



Jane Callison

June 10, 1945 - July 14, 2023

Jane Agnes (McNeely) Callison, age 78, of Lexington, OK, passed away on Friday, July 14, 2023. Jane was born June 10, 1945, in Portales, New Mexico, the youngest of 4 children born to Frank and Gladys (Cearley) McNeely. She grew up on a farm on the east side of Broken Arrow, OK, and attended BA schools (where her mother taught and was a principal), graduating from BA High School in 1963. After graduation, Jane studied music at the University of Oklahoma. While attending a college campus ministry event at the Baptist Student Union, Jane met a handsome young man, James Callison. They fell in love and were married on August 12, 1967, in Broken Arrow. Jane later received her Bachelor of Arts degree from OU in the Class of 1969. The couple first made their home in Norman, OK, before moving to Minneapolis, then Kansas City. In 1973, they returned to Norman, where they raised their children: daughter, Eleanor, and sons, James, Stephen, and Nathan. Jane's life centered around her husband, children, faith, and church. Nothing made her happier than being there for her children.

She was always available to help, and she shuttled her four children to activities without complaint. She had a knack for making everyone feel special, important, and loved. She attended her children's sporting events, hosted their birthday parties (where she usually made the cake), and without question would be at their special events. It didn't matter how big or small the event, she was there supporting those she loved.

Jane had a tremendous passion for music. She taught children's choir for

many years, and she had an encyclopedic knowledge of hymns and contemporary Christian music, often able to provide the title and artist of a song from the most vague descriptions imaginable.

She usually listened to classical music, she loved musicals, and she could often be found playing the piano and singing in her home. She thoroughly enjoyed being a part of music, whether that was singing with her church choir or in the Singing Churchwomen of Oklahoma, and she loved playing handbells in the Bell Choir. Very few people can handle the large bells, but she did it with joy! Jane was known by her family as having great wit, as well as being an entertaining story writer, a voracious reader, and a faithful Jeopardy! watcher.

Jane was also known for being a wonderful cook. She was a talented seamstress and crocheter, and she loved sharing her handmade gifts with family and friends. Jane made Eleanor's wedding dress, lots of clothes, and numerous afghans for loved ones. Most notably, Jane was known for a deeply anchored faith and trust in Jesus. She endured many trials in her life, yet she glowed with increasing joy as she got older. Jane exemplified being a person of great peace. She was an amazing wife, mother, and grandma and will be dearly missed.

She is preceded in death by her husband, James W. Callison; her parents, Frank and Gladys McNeely; her grandson, Psalm Callison; her sisters, Ruth Wilson and Frances Leonard; and her brother, Pat McNeely.

Jane is survived by her daughter, Eleanor Bean and husband Rusty of Washington, DC; her sons, James P. Callison of Norman, Stephen Callison of Lexington, and Nathan Callison and wife Amanda of Kiefer, Ok; 17 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild; numerous nieces and nephews; and a host of other family and friends.

Celebration of Life Memorial Services are scheduled for Thursday, July 27 at 10 am, at First Baptist Church of Norman. www.wilsonlittle.com

Tribute Wall

TT

“ Jane was a constant, joyful presence in the Music Ministry of FBC, Norman. I especially loved her sense of humor and her delightful insights and wit. She loved music and loved singing in the Sanctuary Choir and Singing Churchwomen of OK. She will be missed and always remembered.

Terry Taylor - July 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Jane will be sorely missed at our SCW concerts. She always had a smile and a greeting for everyone. Her talent on the low register large bells was stellar. I will always picture her there in our future concerts.

Jane's service was an awesome tribute to her many talents and her love and care for you all. Thank you for sharing details of her life that we didn't know and most of all, thank you for sharing Jesus, just as she would have wanted you to do. Love and prayers to all as you learn how to do life now that she is in heaven with our Lord and Saviour.

Linda Cooper, SCW

LINDA COOPER - July 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ I have known Jane and the Callison family most of my life. Jane was in a ladies singing ensemble for many years with my mother, called the Notables at Trinity Norman. Then she and I joined the Singing Churchwomen of Oklahoma the 1st year it was established. Jane always had a ready smile and was very faithful and dedicated whatever ministry she was involved in. We will miss her and Stephen at our concerts.

Donita Masters Cooper

Donita Cooper - July 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ I met Jane at First Baptist Church. Norman, where we were both members. Through various church activities I was privileged to get to know this talented Christian lady. She was a faithful church member & will be greatly missed by all.

Sarah Redwine - July 26, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Jane was always an encourager to me. She readily shared her smile with everyone. My love goes out to her family and friends while my prayers go out to God for those in grief.



Janet F. Broyles - July 24, 2023 at 12:00 AM

FK

“ Your mom sounds like a wonderful person and a real blessing to your family and others. May God comfort you in the days ahead . My prayers are with you and your family.

Faye Koenigsberg - July 23, 2023 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ I had the privilege of singing with Jane in the FBC choir & as a fellow member of the Singing Churchwomen of Oklahoma. We had some glorious times singing throughout Oklahoma. Jane was a faithful servant of Christ & is surely missed by all who loved her. I regret I am not able to travel back to Norman to attend her service. My prayers are with Stephen & the family. She taught you well. ❤️

Dorinda Mayhue - July 20, 2023 at 12:00 AM