



## Gladiola Mertz Bednar

December 31, 1937 - September 14, 2021

Gladiola Bednar, 83, of Caldwell, went to be with our Lord and Savior on September 14, 2021 surrounded by family. Services will be Saturday, September 18, 2021, at 1:00 at Elizabeth Lutheran Church in Caldwell with Pastor Terry Bage officiating. Visitation will be Saturday 12:00 noon at the church prior to the funeral service. Burial will follow at Elizabeth Lutheran Cemetery.

Gladiola Mertz was born December 31, 1937, in Latium, TX, in Washington County to Alfred and Rena Mertz, joining her older brother Eugene. She graduated from Burton High School in 1956. She met her husband of 60 years, Hubert Bednar of Caldwell, at La Bahia dance hall in Washington County. They married on May 13, 1961, at Greenvine Emmanuel Lutheran Church Greenvine. In 1962, they welcomed their first child, LaVell, followed by Carolyn in 1964 and Hubert Jr. in 1967.

Prior to marriage, Gladiola lived and worked in Houston after completing business courses. Throughout their marriage, she worked by Hubert's side and was an indispensable helper in building their business, Bednar Welding and Machine. She enjoyed gardening and growing roses, as well as baking, particularly cookies and her legendary dinner rolls. Also, anyone who knew Gladiola knew she liked her Dr. Pepper. Traveling was another favorite activity. She and Hubert went to Europe several times, which allowed her to

practice the German she grew up speaking, and they traveled to many polka festivals and dances where they enjoyed spending time with their friends. Gladiola was an expert at shopping for bargains at Dillard's and thrift shops, and her children often benefitted from her deals. At festivals, she and her friend Debra walked for miles looking for special outfits. Her presence at the dances will be missed.

Gladiola is preceded in death by her parents, Alfred and Rena Mertz, and her brother, Eugene Mertz. She is survived by her spouse of 60 years, Hubert; her daughters and sons-in-law LaVell and Byron Sommerlatte of Caldwell and Carolyn and Glen Wood of Spring; and her son and daughter-in-law, Hubert and Bliss Bednar of Caldwell. Grandchildren are Kyle Sommerlatte of Houston; Curtis Sommerlatte and spouse Ashley Inglehart of Tallahassee, FL; Glen Wood and fiancée Lauren Gregg of Spring; Heather and Joshua Larkin of Bellingham, WA; and Shelby Bednar of Waco. She has two great-grandchildren, William Larkin and Freya Wood.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Elizabeth Lutheran Church. Express condolences at [Phillipsandluckey.com](http://Phillipsandluckey.com).

# Previous Events

## Public Visitation

SEP 18. 12:00 PM (CT)

Elizabeth Lutheran Church  
Elizabeth Lutheran Church  
Caldwell, TX 77836

## Funeral Service

SEP 18. 1:00 PM (CT)

Elizabeth Lutheran Church  
Elizabeth Lutheran Church  
Caldwell, TX 77836

# Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Gladiola Mertz Bednar*



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**Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home** - September 17, 2021 at 03:12 PM

JS

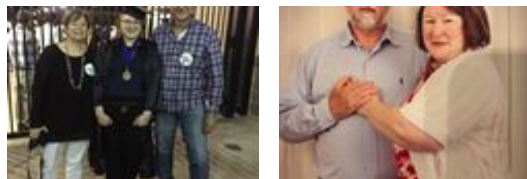
“ *My deepest sympathy to Hubert and the rest of Gladiola's family. She will be dearly missed, we always had such good times. Such great fun when we went to Europe and always at the many dances. I am sincerely sorry that I was not able to attend her services, but my thoughts and prayers were certainly with a dear friend and all of her family. God Bless!!! Joyce Schneider*

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**Joyce Schneider** - September 18, 2021 at 05:31 PM



“ *2 files added to the album Life Tributes*

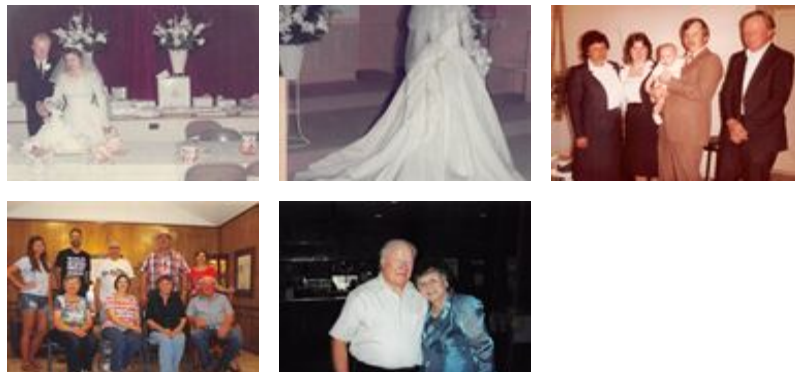


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**Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home** - September 18, 2021 at 11:10 AM



“ 26 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home** - September 17, 2021 at 02:58 PM

DW

“ Sending condolences and sympathy for your loss.

*Her second cousin -  
Dorothy Schulz Welch*



**Dorothy Welch** - September 17, 2021 at 09:31 AM

JB

“ *My thoughts and Prayers are with the family. My daughter Carol Ann loved spending time with the family. She spent many nights at their home with Lavallo. She always talked of the great grape juice they had. Many thanks to the family for making her time with them so great. I know she will welcome you to Heaven*

**Jo Anne. Barak** - September 16, 2021 at 06:57 PM



“ *European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gladiola Mertz Bednar.*



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September 16, 2021 at 03:28 PM



“ *Joey & Lori Krchnak - Industry, TX lit a candle in memory of Gladiola Mertz Bednar*



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**Joey & Lori Krchnak - Industry, TX** - September 16, 2021 at 01:45 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White was purchased for the family of Gladiola Mertz Bednar.*



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September 16, 2021 at 11:39 AM