



Odessa Louise Payne

October 26, 1947 - May 2, 2026

Odessa Payne was born in Smiley, TX to Walter G. and Quincy Erwin on Oct 26, 1947 and went to be with our good Lord on May 2, 2026. As the youngest of 13 children, Odessa grew up in a bustling household in Texas, which helped shape her spirited personality and deep appreciation for family.

Throughout her life, Odessa's journey took her across the western United States and throughout the heart of the Lone Star State, as she lived in California and various regions across Texas. Professionally, she served her community with compassion as a school nurse in Milano, TX, while simultaneously remaining a deeply devoted homemaker, providing a foundation of love and care for her growing family. Her husband, Arthur, affectionately called her "Sweetie," a term of endearment but she gained the name "Sweetie" to everyone else when her first grandchild was looking for her at school, crying "where's my Sweetie?"

A devoted woman of faith, she was an active member of the Milam County Cowboy Church. Her love for Jesus was evident in her daily life, and she cherished the deep bonds she shared with her church family. Those who knew her will fondly remember her infectious spunk, her warm smile, and the laughter that filled every room she entered. Though her presence is greatly missed, her loved ones find comfort in knowing she rests in God's eternal embrace.

Odessa is preceded in death by the love of her life, Arthur Payne, her parents and numerous siblings. Her legacy of love continues through her children: Deanna (Sean) Nixon, Art (Tanya) Payne, Kevin (Shannon) Payne, Karen (Terry) Beck, and Keith (Devon) Payne. She is also survived by a large and loving extended family, including numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and many dear friends who were blessed to have known her.

Viewing will be at Phillips and Luckey on Thursday, May 7th, from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. The service will be held on Friday, May 8th at 10:00 am at Milam County Cowboy Church in Rockdale, TX. Burial will follow at Sand Grove Cemetery in Milano.

Cemetery Details

Sand Grove Cemetery

8636 County Road 322
Milano, TX 76556

Upcoming Events

Public Visitation

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

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Rockdale
1041 West Highway 79
Rockdale, TX 76567
(512) 446-5454
phillips_luckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Funeral Service

MAY 8. 10:00 AM (CT)

Milam County Cowboy Church
2100 North Highway 77
Rockdale, TX 76567

Tribute Wall

MF

“ Michael Hopkins and family. purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Odessa Louise Payne.



Michael Hopkins and family. - Yesterday at 11:29 PM

RJ

“ Raylee Jimenez and William Jimenez purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Odessa Louise Payne.



Raylee Jimenez and William Jimenez - Yesterday at 09:46 PM

FL

“ Fairwayes and Greens LHCC purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Odessa Louise Payne.



Fairwayes and Greens LHCC - Yesterday at 05:40 PM

CF

“ Class of '91 Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Odessa Louise Payne.



Class of '91 Family - Yesterday at 03:42 PM

CH

“ *Catherine and Alan Hague purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Odessa Louise Payne.*



Catherine and Alan Hague - Yesterday at 03:17 PM