



# Clara Ellen Grove

JUN 1, 1934 - MAR 18, 2025



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FLORAL HAVEN

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## Clara Ellen Grove

JUN 1, 1934 - MAR 18, 2025

Clara Ellen (Wickett) Grove was born June 1, 1934, in Marble City, Oklahoma to William Lafayette Wickett and Hazel Beatrice Wickett. She was the youngest of two children and is preceded in death by her parents, her brother Bill and her husband of 53 years Bill Grove. It takes a special person to be a coach's wife. She created an atmosphere where everyone was welcomed. Family, friends, players, it didn't matter as they were all family to her. She graduated from East Central High School in 1950 where she was actively involved in social clubs and excelled in basketball. She attended Northeastern State University, where she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority. In 1955 she began her teaching career in Tulsa. It was then that she met the love of her life, Bill Grove in Tulsa, where they were both working for Tulsa Public Schools and they married in July of 1957. Bill was an avid baseball fan and wanted to take Clara to see the Saint Louis Cardinals. She stated that she wouldn't go with him unless they were married and as they say the rest was history. In 1964, the Grove family moved to Del City where Clara taught fifth grade at Townsend Elementary for many years. She moved from Townsend to teach fifth grade at Tinker Elementary on Tinker Air Force Base. She always said teaching geography to air force kids that had seen the world was very educational for her. In 1975, the Grove family returned to Tulsa where Clara taught third grade at Briarglen Elementary in Union Public Schools where she remained until her retirement. She loved her OU Sooners, Baker Mayfield, and her Union Redskins where she and Bill were original season ticket holders. In 2014, she became an avid TU Golden Hurricane football fan when her grandson Nathan joined the team. She became a fixture at all the TU games and was known as the OG among Nathan's teammates. At first, she was offended as she thought OG meant Old Grandma but soon realized it was a term of endearment. She was a passionate bridge player (at one time was in seven separate clubs) and could often be found after a round of bridge at PJ's having

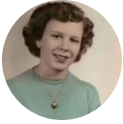


## Obituary

**Clara Ellen Grove**

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a glass of wine and "Grannie's Tacos" named in her honor. For the last five years she has been a resident at Stonehaven Assisted Living where she made numerous friends and enjoyed happy hour, dominoes and giving the staff a hard time with her quick wit and sense of humor. The family is grateful to all the staff at Stonehaven for taking such great care of her. Clara was passionate about her family and the shining light was her grandchildren, Amanda and Nathan for which the sun rose and set. She had the opportunity to see Nathan and his wife Haley welcome her great-grandson Brody to the family in 2023. She will be greatly missed by her two daughters and their husbands, Paula and Patrick Kuykendall, Patty and Lawrence Walker, and her grandchildren and great-grandchild the yellow roses of Texas, Amanda, Nathan, Haley and Brody. We love you Mom and will miss you every day. There will be a family visitation on Thursday, March 20, 2025, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, at Floral Haven Funeral Home, 6500 S. 129th East Ave, Broken Arrow, OK. Services will be held at Floral Haven Chapel on Friday, March 21, 2025, at 12:30 pm. Interment will be at Floral Haven Cemetery following the services and a reception will follow at the Floral Haven Family Center after a short graveside service. All friends of the family are invited to attend. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Clara Grove to the Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma (<https://www.gseok.org>).



# Events


**Clara Ellen Grove**

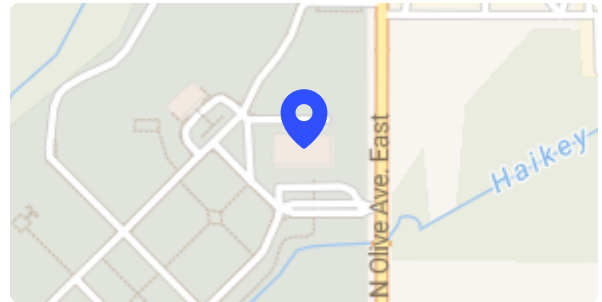
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## Visitation

 **Thursday**, March 20, 2025


 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM CT


 **Floral Haven Funeral Home**  
6500 South 129th East Avenue A, Broken Arrow  
OK 74012

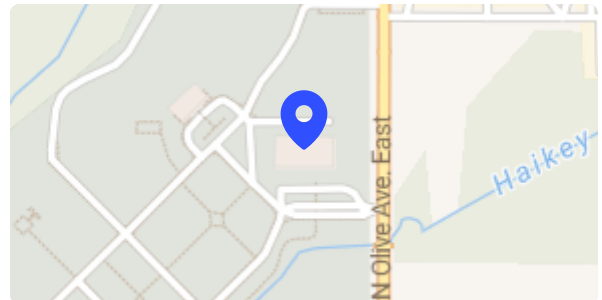


## Celebration of Life

 **Friday**, March 21, 2025


 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM CT

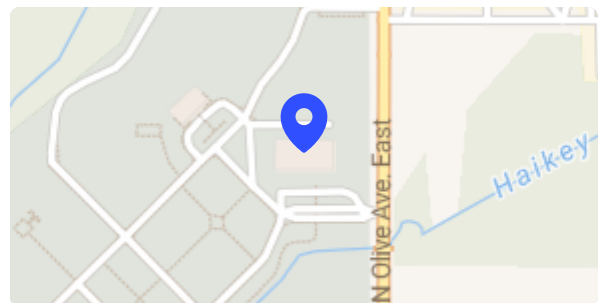
 **Floral Haven Funeral Home Chapel**  
6500 S 129th E Ave., Broken Arrow OK 74012

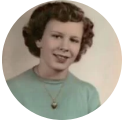


## Burial

 **Friday**, March 21, 2025

 **Floral Haven Memorial Gardens**  
6500 South 129th East Avenue, Broken Arrow OK  
74012





# Tribute Wall

**Clara Ellen Grove**

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**Jill Grissom Conover** sent a Fiery Lily and Rose to the Grove family.

