



Carolyn Ann (McDonald) Bural

February 14, 1932 - March 7, 2026

Carolyn Ann (McDonald) Bural passed away peacefully surrounded by the love of her family. She lived a life devoted to education, family, faith, and music, leaving a legacy of kindness, dedication, and quiet strength.

Carolyn was born in Durant, Oklahoma on Valentines Day 1932 to Thomas Edwin McDonald and Rosamond Bell (Enoch) McDonald. She spent her early childhood in Wapanucka, Oklahoma, where her father served as the school principal and her mother was a teacher. Education was a central part of Carolyn's life from the beginning. She attended school in Wapanucka through the fourth grade before her father became superintendent in Milburn, Oklahoma, where she attended fifth grade. The family later moved to Dickson, Oklahoma, where Carolyn attended sixth through ninth grade while her mother taught there as well. When her father became superintendent in Zaneis, Oklahoma, Carolyn completed high school there, graduating as valedictorian with the class of 1949. It was in Zaneis where she met a tall, handsome man named Ben Bural.

Following high school, Carolyn attended Oklahoma Baptist University during the 1949–1950 school year. In the summer of 1950, she married the love of her life, Ben. Together they attended Southeastern State College in Durant, Oklahoma, graduating in 1952 after completing summer courses to earn enough hours to finish their degrees in just three years.

After graduation, Ben and Carolyn moved to Fox, Oklahoma, where they both taught during the 1952–1953 school year. Shortly afterward, Ben was drafted

into the military during the Korean War and served from 1952 to 1955, spending much of that time stationed in Germany. During his service, Carolyn remained in Fox and continued teaching.

In 1956, Carolyn welcomed her first child, Bennie Dale. She always dreamed of having 5 children and, true to her nature, she did just that. Over the next decade she joyfully welcomed four daughters: Cathy Jo, Sue Ann, Vicki Lynn, and Mary Louise (Lou). Carolyn devoted those years to raising her children and creating a loving home. The family moved frequently during this time period to accommodate Ben's oilfield career.

In 1967, the family moved to Elmore City, Oklahoma, where they raised their children and created a loving and stable home. That same year, Carolyn returned to the classroom and continued her lifelong commitment to education. She taught 3rd grade from 1967-1994 at Elmore City Elementary School, shaping the lives of many students.

Carolyn had a lifelong faith and attended the Baptist church throughout her life, spending many hours at the Elmore City First Baptist church; worshiping, serving, cooking and helping many others. Her faith was a guiding force in her family and daily life. She was also an avid lover of music and played the piano throughout her life, a gift and passion she lovingly passed on to each of her children.

Carolyn will be remembered for her love of learning, her devotion to her family, and her steady encouragement to those around her. Her life was marked by perseverance, compassion, and a deep commitment to helping others grow. Carolyn was preceded in death by her husband of 37 years, Ben Granville Bural; her daughter, Cathy Blackwood, and son-in-law Jimmy Blackwood; her grandson, Tyler Bural; and her parents, Edwin and Rosamond McDonald. She is survived by her brother Thomas Edwin McDonald Jr and wife Myrna; her son, Ben Bural and wife Joan Ferrell; her daughters, Sue Strickland and husband Jerry Strickland; Vicki Schmidt and husband Daved Schmidt; and Lou Henning; as well as many grandchildren and great-grandchildren who will continue to carry forward her legacy of love and family.

In lieu of flowers, the family request that contributions be made to the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation or a charity of your choice in her name.

Cemetery Details

Elmore City Cemetery

Elmore City, Ok

Previous Events

Public Visitation

MAR 10. 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Wooster Funeral Home and Cremation Services (Elmore City)

105 S. Main

Elmore City, OK 73433

(405) 238-7574

woosterfuneralhome@sbcglobal.net

Family Visitation with Friends

MAR 10. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Wooster Funeral Home and Cremation Services (Elmore City)

105 S. Main

Elmore City, OK 73433

(405) 238-7574

woosterfuneralhome@sbcglobal.net

Funeral Service

MAR 11. 10:00 AM (CT)

Elmore City First Baptist Church
107 S. Texas
Elmore City, OK

Tribute Wall

KW

“ I’ve had such a hard time picking a single precious memory of Mrs. Bural. As a third grade little girl, I was at awe of her. I’d think, “How did she whistle like that? It’s so beautiful!” No, seriously, more than that, she was so patient, kind, encouraging, caring, humorous, and every day was a new day and a good day! As a third grader on, I loved to hear her whistle, of course, sing, laugh, hum, and say, “Hello Kimberly!” She always made me feel like I was the only one in the room, and later on in my life, she made me feel like she missed seeing me at church as she’d walk to hug me. I sure wish I had attended church more regularly while Mrs. Bural was there to hear, “Hello Kimberly, (with happiness)!” I will miss getting her hugs!!
I love you Mrs. Bural!

Kimberly Wright - March 11 at 10:13 AM

WG

“ She was the best teacher ever. My 3rd grade year was very hard because I missed 3 weeks of school in the hospital recovering from surgery. I was very discouraged from being so far behind. She made sure I caught up and encouraged me so much. She was a great teacher and even greater person.

William Thomas Gilmore - March 10 at 08:29 PM

LB

“ Carolyn, you will always be in my heart. I’m so proud that I got to visit with you that day at Kim’s beauty Shop. The love and support that u gave me in school will always be remembered. Such a wonderful person. You earned your wings Until we see you again
Fly High Loetia Bone

Loetia Bone - March 10 at 12:40 AM

JM

“ *Jamie McCurley lit a candle in memory of Carolyn (McDonald) Bural*



Jamie McCurley - March 09 at 06:59 PM

NI

“ *Norma Ivey lit a candle in memory of Carolyn (McDonald) Bural*



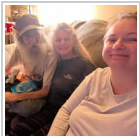
Norma Ivey - March 09 at 03:33 PM

BP

“ *A coworker for many years, a friend for life. Sure did love that lady.*



Barbara Popejoy - March 09 at 02:38 PM



“ *Rest In Peace, prayers and condolences to the family 🙏🙏*

Wendy Payne - March 09 at 12:31 PM

SJ

“ Stacey Johnson lit a candle in memory of Carolyn (McDonald) Bural



Stacey Johnson - March 09 at 09:59 AM

JC

“ Judy and I were just, the other day, talking about Mrs. Bural. Remembering how she took Judy under her wing when she was a student teacher and taught her so much. I remember the support Mrs. Bural gave me during my time at Elmore. Your mom was a lovely lady with a lot of class which she handed down to her children. Our prayers and sympathy go out to you during this time. Love Jim and Judy Clemons

Jim Clemons - March 09 at 09:03 AM

MS

“ Marla S. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Carolyn Ann (McDonald) Bural.



Marla S. - March 09 at 12:30 AM