



Thellis Chapman

NOV 7, 1940 - JAN 20, 2024



Scan to Visit

Rader
FUNERAL HOMES
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 5
Tribute Wall	Page 6
Media	Page 8



Thellis Chapman

NOV 7, 1940 - JAN 20, 2024

On January 20, 2024, Glenda Thellis Chapman passed serenely away at the age of 83, leaving behind a legacy of love and devotion, pestering and poking fun. Born on November 11, 1940, in Jasper, Alabama, to Samuel and Thelma Smith, Thellis embraced her roles as a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and aunt with unwavering warmth, joy, humor, and affection.

Growing up, Thellis lived in Alabama, Washington state, and Texas. She had many entertaining stories of picking cotton with her family, coming to Texas from Washington in a school bus purchased by her father, and the many animals she loved growing up on a small farm, particularly her dog, Bullet.

She attended Era High School in Cooke County, Texas, where she was elected FFA Sweetheart, played forward on the girls' basketball team, and was a cheerleader. She then attended Cooke County Junior College and was voted class favorite her freshman year. While she was there, she met and married Norris Chapman after dating for two years. They were married on December 22, 1962 at the First Presbyterian Church in Gainesville, Texas and celebrated their sixty-first anniversary last December. After getting married, she continued on to Southwestern State College in Oklahoma and earned a BS degree in Educational Biology in 1965. In 1966, Thellis and Norris moved to Longview, Texas with their first child, Christopher. Thellis began teaching at Judson Junior High School that same year. After her other children, Clinton and Cheryl, were born and old enough to attend school, she began teaching Physical Science at Pine Tree Jr. High until 1995, completing a 20-year teaching career.

Thellis was not only a mother, wife, and beloved science teacher, but also an artist and avid quilter. She shared her quilting skills with friends and made sure each of her children and six grandchildren received a handmade quilt. She also made sure to pass down her expertise in the craft to her children and grandchildren, taking them



Obituary

Thellis Chapman

NOV 7, 1940 - JAN 20, 2024

into her sewing room and teaching them how to sew.

Over her life, Thellis experienced the wonders of Europe, the Empire State Building, Carnegie Hall, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, Canada, and Alaska. She led student groups from Pine Tree to Washington DC and enjoyed exploring national parks in Colorado, Yellowstone, and Glacier National Park with Norris in their travel trailer.

In 2012, Thellis was diagnosed with breast cancer, and in 2017 became a breast cancer survivor. Thellis was deeply grateful for the care provided by Dr. Larry Frase and the staff at the Longview Cancer Center. The family also appreciates the care she received during her struggle with dementia from the nurses and aides at Prime Care Hospice, as well as from neighbors and friends. Norris especially thanks their daughter, Cheryl; daughter-in-law, Renee; and granddaughter, Christina who carried on the legacy of love and devotion by helping him care for Thellis, allowing her to stay at home during the last years of her life.

Thellis is survived by her husband, Norris Jack Chapman; their children, Christopher (and wife Renee), Clinton (and wife Melissa), and Cheryl (and husband James); grandchildren Jarob, Christina, Tyler, Samantha, Sabrina (and husband Cole Headrick), and Garret; sister Olivia Rivoire; and many loving nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister Edalou Steed, and brother James Smith.

Arrangements are under the care of Rader Funeral Home of Longview. A graveside service will be held on Saturday, January 27, at Rosewood Park Mausoleum. Visitation is at 1:00 p.m. followed by the service at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations in Thellis's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society or East Texas Alzheimer's Alliance. A memorial guestbook is available for signing at www.Raderfh.com.

