



Candace Karen Thornton

September 29, 1958 - January 6, 2012

Funeral services for Candace Thornton, 53 of Lexington, Texas, are scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at the First Baptist Church in Lexington with Rev. Gary Roe officiating. Burial will follow in the Lexington Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Sunday, January 8, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings. The Thornton family will be present from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Visitation will also be held on Monday, January 9, 2012 from 7:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings and from 1:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Lexington. A Celebration of Life Service will be held Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Lexington. Candace Karen Thornton was born on September 29, 1958 in Giddings, Texas to Martin & Karen Kappler Jr.. She graduated from Lanier High School in 1976 and was united in marriage to Benjamin Thornton on May 21, 1978 at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Austin, Texas. Their marriage was blessed with two children, Shaina & Chase. Candace, along with Candy Biehle, owned and operated Forget Me Not Flowers in Lexington for several years before she received her Bachelors Degree in Education from Southwest Texas University. She was employed briefly at Elgin High School as a teacher and coach before joining the faculty at Lexington High School. Candace was the only Government and Economics teacher for the Senior Class and was the AP Government and AP Economics teacher and a coach at Lexington for 12 years. As the head softball coach, she led the Lady Eagles to their first

ever State Semi Finals. Candace was currently employed with the First Baptist Church in Lexington as their office manager. She was always active in the community and all anyone had to do was ask and she would help in any way she could. Following the death of their son Chase in 2003, Candace and Bennie established the Chase Thornton Foundation which provided scholarships to area students and also purchased the Lexington ISD baseball scoreboard. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Lexington and was especially involved in the church's youth program. Candace served as the treasurer of the Lexington Cemetery Association and was a member of the Lee County Ministerial Alliance and the Lexington Chamber of Commerce. She was actively involved in the Lee County Cancer Resource Center and was a model in their annual calendar event. Candace enjoyed shopping, motorcycle riding and collecting unique crosses. She treasured the relationships she had with others and "adopted" many of the kids in the community and treated them as her own. Candace passed away the afternoon of Friday, January 6, 2012, surrounded by her family, at her home in Lexington. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Martin & Clara Kappler; her father, Martin Kappler Jr. and her son, Chase Thornton. Candace is survived by her husband, Bennie Thornton of Lexington; her daughter and son-in-law, Shaina & Clint Stampert of Lexington; mother, Karen Charles of Austin; three sisters, Cary Mikan & her husband, Don of Austin, Stacy Cilek & her husband, Ray of Austin and Marchelle Kappler & her partner, Mernel Lovell of Pflugerville; her aunt, Juanita Anderson of Cameron; her cousin, who she thought of more as a sister, Georgeena Arnett & her husband, Mike of Lexington and their children, Katy Carter & her husband, Clay of Lexington and Kenny Mingus & his wife, Heather of Cameron. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews. Serving as pallbearers will be Jason Holcomb, J.C. Washington, Kenny Mingus, Clay Carter, Mike Arnett, Hollins Spence, Lanny Ladesma and Larry Ladesma. Mike Anderson as well as Eddie Rodriguez and Tiffany Evans, who are both currently serving our country overseas in the United States Armed Forces, are considered honorary

pallbearers. Memorials may be made in Candace's memory to the Lee County Cancer Resource Center, 165 West Austin Street, Giddings, Texas 78942 or the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 175, Giddings, Texas 78942.

Tribute Wall

SB

“ *Candace Karen Thornton*

Sharon & Gerald Birkelbach - January 11, 2012 at 01:45 PM

CK

“ *Candace Karen Thornton*

Carolyn McMains Koepf - January 10, 2012 at 07:21 PM

PJ

“ *Candace Karen Thornton*

Pam Jatzlau - January 10, 2012 at 03:20 PM

TM

“ *Candace Karen Thornton*

Tammy Marburger Markert - January 10, 2012 at 02:03 PM

DM

“ *Candace Karen Thornton*

Dwayne and Tracey Marcantel - January 10, 2012 at 11:27 AM

RC

“ *Candace Karen Thornton*

Robin Conger - January 10, 2012 at 09:20 AM

KB

“ *Candace Karen Thornton*

Keith Bible - January 09, 2012 at 11:42 PM

JJ

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Joanna Sampson Johnson - January 09, 2012 at 10:08 PM

RB

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Roni Bumpas - January 09, 2012 at 05:31 PM

KB

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Katherine Taylor Burson - January 09, 2012 at 05:15 PM

PH

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Paxton Hnedrix - January 09, 2012 at 04:47 PM

ST

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Shelley Thomason-Lewis - January 09, 2012 at 03:34 PM

JP

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Jean Patterson - January 09, 2012 at 03:14 PM

GC

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Gena Curtis - January 09, 2012 at 12:42 PM

DB

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Deb Buchman - January 09, 2012 at 09:53 AM

PA

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Patti Ayres - January 09, 2012 at 12:22 AM

DD

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Duke & Dianne Dismukes - January 08, 2012 at 08:18 PM

KD

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Kimberly Kastner Dorsett - January 08, 2012 at 01:55 PM

ML

“ Candace Karen Thornton

manuel & renee ledesma - January 08, 2012 at 12:54 PM

KP

“ Candace Karen Thornton

Kenneth and Debbie Perry - January 08, 2012 at 01:59 AM

RD

“ Candace Karen Thornton

rene cilek dymale - January 07, 2012 at 11:00 PM

PC

“ *Candace Karen Thornton*

Pam Wehring Cantrell - January 07, 2012 at 09:42 PM

RM

“ *Candace Karen Thornton*

Ruth Ann Marshall - January 07, 2012 at 07:53 PM

LM

“ *Candace Karen Thornton*

Lavonne Droemer Morrow - January 07, 2012 at 06:06 PM