



Ellen "Dee Dee, Deanie" Guard

July 29, 1953 - May 17, 2025

Ellen (Dee Dee, Deanie) Guard, was born in Columbia, South Carolina and the family moved to Amarillo, Texas while she was still an infant. She was the oldest of 4 children.

She met her best friend, Christy Gruver in grade school and maintained that relationship for 60 years. Dee Dee attended La Mirada High School, in La Mirada, California and graduated in 1973.

She had a career in data processing for many years. Dee Dee met Rick Guard in 1991 and after a brief courtship, Rick asked Dee Dee to marry him while camping in a tent with his dog Callie. They married on December 31, 1993 and were married for 31 years and they were the loves of each other's life.

Dee Dee loved her dogs, (notably Bindi & Bailey), her grandchildren Kyle, Owen & Olivia, her husband, Rick & country music. She loved to dance with Rick and they spent many years on the dance floor together. Dee Dee loved to plan get togethers, whether it was for the holidays, football Sunday, birthdays or just because she felt like it was time for a get together. They left California to continue their life together in Providence, Utah in 2012.

Dee Dee so loved the many friends and neighbors in Utah. But due to her

illness, they relocated to Amarillo, Texas in 2022. Amarillo is where friends and family would provide comfort as she battled various ailments for 3 years.

Grandma Dee Dee was so very proud of her three grandchildren, all of whom are in college and that made her so happy. Dee Dee will be remembered for her wonderful smile, infectious laugh and general good-natured disposition. She had quite the following on Facebook as she kept them all amused with her comments and funnies.

More importantly, Dee Dee will be remembered for being a loving sister, mother, grandmother & wife.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Howard and Gladys Kerr; her parents, Lee and Veda Brazell and a brother, Lee Brazell Jr.

Dee Dee is survived by her husband, Rick Guard; daughter, Christy Vandesande and husband Bart of Laguna Beach, California; son, Jeremy Thaxton of Amarillo, Texas; two sisters, Janet Purchase and Connie Couch both of Bullhead, Arizona; nephew, Daniel Thompson of Temecula, California and three beloved grandchildren, Kyle Vandesande, Owen Vandesande and Olivia Vandesande.

She will be so very missed by all who knew and loved her.

In Lieu of Flowers, the family encourages a donation to:

Paws and Claws Animal Rescue of Quay County INC.

PO Box 143

Tucumcari, New Mexico 88401

505-235-4338

<https://www.pawsandclawsanimalrescueofquaycounty.org/donate>

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Services

AUG 13. 2:00 PM (CT)

Shafer Mortuary Services Funeral Home
1502 South Cleveland Street
Amarillo, TX 79102

Tribute Wall

NC

“ *Newcomb Spring of Carolina purchased the Touching Tribute Spray for the family of Ellen "Dee Dee, Deanie" Guard.*



Newcomb Spring of Carolina - August 11, 2025 at 03:43 PM

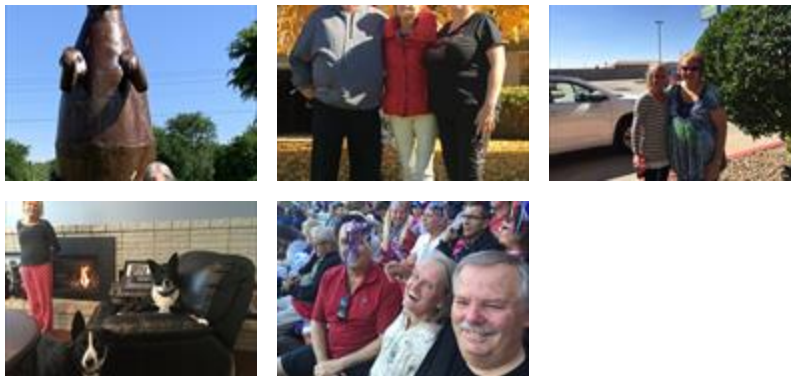
DI

“ *Those that knew Dee Dee, knew her laugh was genuine and her heart was enormous. She was loved by many and will be missed by all. I still get a smile on my face thinking of those wonderful meals we shared together. Sending our love to Rick and the entire family.*
Don and Sara Jacobson

Donald Jacobson III - May 27, 2025 at 05:11 PM

RG

“ *10 files added to the tribute wall*



Rick Guard - May 21, 2025 at 03:23 PM

BH

Rick, you and DeeDee had such a great time together and she will be missed by us all. I know she had a tough time these last few years, but she could not have asked for a better life partner than you. Our hearts go out to you for your loss.

One of my best memories of her is when we went snorkeling in the Bahamas after one of our General Managers' meetings there. Quite a few years back, but the memories will last forever. Our condolences to you and all of her family.

Bob and Gaila.

Bob Herrmann - May 23, 2025 at 09:22 PM