March 20 at 8:16 PM



**The Burgess And Dooley Families** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Grove family.

March 20 at 5:18 PM



**The Burgess And Dooley Families** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Clara.

March 20 at 5:18 PM



**Love Cindy Shuck Pollard** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Grove family.

March 20 at 4:32 PM



**Susan J.** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Clara.

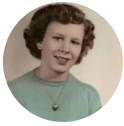
March 20 at 12:07 PM



**Carol F.** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Clara.

March 20 at 12:05 PM





# Tribute Wall

**Clara Ellen Grove**

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**Queta** sent an Arrive in Style to the Grove family.

March 20 at 11:46 AM



**From The Portillo Family** sent a Your Light Shines to the Grove family.

March 20 at 11:45 AM



**From The Portillo Family** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Clara.

March 20 at 11:45 AM



**Anonymous** sent an Arrive in Style to the Grove family.

March 20 at 11:19 AM



**Shirley, Pam, Paul And Peggy.** sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Grove family.

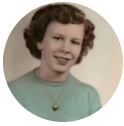
March 20 at 9:14 AM



**Peters Family, Bill & Jason Grove** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Grove family.

March 20 at 9:05 AM





## Tribute Wall

**Clara Ellen Grove**

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**Anonymous** sent an Ocean Breeze Spray to the Grove family.

March 20 at 8:04 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Basket of Memories to the Grove family.

March 19 at 8:55 PM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Clara.

March 19 at 8:55 PM



**KJ**

**Kim J.** sent a Tender Tribute to the Grove family.

March 19 at 8:50 PM



**KJ**

**Kim J.** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Clara.

March 19 at 8:50 PM

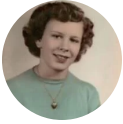


**KK**

**Kile, Cassie & Kaylee Kuykendall** sent a Forever Our Angel Bouquet to the Grove family.

March 19 at 5:56 PM





# Tribute Wall

**Clara Ellen Grove**

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**Sandy And Bob Smith** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Grove family.

March 19 at 4:17 PM



**Sandy And Bob Smith** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Clara.

March 19 at 4:17 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Grove family.

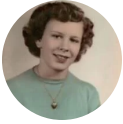
March 19 at 4:08 PM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Clara.

March 19 at 4:08 PM





## Tribute Wall

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DD

**Diane Dodrill** posted:

Clara was the kind of person who didn't need to be anything but herself, and that's what made her unforgettable. From the very first time I met Clara and Bill, I knew there was something special about her. She loved to tell the story about how, one Sunday morning, she was driving by Faith Church when she heard a voice say, "Turn here!" And that's exactly what she did. When Bill asked her, "What are you doing?" she didn't hesitate: "Well, I guess we're going to church!" And they did—week after week, without fail, until Clara couldn't physically make it anymore. Clara always told me how that church saved her after losing Bill, but I always reminded her that she saved us. Despite being my mother's age, Clara became one of my very best friends. She had this incredible ability to connect with anyone, no matter their background, their age, or where they came from. Clara also had a way of breaking down barriers, making you feel like you'd known her forever, and turning every gathering into an opportunity to make new friends. You never sat with Clara without meeting someone new—and you always left with a few more friends than you came with. She just had that gift, that energy, that warmth. But Clara wasn't one to beat around the bush, either. She was blunt, direct, and she knew exactly what she wanted. If she didn't like something, you knew it. If she thought something needed to be said, she'd say it—and you'd better believe it was always with her signature wit and charm. Clara wasn't shy, she wasn't quiet, and she never sugar-coated a thing. But even in her boldness, there was always a twinkle in her eye, a sense of humor that made you laugh, even when she was teasing you. Her quick wit, her ability to remember every detail from a conversation and bring it up months later to get a laugh or to make a connection—those were just a few of the things that made Clara, Clara. She didn't just speak her mind—she did it in a way that made you laugh, think, and feel loved all at the same time. You always knew where you stood with her, and that was something rare. She was relentless in the best way. If she wanted something, she went after it, and she didn't hesitate to go after what mattered. But for all her boldness, Clara's heart was bigger than anything. There was nothing she wouldn't share, whether it was her time, her energy, her hospitality, or her daughter's hospitality. She made you feel like you were family, and that same generosity passed on to her daughters, who are just as kind and generous as she was. Bill and Clara truly raised good people, and that's something special. Even though I'm heartbroken at the thought of losing Clara, I can't help but feel at peace for her. She lived a full, vibrant life, always surrounded by friends, laughter, and love. But I know that she missed Bill, and now, she's finally with him again. I can just imagine the reunion—probably something along the lines of, "Well, it's about time!" Clara, you lived life exactly as you wanted—boldly, unapologetically, and with a heart full of love. The world is a little quieter without you, but I know you are reunited with Bill, your most favorite of loves. Rest easy, my dear friend. You were a true gift to me, and you will never be forgotten.

March 19 at 3:22 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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