



Joan May Klagmann

December 27, 1935 - May 15, 2025

Joan May Klagmann, a beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on May 15, 2025, at the age of 89.

Born December 27, 1935, in Birch, Texas, to Milady Judy and Henry August Brinkmann, Joan was one of eight children in a vibrant, close-knit family—three brothers and five sisters who shaped her into the strong, loving woman she became.

Joan spent the majority of her life in Caldwell, Texas, where she raised her family and made a home filled with warmth, laughter, and the irresistible smell of her famous fried chicken—especially on Sundays and holidays when as many as 65 family members would gather. She had five children, fifteen grandchildren, twenty-eight great-grandchildren, and six great-great-grandchildren, each of whom held a special place in her heart and received a handmade baby blanket stitched with love.

Joan married the love of her life, Otis Klagmann, in 1978. Their 22-year marriage was a testament to loyalty and devotion. She never left his side, caring for him day and night with unwavering strength and compassion until his passing in 2000.

Joan had a mind like a steel trap—sharp, witty, and full of stories. She never forgot a birthday, loved a good word find (completing thousands every year), and found joy in old country music, especially her favorite singer, Merle Haggard. You could always find her tapping her hand to a tune, chuckling at a Facebook post from one of her grandkids “lines”, or lost in a good book. She also found beauty in simple crafts, embroidering and sewing gifts that will be treasured for generations.

Her working years included roles as a homemaker, waitress, chair factory worker, and school cook for Caldwell ISD. In every job, she brought kindness, dedication, and a no-nonsense attitude that endeared her to many.

Joan is preceded in death by her parents, Milady and Henry Brinkmann; her brothers Aldie Brinkmann and Stanley Brinkmann; and her sisters Evelyn Kosh, Henrietta Kazmire, Annie Rathjen, and Georgie Shaver. She is also preceded in death by her beloved husband, Otis Klagmann; her son John Matejka Sr.; her daughter Mary Gonzales; son-in-law Ralph Sanchez; and grandson John Matejka Jr.

She is survived by her brother Henry Brinkmann and wife Billie; daughters Shirley Sanchez, Nancy Hodges and husband Richard, her son Kelly Matejka and wife Karen; her 14 grandchildren, twenty-eight great-grandchildren, six great-great-grandchildren; and a legacy of love, humor, strength, and family tradition that will live on in every one of them.

Joan May Klagmann will be remembered as a woman of iron will and tender heart—a storyteller, a caregiver, a matriarch, and a treasure to all who knew her.

“Mama tried,” Merle Haggard once sang, and Joan tried—and succeeded—in building a life full of love.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 20. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home
404 W Buck St.
Caldwell, TX 77836

Rosary

MAY 20. 7:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home
404 W Buck St.
Caldwell, TX 77836

Funeral Mass

MAY 21. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
500 W Old San Antonio Rd
Caldwell, TX 77836-1162
(979) 567-3667

Burial

MAY 21. 11:15 AM (CT)

Caldwell Masonic Cemetery
1411 W. Buck St.
Caldwell, TX

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Joan May Klagmann*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - May 21, 2025 at 09:55 AM



“ *Garden Accent - "Someone you love..." was purchased for the family of Joan May Klagmann.*



May 21, 2025 at 09:45 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joan May Klagmann.*

May 21, 2025 at 09:45 AM



“ *1 file added to the album LifeTributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - May 20, 2025 at 04:24 PM

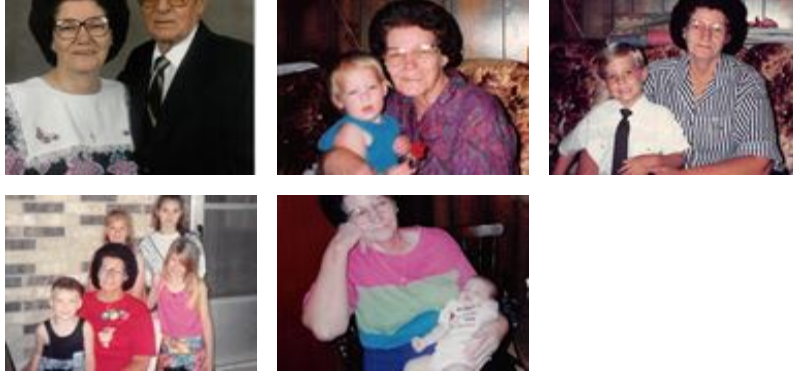
RK

I enjoyed talking with you, all the memories we shared never forget you will be missed by many ❤️ love

Rita kovar - May 21, 2025 at 05:10 AM



“ 47 files added to the album Life Tributes



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - May 20, 2025 at 12:03 PM

ZH

“ Zach & Hallie Hyles purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Joan May Klagmann.



Zach & Hallie Hyles - May 19, 2025 at 09:28 PM

ZH

“ Zach & Hallie Hyles planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan May Klagmann.

Zach & Hallie Hyles - May 19, 2025 at 09:28 PM

DM

“ Deborah Malinowski purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Joan May Klagmann.



Deborah Malinowski - May 19, 2025 at 08:53 PM

DM

“ Deborah Malinowski planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan May Klagmann.

Deborah Malinowski - May 19, 2025 at 08:53 PM

BP

“ Brent Crystal Shelby Kelsey Pitts purchased the *Blue Caribbean Bouquet* for the family of Joan May Klagmann.



Brent Crystal Shelby Kelsey Pitts - May 19, 2025 at 08:35 PM

BP

“ Brent Crystal Shelby Kelsey Pitts planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan May Klagmann.

Brent Crystal Shelby Kelsey Pitts - May 19, 2025 at 08:35 PM



“ 83 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - May 19, 2025 at 05:50 PM



“ *Love, Holly, Colton and Lauren purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Joan May Klagmann.*



Love, Holly, Colton and Lauren - May 19, 2025 at 04:39 PM



“ *Love, Holly, Colton and Lauren planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan May Klagmann.*

Love, Holly, Colton and Lauren - May 19, 2025 at 04:39 PM

VD

“ Vista Ridge Family Dentistry purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Joan May Klagmann.



Vista Ridge Family Dentistry - May 19, 2025 at 02:30 PM

LH

“ Les and Lori Havins purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Joan May Klagmann.



Les and Lori Havins - May 19, 2025 at 10:42 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Joan May Klagmann.



May 18, 2025 at 01:35 PM

GK

“ Greg and Krystal purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Joan May Klagmann.



Greg and Krystal - May 17, 2025 at 10:21 PM

GK

“ Greg and Krystal planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan May Klagmann.

Greg and Krystal - May 17, 2025 at 10:21 PM

JF

“ Jaunice Klagmann & Family purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Joan May Klagmann.



Jaunice Klagmann & Family - May 17, 2025 at 09:55 PM

JF

“ Jaunice Klagmann & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan May Klagmann.

Jaunice Klagmann & Family - May 17, 2025 at 09:55 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joan May Klagmann.



May 17, 2025 at 01:23 PM

CB

“ Cynthia Pruitt and Sandy Hensley Britt purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Joan May Klagmann.



Cynthia Pruitt and Sandy Hensley Britt - May 17, 2025 at 12:06 PM

CB

“ Cynthia Pruitt and Sandy Hensley Britt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan May Klagmann.

Cynthia Pruitt and Sandy Hensley Britt - May 17, 2025 at 12:06 PM