



Genell Permenter

April 28, 1928 - March 26, 2024

Genell Godley Permenter, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and aunt, joined her husband O.E. in heaven March 26, 2024. She was 95. A caring friend and faithful servant of Christ, Genell was born in Anderson County, Texas, to A.G. Godley and Leta Wilbanks on April 28, 1928. She and O.E. met as students at Stephen F. Austin State University, where he played football, and she was a Homecoming queen. They married on June 23, 1949, in Cayuga, Texas, and spent 62 years together before O.E.'s passing in 2011.

Genell earned two degrees from SFA, a bachelor's in 1948 and a master's in 1984. She positively impacted the lives of thousands of students as an elementary school teacher for more than 30 years in Texas and Maryland, retiring from Corsicana ISD in 1990. She and O.E. were devoted to spreading the gospel of Christ to those in need, participating in mission trips to the Rio Grande Valley, Mexico, Belize and Haiti. She touched the hearts and comforted the souls of hundreds of people who were grieving or ill through a greeting card ministry that she maintained until her death.

A longtime resident of Corsicana, Genell led a spiritually, mentally, physically and socially vibrant life. Her circle of friends was vast, and she made each one feel special. She kept her mind sharp through daily Bible study, reading, crossword puzzles and word games and her body fit by exercising regularly. Known as Meema to her four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren,

she delighted in their achievements and loved watching them play sports and participate in other activities. She was a self-taught pianist, wonderful cook and prolific baker whose homemade bread made the best toast and grilled cheese sandwiches. And no family meal was complete without her famous apricot nectar orange jello.

Genell was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, sisters Zoella Pettiette, Anna Lee Morrow, Trudie Hutchinson and Nanette Haynor, and brothers A.G. Godley Jr. and Bernard Godley. She is survived by her children Cinda Melton (Marcus) and Mark Permenter (Selma) and grandchildren Julie Barfield (Drew), Shellie Razloznik (Ryan), Zack Melton (Brittany) and Sara Permenter. She is also survived by great-grandchildren Samantha Melton, Roxanne Melton, Henry Melton, Caroline Barfield, Peyton Barfield, Aiden Razloznik and Harper Razloznik. Additionally, she is survived by two sisters, Martha Lilly of Conroe, Texas, and Oleta Brumley (Richard) of Anahuac, Texas, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, April 1, 2024, at Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 2, at First Baptist Church in Corsicana with the Rev. Danny Reeves officiating. Interment will be at Oakwood Cemetery. Donations in her memory may be made to First Baptist Church of Corsicana or the ministry of your choice. An online guest book is available at www.griffin-roughton.com by selecting the obituary for Genell Permenter. Funeral arrangements under the direction of Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Corsicana.

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

900 North 19Th Street
Corsicana, TX 75110

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 1. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Corsicana
1530 N. 45th Street
Corsicana, TX 75110
(903) 874-4774
info@griffin-roughton.com

Funeral Service

APR 2. 10:00 AM (CT)

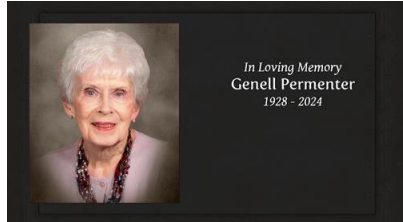
First Baptist Church
510 West Collin
Corsicana, TX 75110

Dr. Danny Reeves officiating.

Tribute Wall



“ Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Genell Permenter



Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home - April 01, 2024 at 01:22 PM

AF

“ Mrs. Permenter was a lovely lady who will be missed by so very many.
May you know God's love, strength and peace,
Ailsa Flynn Anderson

afa - May 18, 2024 at 02:07 AM

DG

“ Genell was such a sweet lady. She always had a kind word to share. We met so many years ago but when I would see her, she always recognized me. My prayers go out to Mark, Cinda and the family.

Debra Dunlap Gregory - April 02, 2024 at 09:54 PM

JC

“ Jeff and Catherine Carlton planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Genell Permenter.

Jeff and Catherine Carlton - April 01, 2024 at 01:02 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Genell Permenter.



April 01, 2024 at 01:02 PM



“ Genell was a precious Saint of a woman. During a year of treatment for Breast Cancer she sent cards and came and brought bread every week. We loved her and have ever since. She was Gods servant in all she did.

