

Jeanene Raridon Upton ^{CH-R} 2-17-2022



Jeanene Raridon Upton was born on April 25, 1933 in Newton, Iowa, to Letha Woods Raridon and Jack Allison Raridon and departed this life on February 01, 2022, in Tyler, Texas.

Jeanene attended a one-room schoolhouse in rural Kellogg, Iowa, in her elementary years. She graduated in 1951 from Grinnell High School.

Jeanene married Thomas Harry Upton Jr. on April 25, 1952, in Newton, Iowa. Shortly after marriage, the newlyweds, Tom & Jeanene, headed to Texas to start their married life and family. They settled in Garland, Texas, and raised four children.

Jeanene was very active in Bluebirds and Camp Fire Girls. She also was involved in the Garland Republican Women's Club and was a volunteer on local, state, and national campaigns. Every summer Jeanene loaded up the kids and dogs and headed to Iowa in a Ford station wagon. The family farm in Jasper County was a wonderful place for her kids to learn about country and farm living. Summers in Iowa changed us for the better. Even after all the kids moved away, Jeanene made her annual visit to Iowa.

In 1971, Tom & Jeanene purchased 48 acres of woods in rural Van Zandt County southeast of Grand Saline. For the next two years, most weekends were spent at the "farm" working to build a new home. Jeanene & Tom, with their youngest two kids, moved to rural Grand Saline, Texas, in the fall of 1973. Tom commuted to his job in Garland until he retired in 1990.

Jeanene lost Tom in 1993 after 42 years of marriage. She remained at her home on the farm. Several years later, Jeanene starting volunteering at the Mineola Memorial Library. She joined the board of directors and was the treasurer for many years. Jeanene also volunteered with the APET-SPCA Animal Shelter in Mineola. Jeanene was also active in the FCE Home Demonstration Club.

Jeanene is survived by her children: Thomas Upton, Ed.D. and wife Bobbie of Rowlett, Leil Upton Gross of North Richland Hills, Laurel Upton of Mineola, and Richard Upton and wife Cindy of Grand Saline. Jeanene enjoyed her five grandkids, eight great-grandkids, and two great-great grandkids.

Jeanene's Memorial Service will be held at the First United Methodist Church of Mineola Fellowship Hall on February 27, 2022, at 2:00 PM. A reception will follow at the Mineola Memorial Library.

The family wants to thank all of those that help celebrate Jeanene's life and for all the well wishes and prayers that were received.

Donations in Jeanene's memory can be made to the Mineola Memorial Library 301 North Pacific St., Mineola, TX 75773