



## Joan Tyler

September 1, 1940 - June 10, 2024

Joan Tyler, 83, passed away on Monday, June 10, 2024 at Warren Memorial Hospital in Front Royal, VA.

She was the daughter of Leamon and Mattie Saylor.

Joan was a monumental figure in many people's lives, a fiercely independent person, with a loving spirit and giving heart, who lived her life as a strong and confident woman.

She is survived by her sons Daniel Soren (Ally) and William M. Krzewick, III (Samantha); daughters, Deborah Krzewick and Beverley Durham; grandchildren, Kodi and Kemma Soren, William, Alexis and Isabella Krzewick, Kathryn Rosenblum (Richard), Nicole and Savanna Durham, Kasey Durham-Richardson (Eric); great grandchildren, Ava and Mae Rosenblum, Sagelynn and Emir Durham-Richardson; brother, Luther Saylor (Ann); sisters, Janie Clifton (Dave) and Lesa Saylor; and a host of beloved nieces and nephews. Joan was deeply saddened by the recent loss of her sister Judy Collier (Joe).

Joan began her life in a one room home on a farmstead in Arab, Alabama. She began her academic career in a one room schoolhouse, where she first demonstrated her prowess for personal initiative and service to her family and community. As a first-grade girl, Joan wrote a letter to her county school board requesting the first set of encyclopedias and other books for her school. As Joan tells the story, there were photographs and a write-up in the local paper

of the delivery, as it was a celebration for the entire community.

Joan was raised by her grandfather, Luther A. Saylor, to know that she can do anything and be anything she may ever wish to do or be. In this, he empowered her and instilled in her a confidence and a deep-rooted belief in herself. She was a favorite of her Daddy and Grandfather who both doted love on her that inspired her to go out and take on the world and make her mark.

As a testament to her intellect and drive, she was able to graduate high school at 16 years old, and immediately enter college at the University of Alabama. There, she continued her love and passion for the Crimson Tide and home state hero Bear Bryant. Joan even continued her love of football, following Joe Namath into the NFL and remaining a loyal Washington DC football fan.

Joan loved her music. She saw many live performances, everything from Andres Segovia at the Kennedy Center to family concert performances around her hometown. She was a member of the Arab High School Majorettes and was instrumental in her school participating in the parade and events to see Elvis Presley play and sing at his famous performance at the Mississippi-Alabama Fair and Dairy Show when she was 16. If you look closely at photos of the event she is there in the crowd. She was steeped in bluegrass and American roots music; she saw Ralph Stanley perform on the Down from the Mountain tour at the DAR Constitution Hall, and was even invited on Ralph's tour bus after the show for conversation and autographs; she saw Doc Watson perform an intimate set of his distinctive style and voice at the Birchmere shortly before his passing. She enjoyed all things music, from rock and roll to classical — and, if the feeling was right, you could get her to sing her favorites at the piano or with the acoustic guitar.

Following college, Joan started a family and moved to the Washington, DC area. She lived most of her life in Maryland, outside Washington DC, working

for the federal government. Her work for the National Institute for Standards and Technology was instrumental in establishing standards for computer science. Joan was on the cusp of technology from the beginning of her career, including programming for punch cards as a pioneer in software engineering. Later, she was a part of the establishment of the Malcom Baldrige award for best in class in American business – a part of Joan’s career focused on the adoption of quality control frameworks in the federal government and business. Her final work for the Department of the Interior brought internet and technology to Native American reservations, implementing standards for cyber security and internet protocols, paving the way for the modern IT infrastructure for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Joan loved to travel. She traveled across North America, Central and South America, and Europe during her lifetime, for work and for pleasure. Her favorite places were Mesa Verde (where she connected with her Native American spirituality), Cinnamon Bay Beach in the US Virgin Islands, and Spain.

She was an enthusiastic tennis player and amassed many championship trophies over her competitive career. She was a lifetime member of the USTA, attended the US Open many times and was an avid fan of the game all her life. She was strong and physically fit, and her years as an athlete served her body with strength and independence into her 80s.

Joan was a woman of high principles and tenacity, with a strong will and commanding presence. She wore her politics on her sleeve and was unashamed about who she was and what she stood for. She aspired to live her values every day. She lived through 15 US presidents and watched the world change from dirt floors and encyclopedias to hi-technology, the internet, solar panels and electric vehicles.

Her final days and moments were spent surrounded by her closest family, reminiscing the memories of her life and hearing her favorite music. Her family is blessed to have had her in their lives and they are forever grateful for her being Mom, Grandma & Momo – Joan.

Local arrangements in Winchester, Virginia are being handled by Omps Funeral Home, Amherst Chapel. Services will be held in Alabama at Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel, 1340 North Main Street, Arab, AL 35016. The family will receive friends and guest at a visitation from 12:00 noon until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 22, 2024. The funeral service will follow beginning at 2:00 pm. Joan's son, Michael Krzewick will officiate services. Interment will be in Arab Memorial Cemetery.

