



Mary Amelia Waddell

August 5, 1946 - December 10, 2020

Mary Amelia (Montoya) Waddell went to be with the Lord on December 9, 2020.

A Life Celebration Service will be held at the Curryville Presbyterian Church at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 13, 2020, followed by a private graveside service. Shonda Galloway will officiate. Bibb-Veach Funeral Home of Bowling Green is handling the arrangements.

Mary was born on August 5, 1946, the eldest child of Wilma Gardinia (Sparks) and Benjamin Lawrence Montoya in Monterrey Park, CA. She had one brother Benjamin Lawrence Jr. (Dani), he survives. She was later joined by a step mother, Shirley, and siblings Zenda Montoya and Carlton Montoya, all surviving. She had two very special aunts, Nettie Brackett and Loyaluia Brown. Loyaluia survives.

Mary attended schools in California, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. She graduated high school in 1964 in Fort Smith, Arkansas. She received a Bachelors Degree in Speech Pathology and Elementary Education from Northeastern University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. She later received her Masters Degree from Webster University.

Mary came to Missouri in 1968 to teach in Vandalia. In 1972 she transferred to

the Bowling Green School District where she taught for the remainder of her 33 years. Ten of those years she served the Champ Clark Board as Executive Director of the Learning Center for Early Childhood Education. During this time she established an inclusive education and daycare setting for children in Pike and surrounding counties. This program was used as a model in various areas of the state. She considered this to be one of her proudest educational moments.

Mary met and married John Henry Waddell in August 1970, and they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary earlier this year. To this union was born her proudest accomplishments, John David (Angie) and James Lawrence (Sarah). She felt her greatest legacy was her 11 grandchildren. John Brett, Ashlee Amelia (Zach Crader), Lillian Abigail, Madisyn Elizabeth, Mathew Ryan, Mara Grayce, Bennet Michael, Brennah Marie, Grant Maclin, Makenna Faith, and Elliot Micah. She is expecting a granddaughter February 2021.

Faith played an important role in Mary's life. She was baptized into the Church of Christ when she was eight years old. Later, after marrying John, she became a member of the Curryville Presbyterian Church where she served in whatever capacity she was needed. After retiring from teaching, she began lay ministry filling pulpits in Pike County and surrounding areas.

Throughout her life, Mary participated in various organizations. A.A.U.W., B.P.W, Heir Study Club, and P.E.O. She was an active volunteer in 4-H and in the Curryville Community Organizations. She helped establish the Little Red School House.

When asked what she wanted to be remembered for, she said, "I loved God with all of my heart, my soul, and my might and that I loved my family."

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to the Curryville Presbyterian Church.

Cemetery Details

Curryville Cemetery

Curryville, MO 63339

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Gathering

DEC 13. 2:00 PM (CT)

Curryville Presbyterian Church
Curryville, MO 63339

Tribute Wall

WO

“ She was my idol. While in grade school she helped me with my stammering problem, in which I couldn't thank her enough. Thanks to her I can engage in conversation without any problems. I owe it all to God and her. She will be remembered. Forever grateful.
William Overton. 😊

William Overton - December 14, 2020 at 10:19 PM

BK

“ Plain and simple, Mary Waddell was one of the best teachers I have had the privilege to work with in my years as an educator. Children with special needs were her specialty and she could work miracles with them. She knew the skills and abilities they needed to be a productive member of our world and worked tirelessly to help each one achieve all they could. She helped her students learn the value of cleanliness, manners and respect. I learned what "special education" was supposed to be by watching Mary teach. To the Montoya family, I "thank you" for sharing Mary with us. She is a treasure,

Bob Kirkpatrick, former principal and coworker,

Bob Kirkpatrick - December 13, 2020 at 03:46 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Amelia Waddell.



December 12, 2020 at 08:23 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Amelia Waddell.*



December 11, 2020 at 04:26 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Amelia Waddell.*



December 11, 2020 at 11:28 AM



“ *Ben, Dani, Shirley, Zenda and Carlton Montoya. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mary Amelia Waddell.*



Ben, Dani, Shirley, Zenda and Carlton Montoya. - December 11, 2020 at 10:05 AM



“ *Clayton and I extend our deepest sympathy to the Waddell family. Please know that we will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. Sincerely,
Clayton & JoEllen Storch*

Clayton & JoEllen Storch - December 11, 2020 at 08:53 AM

LO

*Sending my sincere condolences to John Henry and family.
Linda Oberman*

Linda Oberman - December 11, 2020 at 03:32 PM

DC

“ *I am sorry to hear of the death of this good person. My sympathy goes to her family and friends. I am sure the Curryville Presbyterian Church will miss her She tried to do the good thing and was of help to many people. D. Randall Cone, Louisiana, MO*

D. Randall Cone - December 11, 2020 at 07:52 AM

PB

“ *So sorry to hear this news. John and Mary are our neighbors down the road. Years ago, following a huge snowfall, Joe and I got stuck in a big drift in front of their house. Mary and I shared hot chocolate and pleasant conversation while John pulled us out with his tractor. I always admired her as a teacher. She was a true professional in the field of education. She was such a great role model for others - in the schools, in her community and in her church. Rest in Peace beautiful lady!*

Paulette R Bruch - December 10, 2020 at 11:25 PM

TD

“ *Tom And Jean Dempsey sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Amelia Waddell*



Tom and Jean Dempsey - December 10, 2020 at 09:06 PM

EG

“ *Such a nice lady, I will miss her at the spring breakfast for the different Churches.*

Ernestine Grimmert - December 10, 2020 at 08:57 PM

JG

My favorite teacher of all. I will miss you but not forgotten

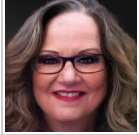
Jimmy Wayne Grimmert - December 11, 2020 at 10:21 AM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Mary Amelia Waddell.*



December 10, 2020 at 08:02 PM



“ Being my sister, I have so many.....and I admire her for so many qualities she had....one being, and you will need to know this about me, but I am horrible with dates and numbers, I barely remember my own birthday but not Amelia(what I called her) loving her name....she absolutely never forgot dates and was so wonderful at sending cards or texts saying she was thinking about you on all those dates.....sometimes it took me a little time to figure out what date she was talking about.....I will dearly miss those reminders for and thoughts she gave.....I always thought she was truly the perfect sister.....Her heart was sooooooooooooo big, I often wondered how it held so much love....I often teased herof just ask Amelia any question and she would be able to answer it, she truly was an inspiration of knowledge....I could fill this page with all the memories so lets say she had many legacies all of which we will sorely miss.....with comfort I know she does not have to suffer any longer....Love ya Sis!

Zenda Adams - December 10, 2020 at 07:52 PM



“ Peggy Perkins lit a candle in memory of Mary Amelia Waddell



Peggy Perkins - December 10, 2020 at 06:27 PM



“ Ellen Orf lit a candle in memory of Mary Amelia Waddell



Ellen Orf - December 10, 2020 at 05:35 PM



“ *Large Heart - 'Death leaves a heartache' was purchased for the family of Mary Amelia Waddell.*



December 10, 2020 at 05:03 PM



“ *Candy Reading Thornton lit a candle in memory of Mary Amelia Waddell*



Candy Reading Thornton - December 10, 2020 at 04:58 PM



“ *The Val Crader Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mary Amelia Waddell.*



The Val Crader Family - December 10, 2020 at 04:53 PM