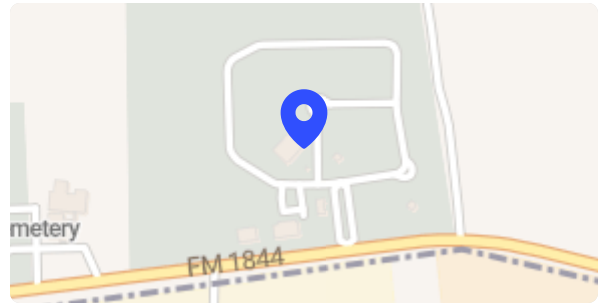


Events

Thellis Chapman
NOV 7, 1940 - JAN 20, 2024

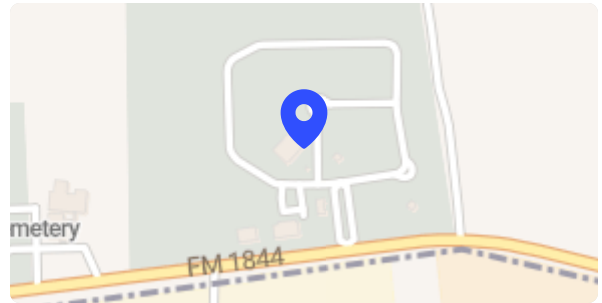
Visitation

- Saturday**, January 27, 2024
- 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM CT
- Rosewood Park Mausoleum Chapel**
1884 FM 1844, Longview TX 75605



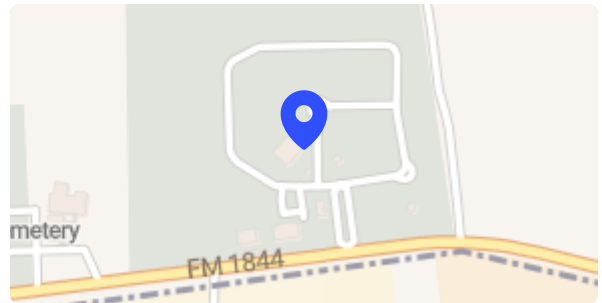
Graveside Service

- Saturday**, January 27, 2024
- 2:00 PM CT
- Rosewood Park Mausoleum Chapel**
1884 FM 1844, Longview TX 75605



Cemetery Details

- Rosewood Park**
1884 FM 1844, Longview TX 75605





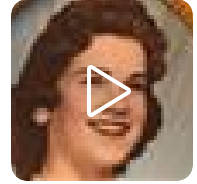
Tribute Wall

Thellis Chapman
NOV 7, 1940 - JAN 20, 2024



Rader Funeral Home shared a **Video**.

January 24 at 5:28 AM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Chapman family.

January 28 at 3:12 PM



Kristen And Adam planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thellis.

January 28 at 3:12 PM



Anonymous sent a Serene Retreat to the Chapman family.

January 26 at 3:56 PM



The Compton Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thellis.

January 26 at 3:56 PM



Randy, Donna And Kathryn Skinner sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Chapman family.

January 25 at 12:01 PM





Tribute Wall

Thellis Chapman
NOV 7, 1940 - JAN 20, 2024



Alysia Jarvis posted:

Wonderful Tribute video! A life well lived! My deepest condolences for the loss of Mrs. Chapman. The one time I met her, she was delightful and shared a cutting from one of her plants.

January 25 at 10:28 AM



'Holley' And Pat Noon posted:

Norris and family, We are saddened to hear of the passing of Thellis. There are so many memories of her in the younger days and more recently as an outstanding teacher. She was a very positive influence on a lot of children. Unfortunately, we will be out of town, so we will not be able to attend the visitation. Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you in the difficult days to come. May God Bless you and comfort each one of you.

January 25 at 5:16 AM



Anonymous sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Chapman family.



January 24 at 9:34 AM



Chad And Karin Kunkel planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thellis.



January 24 at 9:34 AM



Iva Holyfield posted:

Great teacher and good neighbor. Condolences to the family. The Holyfield family

January 24 at 8:14 AM



Anonymous sent a Small Garden Dish to the Chapman family.



January 23 at 6:06 AM



Media

Thellis Chapman
NOV 7, 1940 - JAN 20, 2024



Rader Funeral Home shared a **Video**.

January 24 at 5:28 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



Scan to Visit

Rader
FUNERAL HOMES
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON