



## Wanda Clay Parkey

December 27, 1915 - April 5, 2009

Wanda Clay (Whitaker) Parkey passed away on April 5th in Overland Park, Kansas. Wanda was born on December 27, 1915 to James Claude Whitaker and Mary Florence (Kenner) Whitaker in Paoli, Oklahoma. She was fourth of 14 children.

Wanda married Joseph Bailey Parkey on December 23, 1933 in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. After a year of living in the state of Washington they returned to Oklahoma with baby Tony and eventually moved to a farm outside Elmore City where they continued farming and ranching throughout their working life. During the oil boom Wanda and Joe purchased a café in Elmore city and named it "Wanda's Café." The food was wonderful and the café served as the centerpiece of the community for many years and today a plaque outside the original building pays tribute to "Wanda's Café."

She began a new career as kitchen manager for the Pauls Valley State School. Her vast knowledge of food preparation and her ability to manage people made her a perfect fit for this new career.

She loved the children with disabilities and helped many of them learn the basics of food preparation so that they could work and live outside the State School. She would tell us at times that she was helping children that were much like her sister June and that gave her great satisfaction.

Joe and Wanda enjoyed retirement on the farm and looked forward to seeing their grandchildren on summer vacations. She and her family were active members of the First Methodist Church in Elmore City from the time her

younger children were in school to after her retirement.

Wanda was proceeded in death by her husband Joe and her son Tony of Highlands, Texas; sister Olva and husband Truman Barton of Houston, Texas; sister Erma and husband Lee Dickinson of Purcell, Oklahoma; sister Orban and husband J.B. Lawson of Wayne, Oklahoma; sister Renoma and husband George Fuller of Houston, Texas; sister Ann and husband Ralph of Houston, Texas; sister June of Purcell/Okmulgee, Oklahoma and brother Talmage of Paoli, Oklahoma.

Wanda is survived by brother James and wife Virgie Whitaker, of Moore, Oklahoma; brother Calvin and wife Nadean Whitaker of Houston, Texas; brother Stanley Whitaker of Baytown, Texas; sister Esteleen and husband Floyd Engeman of Denver, Colorado; sister Betty and husband Richard Shanahan of Garland, Texas; sister Weeta and husband Clyde Tucker of Okmulgee, Oklahoma and numerous nieces and nephews.

Survivors of her immediate family include daughter Jeanette and husband David Manes of Tulsa, Oklahoma; daughter Elaine and husband Bobby Tuley of La Veta, Colorado; and son Steve and wife Laura Parkey of Prairie Village, Kansas. Wanda leaves 10 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, April 9 in the Wooster Funeral Home Chapel in Pauls Valley. Interment will be in the Paoli Cemetery under the direction of Wooster Funeral Home.

You may send a condolence to the family at [www.woosterfuneralhomes.com](http://www.woosterfuneralhomes.com). The family will be receiving friends on Wednesday, April 8, from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Wanda was the most loving, caring and positive mother, sister and friend that anyone could hope to have. Her children will miss her until the end of our time.

# Previous Events

## Service

APR 9. 10:30 AM (CT)

Wooster Funeral Home Chapel  
1601 S. Chickasaw  
Pauls Valley, Ok

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wanda Clay Parkey*

November 12, 2022 at 02:44 AM



“ *Steve and Family,  
We send our deepest sympathy to you and your family. Your mother was an extra special woman. She always had words of encouragement for so many young people in Elmore. She lovingly created wonderful food that fed not only the body, but also the spirit. I will always have happy memories of special times at Wanda's Cafe. May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
Glenna##imported-begin##Glenna Gibson Ott ##imported-end##*

April 16, 2009 at 08:34 PM



“ *So sorry for the passing of your mother and loved one. You will be in our prayers.*

*Carolyn Adkins Croom##imported-begin##Carolyn (Adkins) Croom##imported-end##*

April 13, 2009 at 11:26 AM



“ *Steve, My condolences to you and your family on behalf of Cargivers Home Health. Safe travels back to Kansas.  
Ed##imported-begin##Ed Schulte##imported-end##*

April 09, 2009 at 05:40 PM



“ Parkey Family,  
I am sorry for your loss. I loved Wanda and have some very fond memories of the many times I was able to visit with her and the Parkey family. The Parkeys have always welcomed me as if I were a relative, and I am so blessed to be a part of this wonderful family. Thank you. I love you Wanda!!  
Roberta Bernard

April 07, 2009 at 09:38 PM



“ We love you and are thinking of you all. Please let us know if there is anything we can do.  
Derrick and Patti Tuley

April 07, 2009 at 07:12 PM



“ Steve, my prayers are with you and your family. Your mom was a wonderful woman. I have a fond memory of visiting your house and your mom feeding us. I know you'll always have her in your heart.

Mike Steadman

April 07, 2009 at 06:59 PM



“ We are so sorry to hear of Wanda's passing. We had the honor of meeting her several times in Baytown, and she was a very wonderful woman.  
Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Pfeiffer

April 06, 2009 at 08:45 PM



“ *What a blessing Wanda was! And such a joy to be around. From her "Mom" hugs for those of us without a Mother, to her wonderful sense of humor.*

*God bless.##imported-begin##John and Jennifer Banta##imported-end##*

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April 06, 2009 at 07:52 PM