



Janice Rousey

April 9, 1939 - July 27, 2021

Janice Lee Gallamore was born on Easter morning April 9th, 1939 to E.R and Zela Gallamore of Addington, Oklahoma. She was born at Patterson Hospital in Duncan, OK and was the only child for Elbert and Zela. Jan and her parents lived in Addington for 3 years. Both towns of Duncan and Addington were located on the original Chisholm Trail. Addington had many ranches, cowboys, a general store and a Baptist church. This environment contributed to Jan's lifetime love of western music and western and Indian art. She loved wearing Cowboy boots and was in them from the time she was 3. Jan developed her love of music by learning how to play the piano and with voice lessons. In high school she was part of a small vocal group that competed and performed locally. She was also an avid reader and particularly loved books about history, politics, and good mysteries.

Jan's family returned to Purcell when Jan was three. She attended Purcell public schools and in high school was a state recognized twirler. She played on the girls' basketball team and developed a love of sports in general but basketball specifically. As a senior at Purcell High, she was named Outstanding Senior Girl and recognized as outstanding Majorette at state marching band competition. She graduated with the great class of 1957; the year the boys' basketball team were state champions. Go Dragons!

Jan married Bill on May 10, 1957 and while Bill played college basketball for Oklahoma Baptist University where she worked as the secretary to Paul Nance, the financial Vice Pres of OBU. Bill completed his degree in 1960 and

the couple moved to Chickasha, Ok. Bill was a teacher and coach for the Chickasha school system and Jan became the secretary for the district attorney in Grady County. She returned to college at Oklahoma Women's University and completed her degree in education with high honors in May of 1964. She was a member of Mortar Board, a recognition for academic achievement.

Jan entered the classroom as a first-year teacher in the Chickasha school system where she taught for 3 years. In 1966 Jan and Bill adopted their only daughter Kendall. Kendall was a fixture that first year at the basketball games Bill coached. In 1967 the young family moved to Moore, OK. Bill had taken a new position with Parke Davis pharmaceuticals and Jan went to work at North Moore Elementary. Jan and Bill enjoyed the area, and their good friends James and Kaye Patten were close by. Jan was recognized as Teacher of the Year in 1970. Seven years after moving to Moore the family bought 5 acres of land in Purcell and returned to Purcell, Ok.

Jan started teaching at Purcell High School and taught 19 years. She loved middle school students and had innovative ways of teaching them civics. She also coached middle school basketball for a short time and began the middle school girls track program and the middle school cheerleading program.

Meanwhile Kendall grew up and attended Oklahoma State Univ and graduated in 1987. She met her husband Michael there and was married in 1989. Jan and Bill's first grandchild Rachel was born in 1991 and followed by Kelsey in 1994. Jan retired from Purcell Schools in 1993 to be a full-time grandmother. She loved spending time with the girls. One of her favorite memories is taking Rachel to her first movie. She thought since Rachel was so young, she would need to explain what was going on. Instead, she was told, "Shhhh Grandma - I'm trying to watch the movie!"

Jan often got tickled watching Kelsey dress up in her jewelry, hats and boots. In 1997 she was named Purcell's Homecoming Parade Grand Marshall and presided over the homecoming ceremonies.

Bill and Jan sold the acreage and moved to Norman for several years. They

often visited Kendall and the grandchildren in Texas and spent time there. In 2000 they built their current home in Purcell.

In 2007 their last grandchild Ethan was born. Jan always has a sense of humor and often referred to Ethan as that "smart mouth punk kid".

Jan was preceded in death by her parents Elbert and Zela Gallamore of Purcell. She is survived by her husband Bill of Purcell, daughter Kendall and son-in-law Michael Guess of Leander, TX. Also her grandchildren Rachel Parker and husband Brandon of Austin, TX; Kelsey Guess of Dallas, TX and Ethan Guess of Leander, TX.

The family is appreciative of the care Jan received from Dr. Farris's office and Frontier Hospice.

Graveside Services are scheduled for 3:00 P.M. Friday, July 30, 2021, at Hillside Cemetery. Send online condolences @ www.wilsonlittle.com.

Tribute Wall

CG

“ So sorry for your loss. Jan was my Daddy's cousin. He adored her.



Connie R Gallamore - November 17, 2021 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Dear Kendall, Bill and family,

Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers...

Mrs. Janice Gallamore Rousey was a favorite teacher and really made civics and social studies interesting at Mary Simpson Elementary School and Purcell Middle School in Purcell OK. She was a wonderful educator...

Her innovative approach had students bring newspaper clippings and news magazine articles for class discussion. She really knew how to get everyone involved in her classes. She launched and sponsored a PMS student newsletter. She had us brainstorming ideas to write about for the PMS school newsletter.

Jan will be remembered with loving memories by her students...

James Hobi - August 16, 2021 at 12:00 AM

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James Hobi - August 15, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ *I began my career in education at the Mary Simpson Middle School in Purcell in the fall of 1977. I met Jan and soon realized how blessed I was to be around her and a unique group of teachers/faculty and some amazing students. Jan was a mentor who helped me in so many ways. You did not have to wonder how Jan felt about issues. She spoke truthfully and honestly. Thanks for being patient with a young teacher with big dreams and listening to my ideas.*

Randy Belicek - August 10, 2021 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Loved Jan Rousey for my teacher and friend. Have missed seeing her. My prayers and thoughts for the family. She will truly be missed, such a blessing to the community of Purcell. Truly remarkable woman. Dragon forever

SHEILA FISHER - July 30, 2021 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Loved Jan! I taught with her at Purcell Middle School. Her sense of humor was on point. Several years ago, Mother and I visited her at her home in Purcell. Her wall was covered with shelves and filled with books. Her taste in decor was exquisite! She was so articulate and could truly dish it out. Loved her!



Debbie (Hawkins) Clanton - July 28, 2021 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Mrs. Rousey was a wonderful person and one of my favorite teachers/ coach. She had a way of making me feel special and she never let anyone make me feel like I was any less than the next one. I'll never forget how she said give someone a hand and instead of clapping she held up her hand. She will always be dear to me. I;m so sorry for your loss

Lawana Kay Colwell - July 28, 2021 at 12:00 AM

WF

“ Bill, I'm sorry for your loss - this is certainly one of the biggest losses one can experience.

W. Grant Frankenberg - July 28, 2021 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ So very sad to read of Jan's death. She was a favorite teacher in Moore and Bill an excellent "drug" man to Leon's Pharmacy. You are in our prayers, Bill & Kendall! ❤️

Leon & Mary Ann Brining - July 27, 2021 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Jan was one of my closest friends at Purcell Middle School. We both told it like it was. We did not sugarcoat anything. My daughter went into the study of law because Jan was such a good civics teacher. She lit a fire under her for government and today she is a judge. In the past few years I would call Jan and we would visit for hours. It was as though we had never been apart. The world has lost one of a kind.

Joyce Pennington - July 27, 2021 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ Bill,
So sorry to hear of Jan's death. I remember all of those years at PHS.
Would appreciate hearing from you when life settles down. I too have lost my wife.
Best Regards
Don Allen
Class of 1956

Don Allen - July 27, 2021 at 12:00 AM

HW

“ We just want Bill to know how we love Jan and the way you and she supported our children during their formative years. God bless you and thanks for our blessing of having known Jan.

Harry and Deb Wollenberg - July 27, 2021 at 12:00 AM