



Carolyn Christine Ostendorf

April 6, 1943 - November 9, 2025

Carolyn “Penny” Ostendorf (Pennington), age 82, of Rockdale, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family, on Sunday, November 9, 2025.

Carolyn was born on April 6, 1943, in Milam County, Texas, in Sandy Creek to Dona Evelyn Davis and Cloyce Edward Pennington.

Carolyn grew up in Rockdale, where she graduated from Rockdale High School in 1961 and was a celebrated basketball player. She devoted her career to helping others and made a lasting impact on countless lives through her work in mental health services. Her caring spirit, infectious humor, and unwavering love touched everyone who knew her. Carolyn found her greatest joy in spending time with her family, who were the light of her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother, Elvin “Skip” Morrison, and daughter, Jennifer Ostendorf Dodd.

She is survived by her son Jeff Ostendorf and wife, Taryn Ostendorf; her grandchildren, Allison Dodd, Kimberly Ostendorf, Katie Ostendorf, Saige Ostendorf, and William Ostendorf; and her great-grandchildren Bryson Foley and Anastasia Quiroz.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Monday, November 17, 2025, from 5:30

p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at:
New Salem Building at Fair Park
200 Walnut Street
Rockdale, TX 76567

Flowers for the family can be sent to Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in
Rockdale, Texas.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

NOV 17. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

New Salem Building
200 Walnut St.
Rockdale, TX 76567

Tribute Wall

TB

“ Carolyn was such a wonderful and caring person. She knew how to laugh and have fun! She used to babysit my girls for a while, and they loved to watch movies with her and listen to her sing songs. She had a way of making everyone around her feel special. Carolyn always talked about how much she loved her family, and that is the beautiful legacy she leaves behind. I feel lucky to have known her and call her my friend !

Tammy Bean - November 17, 2025 at 03:08 PM

PM

“ Jeff and family I'm so very sorry for your loss. I use to work for your grandma Evelyn that's how I met Carolyn she always has a smile on her face. When I would tell her about some of the things Evelyn would say we would laugh so hard. We stayed in touch with each other. RIP sweetie I love you.



Peggy Morrison - November 16, 2025 at 02:41 PM

DD

“ You will be so missed and always remembered. She was so much fun to be around. I wish we could have spent more time together. I love you and know we will see each other again in the future. My favorite cousin starting when i was young. Donna and family.



Donna Dean - November 14, 2025 at 10:33 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Carolyn Christine Ostendorf.*



November 13, 2025 at 09:03 PM



“ *The Lozanos planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Carolyn Christine Ostendorf.*

The Lozanos - November 13, 2025 at 09:03 PM



“ *To The Family Of Carolyn PENNY So Sorry For Your Loss. Penny And I Were Class Mates, Class Of 61, Rockdale High School. We Would Get Together And Reminisce Anout The Old Days And Laugh A Lot And Cry A Little. PENNY WAS A LOVING CARING PERSON. She Dearly Loved Her Family And Was So Proud Of All Of Them. Rest In PEACE PENNY. Barbara Gross.*

Barb Gross - November 13, 2025 at 10:26 AM



“ *Carolyn I enjoyed taking care of you we had alot of good times the days I helped you I will never forget your kindness and your family love you gelenda*

gelenda fincher - November 12, 2025 at 04:02 PM

LS

“ Leon And Carrie Schneider lit a candle in memory of Carolyn Christine Ostendorf



Leon and Carrie Schneider - November 12, 2025 at 03:38 PM

MC

“ Michelle Collier lit a candle in memory of Carolyn Christine Ostendorf



Michelle Collier - November 12, 2025 at 02:07 PM