



Keta Swyden

September 2, 2017

Marquette Joy "Keta" (Cohlmia) Swyden died peacefully in her home late Saturday morning with her oldest & loving son, Scott, with & caring for her as he has for years. She was 86.

Keta was born June 14, 1931 in Waynoka, Oklahoma, proud home of Little Sahara State Park. She was the baby of four children & only daughter of Charlie Shafik & Mary (Zammer) Cohlmia, who had lost two daughters as infants. She was unique from the beginning. With a beautiful singing voice & a flair to entertain, Keta was simply "contagious fun!" She was bold, outspoken & honest to a fault, and the best, most loyal friend a person could hope for; all the while keeping you on course to reach your life's potential.

Not only did she continually stay in contact with people from all walks of her life....her Waynoka classmates, her large extended family, the First Christian Church NE Oklahoma Association, and the extensive Lebanese community throughout the south and Midwest US...she kept everyone connected; organizing reunions, conventions & traveling to attend weddings, landmark anniversaries and other events.

Keta married Alex Swyden on October 4, 1959 at her home in Waynoka. They moved to Henryetta, Oklahoma where Alex owned & operated the Henryetta Bakery. She lived in Henryetta for over 40 years. Quickly making Henryetta

her home, Keta fell in love with the community and its residents. Lifelong friendships were developed quickly and along with others, she had a positive impact on this wonderful town. Keta later helped Alex in the bakery. She hired & trained front counter help and decorated cakes with a natural freehand script that was beautiful. She volunteered and was a key fundraiser for numerous community projects over the years. After tragically losing her husband, Alex, in an oilfield accident that shook the community, Keta exemplified her Christian faith by continuing to live life, help others and better the world around her. She truly impacted anyone she came in contact with.

Keta was preceded in death by her husband, Alex; her parents, Charlie, Mary, & step-mother Adele Kraker Cohlmiia; 3 brothers, Vic Cohlmiia (wife Edith), Bob Cohlmiia, & Gene Cohlmiia (wife Helen).

She is survived by two sons, Scott Swyden of Oklahoma City, & Stan Swyden (wife Kara) of Tulsa; granddaughter & apple of Keta's eye, Shelbi Alexxis Swyden; many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family members as well as a tremendous number of friends that she valued so dearly.

Keta loved life, people & most of all her Lord.

Orthodox Trisagion Prayer Service will be held at 6:30 pm Tuesday at St. Elijah Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church, 15000 N. May Ave, Okc, Ok. 73134.

Funeral service will be at 11:00 am Wednesday at First Christian Church, 412 N. 5th St., Henryetta, Ok. 74437.

If you feel led to do so, please make a contribution to St Jude Children's Research Hospital (www.stjude.org) as Keta did throughout her life.

"God loves you & so do I" - Keta

Cemetery Details

Westlawn Cemetery

2800 West Main
Henryetta, OK 74437

Previous Events

Service

SEP 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Christian Church
5th & Cummings
Henryetta, OK 74437

Tribute Wall

EG

“ *Keta was a special lady! Beautiful, vivacious, loving and more. I was in sorority with her. She was the model for our art class with Mary Wilson and she selected my portrait to keep. I was honored! I am sorry she will no longer be with you, but oh, so many memories.*
Ellen Greenley

Ellen Greenley - July 12, 2018 at 10:03 AM

CB

“ *Scott and Stan,
Oh how we all loved your dad and your mother. Special and wonderful people. Personality plus describes both of them. Loving, caring, sharing people. Always reaching out to help others. Genuinely interested in each person they met. Always took time to share a hug, a smile, and a word of encouragement. My mother worked at the Patty Ann Restaurant and oh how she loved your daddy. Treasure the wonderful and precious memories of both of them. Strive to be the sons to carry on their great legacy. Thank you both for being wonderful sons to them. God bless you both and your families.*
Carrol H. (Sonny) and Linda K. Haley Been

Carrol H. (Sonny) & Linda Kay Haley Been - September 27, 2017 at 03:17 PM



“ *Sorry for the late condolences, but I just heard of Keta's passing. My prayers and heartfelt best wishes to Keta's family and friends. Take care Scott and Stan. I'm thinking of you both.*

Floyd Blevins - September 26, 2017 at 05:30 PM

SC

“ *Scott and Stan,*

So sorry to hear of your mom's passing. She was a wonderful woman, so full of life. Prayers for your family during this difficult time.

Scott Cloud

Scott Cloud - September 07, 2017 at 12:53 PM

LM

“ *Scott, so sorry to hear of your mom's passing. I remember her jubilant personality.*

Lisa Massa Moss - September 06, 2017 at 09:09 PM

RC

“ *Roberta Clinton lit a candle in memory of Keta Swyden*



Roberta Clinton - September 06, 2017 at 04:24 PM

LS

“ *Your mom and daddy were such very special people. Good,honest,hard working, kind...so many wonderful traits that describe both of them. I first met your daddy when I was just a little girl. He delivered bread to my daddy at Safeway. On Christmas, he would make us a Christmas cake with a Santa Claus made out of sugar. I thought he hung the moon. Later, he married your mom and we grew to love her too. Both will always hold a special place in my heart. Sincerely, Linda Ferrero Spurlock*

Linda Spurlock - September 06, 2017 at 03:48 PM

BA

“ Everett will always remember when, as a young Police Officer , in the early morning hours before daylight he would WALK (as they did in those days) the alleys behind the businesses and check each door to make sure they were locked. . Alex or Keta would watch for him to come up the alley behind the Bakery and hand him a warm donut or his favorite--Alex's Crème Horn. Stan was in our daughter Cindy's class so we got to see both of them at every school event and ballgame that we all attended. Wonderful people--Wonderful memories.

Betty and Everett Allen

Betty and Everett Allen - September 05, 2017 at 12:57 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Keta Swyden.



September 05, 2017 at 11:51 AM

GD

“ I was so very sorry to hear of your mothers passing. She was quite a lady, I enjoyed talking to her on several occasions.your family is in our prayers.

Gerald and Cheryl DeVore

Gerald DeVore - September 05, 2017 at 10:12 AM

Becky
Hold

“ *Becky Hold lit a candle in memory of Keta Swyden*



Becky Hold - September 05, 2017 at 04:23 AM

MJ

“ *Mary Jobe-Bullard lit a candle in memory of Keta Swyden*



Mary Jobe-Bullard - September 04, 2017 at 09:14 PM

MJ

Beautiful lady ✨

Mary Jobe-Bullard - September 04, 2017 at 09:15 PM

LD

“ *Stan and Scott , we are so sorry to hear of "Keta's" passing! We have great memories of Keta's and Alex! They were so full of life and energy!! They were so proud of their boys!! They have left you with a great legacy to aspire to be the good people they were! You are blessed! Denny and LaDonna Dodge*

LaDonna Dodge - September 03, 2017 at 08:48 PM