Vicki Gray - March 31, 2024 at 11:53 PM



“ Our family loved Mrs. Permenter so much. She always greeted us with a smile and a hug at church. We loved receiving her sweet cards and messages on Facebook. She was a blessing to us all and we're so grateful to have known her. We know that she was welcomed home by Jesus and she is celebrating big with Him. We will miss you dearly Mrs. Permenter!
Love,
Jason, Amber, Eli & Averleigh Payne

Amber Payne - March 31, 2024 at 11:45 PM



“ Cinda, you and your family have been in my prayers and will continue to be in the days ahead 🙏🙏 Always loved to see Genell with that sweet smile when I would enter Navarro Regional for Healthy Woman and Senior Circle meetings! She touched many lives! 🙏❤️

Jaynie Johnston - March 31, 2024 at 09:10 PM

GY

“ *Galya Yaneva purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Genell Permenter.*



Galya Yaneva - March 31, 2024 at 12:25 PM

BD

“ *Bryan Godley and Robin Dowell planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Genell Permenter.*

Bryan Godley and Robin Dowell - March 30, 2024 at 06:54 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Genell Permenter.*



March 30, 2024 at 06:54 PM

SA

“ I will miss Genell Permenter. She was a lovely lady. I have been blessed to have known her for over 25 years. She started sending me weekly cards when I was diagnosed with cancer in 2021. I looked forward to each card. They contained beautiful bible verses, hymns and inspirational quotes, as well as hand written words of encouragement. This week I received an Easter card from her. I have kept each card. I would display the cards when they came in as a source of inspiration and hope. Genell Permenter will be surely missed. My Mom and I feel blessed to have known Genell. Praying for Genell and her family.

Sandra Asebedo

Sandra Asebedo - March 29, 2024 at 11:42 PM

BW

“ Many happy memories flood my soul when I reflect upon the life of Genell. The very first was when she and OE dared get into a small plane with me at Dulles International and fly to a small airport in Southern Maryland when OE came to preach a sermon at our church prior to a call to be our minister. He was called and the rest is just a happy blur. A bus ministry, fishing trips, church ball games, socials in Genell's dining room, Cinda and Mark being great friends to our children, my wife and Genell becoming great friends and two visits to see her and OE in Corsicana after they returned to Texas. I could write a book about the fishing trips with OE alone. I am forever grateful to Genell for sending weekly cards to my wife Nita as she fought a losing battle with cancer. The comfort of those cards from such a dear friend was immeasurable. Mark and Cinda my deepest condolences to you and thank you both for sharing your wonderful mother and father and yourselves with me, my church and my children.

Bobby Wallace - March 29, 2024 at 05:47 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Genell Permenter.*



March 29, 2024 at 05:35 PM



“ *Carolyn, Roy, Shelley Jo, Sherry & Alton purchased the Finest Farewell Spray for the family of Genell Permenter.*



Carolyn, Roy, Shelley Jo, Sherry & Alton - March 29, 2024 at 01:05 AM



“ *Carolyn, Roy, Shelley Jo, Sherry & Alton planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Genell Permenter.*

Carolyn, Roy, Shelley Jo, Sherry & Alton - March 29, 2024 at 01:05 AM



“ *Mrs. Permenter was a lot of things to a lot of people, but to me, she was THE teacher, the one who impacted my life more than any other. She was a lifelong learner, an excellent educator, and she made me feel loved as a student (and even years later as her former student). She is the reason I ultimately chose to become an educator. I was blessed to have known her; she will be missed. Prayers for Cinda and the family.*

Heather Harvick - March 28, 2024 at 07:52 PM

MS

“ I will miss Genell. She started sending her cards to us when my husband Ted was diagnosed with a glioblastoma and continued on after his moving to heaven. I just got a card this past week. She was always a treasure to us and I will miss her hugs at church on Sundays. My deepest sympathy to her family, what a wonderful lady!

Mary Snyder - March 28, 2024 at 02:38 PM

DW

“ Genell was such a precious Christian woman. When my dad was diagnosed with cancer, Genell started sending him cards. They always included a Bible verse or small poem. These cards were kept out on a table as a source of strength and renewal for my dad. After he passed away, Genell started sending the cards to my mom to encourage her. Genell continued this until my mother passed away. Genell touched so many lives, young and old. She will be missed. I am blessed to have known her. Praying for her family in the days ahead. Donna Whittenburg



Donna Whittenburg - March 28, 2024 at 01:29 PM

KA

“ Genell was a dear and loving friend. When Jerry was so sick for months and months in 2017, Genell sent him get well cards fixed food and came to sit and visit. She mailed him cards every week. After he was well, the cards kept coming, sharing God's word and love. We received her last card the day before her death. We will miss her but Heaven is richer.

Karen Ashcraft - March 28, 2024 at 01:02 PM

PG

“ Our hearts are hurting. Genell was a true Angle - a great friend and a precious lady. She touched so many lives making each one better having known her. We have known her since 1967 and she meant so much to each of us Love you Genell Peggy & Donnie Gillen

Peggy Gillen - March 27, 2024 at 06:01 PM

WF

“ We love you, Judy, Jan, and Families purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Genell Permenter.



We love you, Judy, Jan, and Families - March 27, 2024 at 05:31 PM

TF

“ The Lilly Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Genell Permeter.

The Lilly Family - March 27, 2024 at 11:10 AM

TF

“ The Lilly Family purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Genell Permenter.



The Lilly Family - March 27, 2024 at 11:10 AM

GH

“ *When I think of Genell, I can immediately see that beautiful smile. Her love for for Jesus was genuine, and she shared that with everyone with whom she came into contact . The world could use more people like Genell.*

Gayle Henson - March 27, 2024 at 11:04 AM