



Wanda Elaine Merritt

March 30, 1949 - April 17, 2026

Wanda Elaine “Sookie” Love Merritt, 77, of Sharp, Texas, passed away peacefully on Friday, April 17, 2026, surrounded by her loving husband, sons, and family.

Elaine was born on March 30, 1949, on the family farm in Milam County to Clyde Milton and Carrie Mae Bingham Love. She graduated from Rockdale High School in 1967 and later pursued a career in cosmetology. On December 7, 1968, she married the love of her life, Robert “Bob” R. Merritt. Together, they shared 57 wonderful years of marriage and built a life centered on love, family, and devotion while raising their three sons.

Elaine devoted her life to being a loving wife and a proud mother. She never missed one of her sons’ baseball games and was a faithful supporter at the games of her nieces and nephews as well. Her home was always a warm and welcoming place, where her smile and easy laugh made everyone feel at ease. Known for her generous and giving heart, Elaine was the “go-to” person for so many—offering encouragement, comfort, and unwavering support during life’s most difficult moments, always without judgment.

She embraced life fully, finding her greatest joy in her family, babies, country music, and the beauty of her rose bushes, which reflected her lifelong love of gardening. Elaine and Bob cherished the many road trips they took together,

from long journeys out west to visits with friends and family across the country.

Family meant everything to Elaine. As one of twelve siblings, she shared a deep and unbreakable bond with her brothers and sisters. She especially treasured the annual “Sisters Weekend” trips with her six sisters—special times filled with laughter, love, and lifelong friendship. In recent years, Elaine also developed a passion for Mardi Gras in New Orleans, where she delighted in riding on a float with the Krewe of Iris and joyfully throwing her hand-decorated sunglasses to the crowds.

She is survived by her husband, Bob Merritt of Sharp; her sons, Clint Merritt and wife Amy of College Station, Brad Merritt and wife Sonya of Bryan, and Matt Merritt and wife Lorissa of Bryan; five grandchildren, Darby Brumlow and spouse Ian, McKenna Munoz and spouse Austin, Brett Merritt, Katelyn Merritt, and Brock Merritt; and her great-granddaughter, Merritt Jaye “MJ” Munoz.

Elaine is also survived by her sisters, Nancy Bales, Dottie Stevenson, and Susie (Karen) Dixon and husband Bill; her brothers, Leon Love and wife Coty, and Lynn Love; her brother-in-law, Paul Kruse; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Ross and Leona Merritt; her sisters, Judi Kruse, Bobbye Runnels, and Florene Acord; her brothers, Jimmie, Dennis, and infant brother Bryan Neal Love; and her brothers-in-law, Larry Bales, Martin Stevenson, J.D. Acord, and Joe Runnels.

Visitation will be held Friday, May 1, 2026, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Rockdale.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, May 2, 2026, at 1:00 PM at Phillips &

Luckey Funeral Home, with Pastor John D. Stanislaw officiating. Internment will follow at Lilac Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Brett Merritt, Brock Merritt, Ian Brumlow, Austin Munoz, Wade Acord, John Stevenson, Ben Dixon, and Zac Dixon.

Memorial contributions may be made, in lieu of flowers, to the Lilac Cemetery Association, c/o Penny Redington, 153 Magnolia Ln., Westworth Village, TX 76114.

Cemetery Details

Lilac Cemetery

4731 FM 3061
Davilla, TX 76577

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 1. 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/>

Chapel Service

MAY 2. 1:00 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/>

Tribute Wall

SL

“ *My deepest sympathies. Sandra Linton*

sandra linton - June 02 at 09:01 PM

LG

“ *So sorry for your loss*



Lorna Gibson - May 25 at 12:15 PM

TV

“ *The Dixon, Hansbrough, Erwin and Vickery planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wanda Elaine Merritt.*

The Dixon, Hansbrough, Erwin and Vickery - May 01 at 11:43 AM

TV

“ *The Dixon, Hansbrough, Erwin and Vickery purchased the Heavenly Heights Bouquet for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.*



The Dixon, Hansbrough, Erwin and Vickery - May 01 at 11:43 AM



“ 115 files added to the album *Life Tributes*

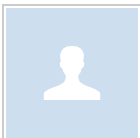


Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - April 30 at 03:18 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Wanda Elaine Merritt.

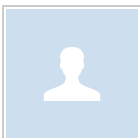
April 29 at 10:31 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.



April 29 at 10:31 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.



April 29 at 10:21 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.*



April 28 at 05:29 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.*



April 28 at 10:19 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Wanda Elaine Merritt.*

April 28 at 08:06 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.*



April 28 at 08:06 AM

YA

“ Your family at CarMax San Antonio purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.



Your family at CarMax San Antonio - April 25 at 07:00 PM

LB

“ Love, Randy and Bette Brumlow planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wanda Elaine Merritt.

Love, Randy and Bette Brumlow - April 25 at 05:08 PM

LB

“ Love, Randy and Bette Brumlow purchased the *Your Light Shines* for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.



Love, Randy and Bette Brumlow - April 25 at 05:08 PM

ZF

“ Zapata Family purchased the *Pretty Please* for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.



Zapata Family - April 23 at 04:48 PM

JS

“ Bob, Clint, Brad and Matt, so sorry to hear this. I know she will be missed by all. She was always such a nice person. She loved that baseball...sending my condolences to the family.

Johnny Stewart - April 22 at 09:48 AM

BR

“ Bryan and Brownfield Staff of Relation planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wanda Elaine Merritt.

Bryan and Brownfield Staff of Relation - April 21 at 05:49 PM

BR

“ Bryan and Brownfield Staff of Relation purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.



Bryan and Brownfield Staff of Relation - April 21 at 05:49 PM

TH

“ Ted and Tracy Higginbottom planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wanda Elaine Merritt.

Ted and Tracy Higginbottom - April 21 at 10:49 AM

TH

“ Ted and Tracy Higginbottom purchased the *Care and Compassion Spray* for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.



Ted and Tracy Higginbottom - April 21 at 10:49 AM

SH

“ Sterling, Victoria, and Zane Haley planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wanda Elaine Merritt.

Sterling, Victoria, and Zane Haley - April 20 at 08:15 PM

SH

“ Sterling, Victoria, and Zane Haley purchased the *Full Of Love Bouquet* for the family of Wanda Elaine Merritt.



Sterling, Victoria, and Zane Haley - April 20 at 08:15 PM