



Mrs. Joy Dyson Privett

December 14, 1946 - February 28, 2021

Mrs. Joy Estelle Dyson Privett of Arab, Alabama; passed away on Sunday - February 28, 2021 at the age of 74 with her loving husband and two children by her side.

She was born December 14, 1946 in Austell, Georgia to Jewell Shelnett Dyson and George Franklin Dyson Sr.

Those left to cherish her memories are her husband of over 50 years, Bill Privett, her children Shelley Privett Knox (Benjamin) and Brian Privett (Melinda); Joy was known as "Nana" to her grandchildren Andrew, Abigail, and Jackson Knox, and Elizabeth, Sydney, Kenzie Privett, Jatona Corn, and Muniru Bawa; sisters Judy Riddell (Bob) and Jolli Weaver (Rodney), and brother George Dyson Jr. (Tasha) of Georgia; along with a host of adored nieces and nephews.

Joy graduated from South Cobb High School in 1964. She continued her education at Georgia Southern University where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Special Education and received her Masters through the University of Alabama in 1976.

In addition to her beloved parents Mrs. Privett is at last reunited with her brother, David Dyson.

Joy and her family moved to Arab in 1974. Her strong desire to help others led her to a career in Special Education. She worked at Arab High School for 30 years where she touched countless lives of students. She was an active member of the Arab First United Methodist Church. Her giving spirit led her to chair many committees and service organizations. Through her love of crocheting, she created the David's Prayer Shawl Ministry in memory of her brother, providing comforting blankets for people all over the world. She assisted with the Christmas Coalition Christmas and Beyond Program and even found a way to make it happen in spite of COVID restrictions. She was on the Arab Beautification Board, assisted with the Litter Clean Up programs, and was awarded Arab Citizen of the Year. She also volunteered for Friends of the Library, The Red Cross, and Blessings in a Backpack. Joy's love for others extended across the world as she provided time and support for the people of Ghana and the Eugemot Orphanage. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren, working in her flower beds, canning vegetables, and beach trips with her loved ones.

A celebration of Joy's life will be held Saturday, March 6th, at the Arab First United Methodist Church. Visitation begins at 12 noon and a service will begin at 2:00 pm. In accordance with her wishes, Joy's ashes will be spread near the ocean at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to the Joy Privett Memorial Fund (<https://gofund.me/eae6f8c3>) which will continue to support her many ministry involvements.

Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel, Assisting the Privett Family.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR 6. 2:00 PM (CT)

Arab First United Methodist Church
1058 North Main Street
Arab, AL 35016

Tribute Wall

CL

“ To Mrs Knox, Mr. Privett & Privett Family,
Our sincere condolences and prayers on the
passing of your mother. May the peace of
God give you all strength during this difficult
time.



Michael Clark & Parents

clark - March 05, 2021 at 10:42 AM

JR

“ I am saddened to hear of Joy's passing. I remember her and Bill at
Arab High School and they both were sweet and gentle souls. Her
name said it all. She brought joy every where she went. May God
comfort the family during this difficult time.

Jeff Reynolds - March 04, 2021 at 10:52 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the
family of Mrs. Joy Dyson Privett.



March 04, 2021 at 02:28 PM

NL

“ I don't even know how to begin , first I'd like to thank God for Joy's life and all that she blessed in it. She was my Teacher my friend 🥰. I have struggled with dyslexia all my life ,with reading , spelling or writing Joy helped me changed my world, one of the many teachers that really cared enough to instill and believe in me that I can do it .. she taught me how to see my backwards words and learn in the way that I was wired. She loved me enough to take me a get my drivers license, literally went to the courthouse with me read every question in that book so that I could pass my written test what a jewel what a selfless person to take time out of her life for a student to help in the world I am a better person because of Joy I love her, I always have and I always will my heart breaks for your family, I know she's teaching someone right now in heaven, I will see you again my smart and beautiful Teacher 🥰

nancy perry liederbach - March 04, 2021 at 07:40 AM



“ Joy and I became acquainted at the tee ball field 40+ years ago. Throughout the years we grew a friendship over our children's sports and activities. I came to treasure her generosity and humor. When the 2011 tornados hit the area nobody worked more tirelessly to help those affected than Joy Privett. She was instrumental in procuring grants, food, water anything that was needed for the people of the communities. She was an angel and everyone who knew her was richer for it. I know I was.

Deborah Head - March 03, 2021 at 01:13 PM

DC

“ Had been praying for Joy and family and w broke my heart to hear of her passing. She was such a fun, joyful person as I remember her in our teenage years in Sunday School and MYF. I can see her beautiful smile and sparkling eyes. May God bless each of her family members with peace, love and comfort beyond our understanding in the days ahead.

Doris Bledsoe Couch - March 02, 2021 at 07:33 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Joy Dyson Privett.



March 02, 2021 at 04:32 PM

CB

“ Linn and I are so sorry to learn of Joy's death. We go back a long way in a lot of facets of life. We were in the same Sunday class for a long time, and remember a get together at the Reed house where Bill and Joy came with a newborn baby, Brian, in arms. She lived up to her name because she brought JOY to all who met her. She will be missed terribly but her legacy will last a long time. God bless each one of you as you transition through this tough part of life's journey. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

carolyn brannon - March 02, 2021 at 01:37 PM