



The Alford American Family Association

Serving the Alford community over 25 Years
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Bessie Geraldine "Jerry" Lewellen Graves

AAFA #0109

Founding Member

April 10, 1933 - Jan. 24, 2017

Obituary

Mrs. Graves is survived by her daughter, Jana Kay Hunt and husband Jim of Ft. Worth; son, Johnny Lee Graves of Dallas; step-daughter, Sandra McAllister of Carthage;



daughter-in-law, Paula Beth Pinkerton Kimmey of Tyler; grandchildren Chris Hunt of College Station, Samantha Graves of Plano, Christina Kimmey Britt and husband Eric of Tyler, Will Kimmey of Tyler, and Bethany Kimmey of Fayetteville, Ark.; numerous nieces, nephews, great-grandchildren and many other relatives and a host of friends.

Funeral services for Mrs. Bessie Geraldine "Jerry" Graves, 83, of Azle, Texas formerly of Gary, Texas will be 2:00 p.m., Saturday, January 28, 2017 at the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church with Rev. Rick Linebarger officiating. Burial will follow in the Gary Cemetery under the direction of Hawthorn Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 6-8:00 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Mrs. Graves

passed away January 24, 2017 in Azle.

Mrs. Bessie Geraldine Lewellen Graves was born April 10, 1933 in Shields, Texas to Barney Leroy and Bessie Myrtle Alford Lewellen. She married Lee Owens Graves on May 25, 1968 in Daingerfield, Texas and together they celebrated 44 years until he preceded her in death on November 20, 2012. Mrs. Graves worked for the Panola County Clerk's office for 12 years and served as the Chief Deputy County Clerk. She was a member of the Eastern Star, Past Matrons and Patrons Association District 1, Panola County Historical and Genealogical Association, Timpson Area Genealogical Society, East Texas Genealogical Society and the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church. Mrs. Graves is also preceded in death by her parents; sons, Jeffrey Kimmey and Richard Jay Kimmey; grandson, Eric Jay Kimmey; brother, Oran Leroy Lewellen; and sisters, Billy Faye McDonnell and Shirley Joyce Merryman.

Serving as pallbearers will be Bobby Strong, Eric Britt, Jackie McDonnell, Karl Oney, Christopher Hunt and Will Kimmey.

Honorary pallbearers will be Robert Fugler, Greg Windham, Scotty Bates and Don Bates.

Hawthorn Funeral Home, Carthage, TX.

Published in The Panola Watchmen on Jan. 27, 2017.

Copied from [The Panola Watchman](#) web page.

Personal Data

Birth: 10 Apr 1933
Shields, Coleman County, Texas, USA
Death: 24 Jan 2017 (aged 83)
Azle, Tarrant County, Texas, USA
Burial: Gary Cemetery
Gary, Panola County, Texas, USA
Memorial ID: 175665580



Inscription: IN THE ARMS OF THE FATHER
SINGING WITH THE ANGELS

Photo Added by: [KD Burleson](#) on 8 Mar 2017

Family Members

- Parents
Barney Leroy Lewellen, 1904–1978
Bessie Myrtle Alford, 1901–1984

- Spouses
Jimme y Dick Kimmey, 1929–1984 (m. 1955)
Lee Owens Graves, 1929–2012 (m. 1968)
- Siblings
Billie Faye Lewellen McGonnell, 1927–2005
Henry Oran Leroy Lewellen, 1928–1994
Shirley Joyce Lewellen Merryman, 1935–2014
- Children
Jeffrey Kimmey, 1959–2009
Richard Jay Kimmey, 1960–2010
Jana Kay Kimmey Holland
Johnny Lee Graves

Information copied from the [Find-A-Grave](#) and [Ancestry](#) web pages.

AAFA Notes:

1. Geraldine's mother's Alford lineage: Bessie Myrtle 1901 TX¹, William Lovel 1865 MO², Gabriel 1831 KY³, Jesse 1793 KY⁴, Jacob 1757 VA⁵, James 1715 VA⁶.

Miscellaneous Data

Photos of Lee and Geraldine Graves from the [Ancestry](#) web page.



Psalm 23
*The Lord is my shepherd;
 I shall not want.*
*He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
 He leadeth me beside the still waters.*
*He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me
 in the path of righteousness for His
 name's sake.*
*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
 shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
 for Thou art with me; Thy rod and
 Thy staff they comfort me.*
*Thou preparest a table before me
 in the presence of mine enemies:
 Thou anointest my head with oil;
 my cup runneth over.*
*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
 all the days of my life; and I will dwell
 in the house of the Lord forever.*



To Those I Love and Those Who Love Me

*When I am gone, release me, let me go
 I have so many things to see and do.
 You wasn't tie yourself to me with tears,
 Be happy that we had so many years.
 I gave you my love, you can only guess
 How much you gave me in happiness.
 But now it's time I traveled on alone.
 So grieve awhile for me if grieve you must,
 Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
 It's only for a while that we must part,
 So bless the memories within your heart.
 I won't be far away, for life goes on.
 So if you need me, call and I will come.
 Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near.
 And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear,
 All of my love around you soft and clear.
 And then when you must come this way alone,
 I'll greet you with a smile, and "Welcome Home".*




 Mrs. Bessie Geraldine Graves

Copied from her [Ancestry](#) web page.