



Gloria Mae Blessing

OCT 15, 1929 - DEC 25, 2021



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FLORAL HAVEN

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Gloria Mae Blessing

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Gloria Mae Blessing passed away on Saturday, December 25, 2021. As a devoted wife and involved mother, she was beloved by her family. Gloria was an advocate for children throughout her years as a teacher, impacting her student's lives far beyond the classroom.

Gloria was born in Frederic, WI in 1929 to the late Marius and Agnes Nielsen. In 1951, she graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Superior with a degree in Education and a certificate in Early Childhood. Gloria was also a member of Kappa Kappa Iota and Alpha Delta Kappa, professional teacher sororities.

Teaching children was Gloria's passion. She loved being a teacher in Manitowoc, WI, Long Beach, CA, Tachikawa, Japan, Homestead, FL, Oklahoma City and Tulsa, OK.

While teaching at the Tachikawa Air Force Base in Japan, Gloria met and fell in love with First Lieutenant John Blessing of Fort Worth, TX. After their 1955 wedding in Luck, WI, Gloria and John were stationed in Homestead, FL. Then they moved to Oklahoma City where she taught at Lincoln Elementary. In 1958, they made Tulsa their home where they raised two daughters and a son.

Gloria taught Pre-K and Kindergarten for Tulsa Public Schools at Burroughs, Riley, Lowell, and Grimes Elementary Schools.

Gloria wanted every child to have a strong foundation so that they would love reading as much as she did. She helped create TPS' Pre-K, Extended Day Kindergarten, Development Kindergarten, and Transitional First programs. She was a member of the Early Childhood Teachers Association and a 5-year Tulsa Classroom Teachers Association delegate to the National Education Association conventions. Gloria co-authored the "Time to Say



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No” curriculum, an anti-smoking guide for the American Lung Association and served on the TPS Curriculum Planning Committee for Tulsa United Way.

In addition, Gloria was an active member of Fellowship Lutheran Church and previously at Bethany Lutheran Church. She was a member of the
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American Association of University Women and many book clubs. Gloria loved to dance and was an excellent baker, bridge player, and avid volunteer. After her retirement, she became a docent, working with children at Philbrook Museum of Art, Gilcrease Museum, and the Arts and Humanities Council at the Harweldon Mansion. During retirement, Gloria and John especially enjoyed traveling abroad and spending time with their grandchildren to whom their loving, 66-year marriage is exemplary.

Gloria will be deeply missed by her husband John, her children: Karne and Jeff Beighle of Denver, CO; Shelley and Greg Bay of Summerlin, NV; and Mitchell and Kelly Blessing of Tulsa, OK; her dear grandchildren: Kyle Beighle, Paige and Ryan Schwab, Karmen and Eli Golden Bough, Eric and Hartley Blessing, and Nicole Blessing; her sister Bonita DuFresne of St. Paul, MN; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Gloria’s memorial service to celebrate her beautiful and giving life will be at Fellowship Lutheran Church, 6727 South Sheridan, on Friday, January 21, 2022 at 11am. In lieu of flowers, contributions are welcomed for Fellowship Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Trust (<https://flctulsa.org/give>) or Happy Hands Education Center, a school for children with hearing loss or communication disorders (<https://happyhands.org/>).

Memorial Service will be 11:00 AM, Friday, January 21, 2022, at Fellowship Lutheran Church, Tulsa





Events

Gloria Mae Blessing

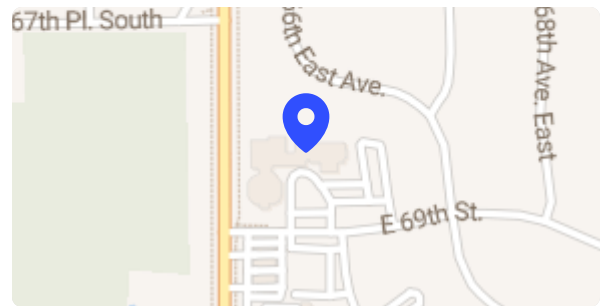
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Memorial Service

 **Friday**, January 21, 2022

 11:00 AM CT

 **Fellowship Lutheran Church**
6727 South Sheridan Road, Tulsa OK 74133





Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Blessing family.



January 20 at 7:22 AM



Von Borg posted:

Gloria and John were a tremendous support when I arrived at Bethany in 1980, and Mitch was an usher at our wedding. I am forever grateful the Blessing family's care and kindness during our time in Tulsa. With love and prayers, Von & Karen Borg

January 18 at 7:15 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Gloria by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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