr. Larry R. Karrh of Boerne, TX.; seven grandchildren and their spouses, Kristen Karrh Ascencao and Daniel; Kevin



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Karrh and Jill; Kara Karrh Powell and Marc; Rebekah Richards; Paul Richards and Rachel; Lisa DeArmon Metzler and Robert; and Lindsay DeArmon Harkey and Chad. Sixteen great grandchildren, Samuel, Matthew and Anna Kate Metzler; Jordan and Landon Karrh; Justin and Abigail Richards; Kasen, Kallie and Kinsley Powell; Caroline and Addison Harkey; and Danielle, Sophia, Reina and Jauquin Ascencao; and a host of nieces and nephews that she loved like her own.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, October 30, 2014 in the Chapel of Rader Funeral Home of Longview, with the Reverends Scott Schulik and Greg Martin officiating. Interment will follow in Lakeview Memorial Gardens.

Visitation will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorial donations may be made to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, Lone Star, P.O. Box 816148, Dallas, TX 75381-9148, [www.nationalmssociety.org](http://www.nationalmssociety.org) or to The Texas Special Olympics, 7715 Chevy Chase Dr., Suite 120, Austin, TX 78752, [www.sotx.org](http://www.sotx.org).



## Events


**Martha Louise Wheeler Armstrong**

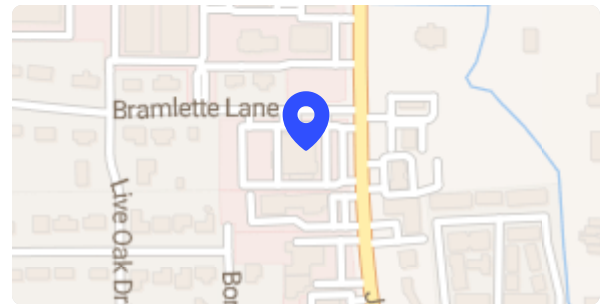
OCT 13, 1927 - OCT 26, 2014

### Visitation

 **Wednesday**, October 29, 2014


 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM CT


 **Rader Funeral Home of Longview**  
1617 Judson Road, Longview TX 75601



### Chapel Service - Longview


 **Thursday**, October 30, 2014

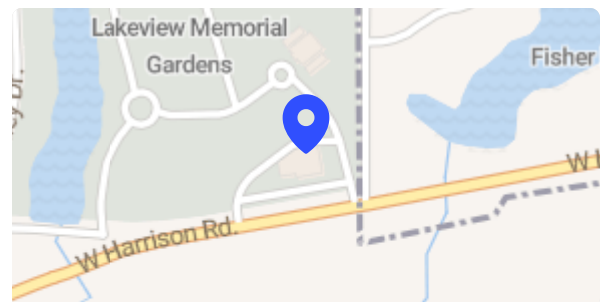
 10:00 AM CT

 **Rader Funeral Home of Longview**  
1617 Judson Road, Longview TX 75601



### Cemetery Details

 **Lakeview Memorial Gardens Cemetery**  
5000 W. Harrison Road, Longview TX





## Tribute Wall

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BO

**Buddy Owles** posted:

What a sweet lady! I graduated from Longview High School with Pat, got acquainted with Tom back in his Irvin Tire days, and met Ms. Martha when Tom & my mom were at the Clairmont. God bless all of you during this journey!

October 29 at 4:29 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Basket Full of Wishes to the Armstrong family.



October 29 at 4:07 PM

TF

**The Ron Harkey Family** sent a Sweet Tenderness to the Armstrong family.



October 29 at 5:19 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Secret Garden Basket to the Armstrong family.



October 29 at 5:07 AM

RK

**Ruth Kay** posted:

Dear family, I am very sorry about your loss. I was a regular customer at Carriage Crowd where Martha and I became friends. She was also my customer at Albertson's Grocery. We had many sweet visits during the past years and I will always remember her as such a kind-hearted lady. May God comfort you all as only He can do. My prayers are with you during this time. Ruth Kay

October 28 at 2:12 PM



## Tribute Wall

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LB

**Linda Breshears** posted:

It has been a great pleasure to get to know Martha and her sweet family during the past two years. She had such a sweet, kind nurturing personality and always brought a smile to our face. We will all miss that sweet spirit. I know she and my mother gave each other a hug when she entered heaven. They were good friends and she was so kind to my mother in her last days. Martha, we will miss you. Linda Breshears

October 28 at 10:44 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Armstrong family.



October 28 at 8:35 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Armstrong family.



October 28 at 6:50 AM

MH

**Margaret Harris** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Armstrong family.



October 28 at 6:14 AM

KA

**Kelly Ainsworth** posted:

I am so thankful that I was able to have Martha in my life for the past two years.. Miss Martha put a smile on my face each day I was around her and I thank you for the pleasure of helping take care of her. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you.

October 28 at 5:47 AM



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EL

**Elaine** posted:

Sorry for your loss. I remember your mom and dad from year's ago. Sincerely, Elaine Shireman Reynolds

October 28 at 3:48 AM

DG

**Dorothy Garth** lit a candle in honor of Martha.



October 28 at 3:28 AM

DG

**Dorothy Garth** October 28 at 3:30 AM

You may remember me and my children as Dorothy Kilgore.

PR

**Paulette Rogers** posted:

Linda, Rhonda and Family, I am so very sorry to hear of your mom's passing. She was one of the sweetest ladies I have ever met. From the very first time Bo and I came in the Carriage Crowd to buy his "little brother" shoes and every Saturday after that she always met us with a warm hug and that infectious smile of hers. We came in so often she put me to work. Working for y'all was like visiting with family on a daily basis. She will always have a very special place in my heart. I am honored to have known her and to call her friend. I will be out of town and will not be able to attend the service but you all will be in my thoughts and prayers. I am praying that God will put his loving arms around you and give you all the comfort and peace you need during the coming months. Love you all. Paulette Rogers

October 28 at 3:28 AM

BL

**Brenda Liverman** posted:

Rhonda and Linda, Am sending my love and prayers to all of you. Your mom was so special to me. I have so many wonderful memories of your family thru the years. Such a sweet lady. Miss seeing you. Take care of each other. Love, Brenda

October 28 at 2:18 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Martha by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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