



Loyce Laine (Dorsey) Elam Radford

August 26, 1946 - September 21, 2025

Loyce Laine (Dorsey) Elam Radford, 79, passed away peacefully with family by her side on September 21, 2025 in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. She was born on August 26, 1946, in Henderson, Texas, to Loy E Dorsey Jr. and Joyce Elaine (Busby) Dorsey.

Loyce spent much of her childhood at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, North Carolina, before returning to Texas, where she graduated from Henderson High School in 1965. She went on to earn her teaching degree from the University of North Texas in Denton in 1969 and later received her Master's degree from the University of Texas at Tyler.

Her career was dedicated to education and service. Loyce began as the beloved librarian at Henderson Middle School, where she inspired countless students with her love for books and learning. After retiring from the library, she continued her calling as a teacher, working with GED students at prisons in Henderson and Overton, Texas. She was deeply proud of the lives she touched there and the hope she helped restore through education.

In 1995, Loyce married Mike Radford, and together they shared a life of faith, family, and community. Together, they combined their families, her two sons, Michael Elam and M. Keith Watson and his two daughters, Shelly Aslakson and Lea Radford. Loyce was a member of the Bar None Cowboy Church and Henderson Civic Theatre where she was in many plays. Loyce was known for her sharp wit and her keen eye for grammar—something her friends and family often found both endearing and entertaining.

Family was the center of Loyce's life, and her grandson Austin was her world. She especially cherished her role as "Nana" to Austin, Oliver, Nixie and Stormy, and "Lulu" to Rebecca, Megan, Emily, Asher, and Harper.

Loyce will be remembered as a devoted educator, a woman of strong faith, and a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend.

Loyce is survived by her sons, Michael Elam and wife Nicola of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, and M. Keith Watson; Daughters, Shelly Aslakson and Lea Radford of Washington State; Grandchildren, Austin Elam, Michell Bumgarner and spouse Kyle Kroth, Megan Watson Green and husband Brady, Rebecca Harrison and husband Devin; Great- Grandchildren, Stormy, Nixie, Oliver, Emily, Asher, and Harper; Brother, Loy Dorsey and wife Leann of Henderson, Texas; and Sister, Donna J Dorsey of Henderson, Texas.

Loyce was preceded in death by her husband, Mike Radford; Parents, Loy E Dorsey Jr and Joyce Elaine (Busby) Dorsey.

Services for Loyce are pending at this time for a later date. Cremation services were under the direction of Wooster Funeral Home. If you would like to send your condolences to the family you may do so at www.woosterfuneralhomes.com

Tribute Wall

MG

“ *God's Peace be with the family.
So many fun memories with Loyce.*

Michaëlle Green - October 03, 2025 at 06:40 PM



“ *We were childhood friends. Then we worked together at Henderson Middle School for both of our lengthy careers. My mother boarded with Loyce's grandparents when she came to this community to teach, so our families have been intertwined for 90 years or so. She'll be missed.*

Donna Abercrombie - September 27, 2025 at 06:01 PM

CN

“ *Clay Newcomb & Frances Newcomb lit a candle in memory of Loyce (Dorsey) Elam Radford*



Clay Newcomb & Frances Newcomb - September 27, 2025 at 09:57 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Loyce Radford*



Dennis Draper - September 26, 2025 at 09:10 PM

MG

Such a beautiful picture... thank you for sharing Dennis.

Michaelle Green - October 03, 2025 at 06:41 PM

JS

“ *Rest in peace, my beloved “Ruth”. You will always be in my heart. We shared so many times throughout the years beginning with the days of the “Johnson Sticks” in the Henderson Jr. High library. I will miss our long hours of chatting about our boys. You were a wonderful mother to Thor. You were more than just my friend. You were my mentor, my sister I never had and the person I could always count on to pick up the phone and listen when I needed just a little laughter. I’m sure you have found a WaHoo team in heaven. Be easy on them. I’m sure no one will steal your marbles in heaven. I will miss you, my friend. But save a place for me. I’m waiting in the wings. Michael and family, you know my prayers are with you. Love to all. Partying is such sweet sorrow....* ❤️❤️❤️🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️❤️

Jan Spann - September 26, 2025 at 07:18 PM

DK

“ *Dwain Knight lit a candle in memory of Loyce (Dorsey) Elam Radford*



Dwain Knight - September 25, 2025 at 12:28 PM

JR

“ Loyce and I met because our boys were the same age and were in church, scouts and sometimes overnight parties at my house. She was so easy to talk with and we would almost always get around to saying we were going to go to Dallas and eat at Ponchos.



Janis Rutherford - September 24, 2025 at 01:47 PM

BG

“ I still remember being my librarian in Junior High. Always remember her saying she wanted to model shoes! Loyce loved to read and passed that on to many of her students! Praying for peace and comfort.
Bonnie Geddie



Bonnie Geddie - September 24, 2025 at 12:12 PM

LW

“ Lacy Weaver lit a candle in memory of Loyce (Dorsey) Elam Radford



Lacy Weaver - September 24, 2025 at 10:25 AM

CF

“ Cliff & Krista Furtick lit a candle in memory of Loyce (Dorsey) Elam Radford



Cliff & Krista Furtick - September 23, 2025 at 11:12 PM

DA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Donna J Dorsey Aaron - September 23, 2025 at 09:02 PM

CH

“ I grew up on Baker Street next door to the Dorsey's, and Loyce has always been Sissy to me. I can still see her in the front yard in her pep squad uniform. I thought she was so cool. Later she took me to her library to “help” her in the summer. I couldn't wait to get to Jr. High so I could check out books. As a teen, I actually babysat for Michael when he was a baby. I think maybe she was taking classes. As an adult, I knew Sissy and Mike through church. In more recent years we kept in touch via Facebook and messages. She was always a fun and caring person. If I close my eyes, I can hear her laugh. She was always smiling and happy and yes so proud of Austin! She will be greatly missed.

Cathy Hooper - September 23, 2025 at 09:02 PM

RH

“ *Lulu had a significant impact on all of our lives. She was nurturing, advocated for us, played with us, prayed for us and always showed up for us. I feel honored and loved that she considered us hers. Most of the photos I have found are of her sitting on the floor playing with the children in her life that she loved so very much. She was the best and we already miss her so much!* ”



Rebecca Harrison - September 23, 2025 at 07:29 PM