Arrangements entrusted to Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel

# Cemetery Details

## Arab Memorial Cemetery

565 South Main Street  
Arab, AL 35016

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 22. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel  
1340 North Main Street  
Arab, AL 35016  
(256) 586-4100

## Funeral Service

JUN 22. 2:00 PM (CT)

Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel  
1340 North Main Street  
Arab, AL 35016  
(256) 586-4100

# Tribute Wall

LE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



lesa - June 22, 2024 at 02:36 PM



“ 14 files added to the album LifeTributes



Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel - June 22, 2024 at 09:59 AM



“ 36 files added to the album Life Tributes



Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel - June 21, 2024 at 03:20 PM



“ From the brothers of MilltownPalestine lodge. Please accept our condolences in your time of grief. Remember, we cherish her memory here but commit her spirit to the right hand of God who gave it in that world of light, life and love. Amen

MilltownPalestine Lodge - June 21, 2024 at 10:16 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



LESA - June 20, 2024 at 11:18 AM



OUR JOAN

LESA - June 20, 2024 at 11:19 AM

LE

“ *Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home  
Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home*

*I looked over Jordan, and what did I see?  
Comin' for to carry me home  
A band of angels comin' after me  
Comin' for to carry me home*

*Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home  
Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home*

*If you get there before I do  
Comin' for to carry me home  
Just tell my friends that I'm a comin' too  
Comin' for to carry me home*

*Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home  
Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home*

*I'm sometimes up and sometimes down  
Comin' for to carry me home  
But still, my soul feels heavenly bound  
Comin' for to carry me home*

---

lesa - June 20, 2024 at 10:03 AM

LE

*Leamon's favorite.*

---

lesa - June 20, 2024 at 10:05 AM

LE

*When I get where I'm going  
On the far side of the sky  
The first thing that I'm gonna' do  
Is spread my wings and fly  
I'm gonna' land beside a lion  
And run my fingers through his mane  
Or I might find out what it's like  
To ride a drop of rain  
Yeah, when I get where I'm going  
Well, there'll be only happy tears  
I will shed the sins and struggles  
I have carried all these years  
And I'll leave my heart wide open  
I will love and have no fear  
Yeah, when I get where I'm going  
Don't cry for me down here  
I'm gonna' walk with my granddaddy  
And he'll match me step for step  
And I'll tell him how I've missed him  
Every minute since he left  
And then I'll hug his neck  
Yeah, when I get where I'm going  
There'll be only happy tears  
I will shed the sins and struggles  
I have carried all these years  
And I'll leave my heart wide open  
I will love and have no fear  
Yeah, when I get where I'm going  
Don't cry for me down here  
So much pain and so much darkness  
In this world, we stumble through  
All these questions I can't answer  
And so much work to do  
But when I get where I'm going  
And I see my Maker's face  
I'll stand forever in the light  
Of His amazing grace  
Yeah, when I get where I'm going  
Oh, when I get where I'm going  
There'll be only happy tears  
Hallelujah  
I will love and have no fear when I get where I'm going  
Yeah, when I get where I'm going*

*by:Brad Paisley*

---

lesa - June 20, 2024 at 10:32 AM

LE

*Shadows are fallin' and I'm runnin' out of breath  
Keep me in your heart for a while  
If I leave you, it doesn't mean I love you any less  
Keep me in your heart for a while  
When you get up in the mornin' and you see that crazy sun, keep me in  
your heart for a while  
There's a train leavin' nightly called "When All is Said and Done," Keep  
me in your heart for a while*

*Sometimes, when you're doin' simple things around the house, maybe  
you'll think of me and smile  
You know I'm tied to you like the buttons on your blouse, keep me in  
your heart for a while  
Hold me in your thoughts, take me to your dreams  
Touch me as I fall into view  
When the winter comes, keep the fires lit  
And I will be right next to you  
Engine driver's headed north up to Pleasant Stream  
Keep me in your heart for a while  
These wheels keep turnin' but they're runnin' out of steam, keep me in  
your heart for a while.*

*by: Warren Zevon*

---

lesa - June 20, 2024 at 11:03 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of  
Joan Tyler.



---

June 18, 2024 at 08:08 PM

KH

“ *Kelly Harter lit a candle in memory of Joan Tyler*



---

**Kelly Harter** - June 18, 2024 at 03:27 PM

KH

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



---

**Kelly Harter** - June 18, 2024 at 03:27 PM

KH

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



---

**Kelly Harter** - June 18, 2024 at 03:26 PM

KH

“ *Aunt Joan was a powerhouse! She was a huge influence in both my personal and work drive to be exceed expectations.*

*Deepest Sympathy and Loving Thoughts...  
Love, Kelly*

---

**Kelly Harter** - June 18, 2024 at 03:24 PM