



## Lawonda Jo Saunders

December 30, 1931 - February 18, 2017

Lawonda Jo Saunders, 85, passed away on February 18, 2017 at home surrounded by her children in Tulsa, OK. She was born December 30, 1931 in Vinita, OK to Alvin and Lena (Farmer) Raulston. Lawonda "Jo" grew up in Vinita, graduated from high school in 1949 and took classes at Oklahoma A&M in Stillwater, OK. Jo married Forest Eugene Saunders December 31, 1948 in Miami, Ok. She was a loving and devoted wife for 31 years. Her greatest passion was being a mother to her children and in her spare time enjoyed bowling, fishing, and painting. She worked for Shell Oil Credit Card Center as a Fraud Investigator where she retired after 20 years. She moved to Houston, TX in 1996 to care for her twin grandsons, Brandon and Justin Saunders where she spent 7 years teaching and caring for them. She was loved by all of the pre-school staff that knew her. Jo was preceded in death by her parents, Alvin and Lena Raulston, her husband of 31 years Forest Eugene Saunders, her son Stanley Saunders, and her sister Gayle Norfleet. Jo is survived by her daughters Debbie and Anita Saunders of Tulsa, OK; her son Brad (Mary) Saunders of Sugar Land, TX; her sister Freida Vanover of Seattle, WA; her grandchildren Brandon and Justin Saunders; nieces, nephews, other relatives and many dear friends. Referred to as "MamaJo" by many, she will be remembered as a selfless, gracious and loving person always putting others first. She was quick-witted with an infectious laugh and you knew there was always a bit of playful orneriness just below the surface. Her family is comforted knowing that she is with God and the angels for she was an angel here on earth. A memorial service is pending. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial donations be made to Susan G Komen via this online donation site. Condolences may be left on Lawonda Jo's online guest book at <http://www.floralhaven.com>.

# Comments

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“ So many good memories when I was a little boy. Mowing the yard was my 1st job . Lol , 20 bucks to mow it and pick up sticks , and then we would go play bingo ?? some times she took me bowling too, that was super fun. I had a bad habit of jumping around in the house making noise cause the house off 21st had wood floors. She was like another grandmother in my life as a kid. I feel blessed to have been in her life.

glenn - March 11, 2017 at 10:32 AM

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“ I've been friends with Jo since about 1985 when she trained me in fraud st Shell Oil. Jo was a wonderful person and very clever and quick witted. We traveled together to several states she loved horse racing and she was my fishing buddy, and fished together at the Shell Oil fishing tournament. She loved cruising in the Ranger and we always had a wonderful lunch packed. Jo was a great dancer and enjoyed music. She was a wonderful friend and was loved by me and my family especially my son Glenn. Our condolences to her family and pray you have peace in your hearts

patty elkins - March 10, 2017 at 07:27 PM

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“ Jo and I became friend around 1985 at Shell Oil when she trained me in the fraud dept. We took several trips together she loved to travel. She loved the horse races and she was a good fishing buddy. We were in the Shell fishing tournament together and enjoyed our outings in the Ranger. Jo was very clever and quick witted and I loved to hear her laugh. Jo loved dancing and good music and was a kind and caring person. She loved her family and friends. I will always remember her with love, and so will my family, especially Glenn.

patty elkins - March 10, 2017 at 05:56 PM

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“ Jo and I became good friends around 1985. We took several trips together throughout the years. We were fishing buddies and were in the Shell Oil fishing tournament together. She was a Star on the dance floor and loved having fun. Jo trained me in the fraud dept so we spent a lot of time together. I will remember all the time we shared as friends she was sweet and kind hearted and loved her family and friends. I loved to hear her laugh, she was special to me and my family. We loved her and she will be missed.

**patty elkins** - March 10, 2017 at 05:25 PM

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“ Lit a candle in memory of Lawonda Jo Saunders

**Linda Haremza ( Hurst)** - March 09, 2017 at 02:40 PM

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“ I didn't know "MamaJo" as well as most, but loved seeing her enjoy the Greek festival and also enjoyed visiting with her the times I stayed with her at the hospital or visited the house. From the photos Debbie and Anita have posted over the years, you can tell that she was a happy and beautiful woman. I'm glad she got to vote for Hillary in 2016. And I'm so proud of how much her beautiful daughters loved her and cared for her. To Debbie and Anita – you girls rock. Life will be different without MamaJo there, but I hope your amazing memories and stories will carry you through. Much love from me and Demetrius. HUGS!!!!

**Lori Cain** - February 25, 2017 at 11:43 AM

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“ Jo was such a sweet neighbor and I am honored to have know her. My condolences to her family who loved her. I know it is especially hard for her caregivers Anita and Debbie. Vicki

**Vicki Tapp** - February 24, 2017 at 09:43 PM