



## Joy Lee Parish

May 23, 1930 - November 12, 2023

Joy Lee Parish, 93, of Red Oak, Texas passed peacefully in his sleep on November 12, 2023. Joy was born in Rice, Texas on May 23, 1930, to Joseph and Mattie Mae (Reeves) Parish. Joy enjoyed spending time with his parents growing up. Joy attended his school years in Rice, Texas until he was old enough to work in the fields harvesting crops.

After working in the field, Joy went on to work at a furniture company for about 25 years. Following his furniture career, Joy began a new career with Sears & Roebuck Company as a delivery driver for 25 years. Following his passion, Joy opened his music store called Parish Music in Waxahachie, Texas. Joy ran the music store solely for approximately 18 years. In 2000, Joy's son, Tommy Parish, asked to go into business with Joy by opening a pawn shop. The business became known as Parish Music and Pawn which remained open for 22 years before closing shortly after Tommy's passing. After spending almost 75 years of working, Joy then went into retirement and spending time with his family and friends. Joy also enjoyed playing with his great grandchildren.

Joy met the love of his life in 1958, Carolyn (Fuller) Parish, at a local Baptist church where Joy was a Deacon. Joy and Carolyn were married on January 31, 1959. Joy had a son from a previous marriage whom Carolyn and Joy enjoyed raising together and attending Tommy's sporting events. In 1968,

Carolyn and Joy adopted an 18-month old girl, Dana Parish. Dana followed in Joy's footsteps with his love of music. Joy and Carolyn were members of the Cowboy Church of Ellis County.

Joy's love of music was lifelong. Over the years, he played in bands with his brothers, Lester and Jody, and friend, Smitty. Joy also played in other bands such as The Shamrocks, The Joy Makers, and Off the Record, where they played at various V.F.W., American Legions, and in the surrounding areas.

While operating Parish Music, Joy's friends would visit where they would talk about music and daily news topics. Joy and many of his friends played together at various Oprys in Italy, Waxahachie, Red Oak, and Bristol. They would play classic country favorites from the 1950's to 1970's including Hank Williams, Conway Twitty, and Merle Haggard. In Joy's free time, he would also make guitars to sell in his store.

Joy will always be remembered for his musical talent of singing, playing guitar, and his generous heart in helping others. We'll always remember hearing him say, "Thanks for stopping by," no matter if it was at the store or home. We couldn't have asked for a better son, sibling, spouse, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend. Joy will be missed every day. His memory will live on in the hearts of all those who loved him.

Joy was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Mattie Mae Parish; all his brothers and sisters; and his son, Tommy Parish. Joy is survived by his wife, Carolyn Parish; his daughter, Dana Parish; his granddaughters, Fawn (Martwick) Trotter and husband Justin, Snowy (Martwick) Joiner and husband Jesse, Kristi Lasher and husband Jason; his great-grandson, Levi Trotter; his great granddaughter, Faithlyn Joiner; along with numerous friends.

The family will receive friends from 11:00am to 1:00pm on Friday, November

17, 2023, in Byrum Funeral Home Chapel with the celebration of Joy's life to be held immediately following visitation at 1:00 pm. Burial will be in Red Oak Cemetery following the service.

# Cemetery Details

## **Red Oak Cemetery**

700 South Central Blvd.  
Red Oak, TX 75154

# Tribute Wall



“ My favorite story of Joy - he was driving home to WaxabyGodhachie about 3:00 AM after a night of entertaining. He noticed flashing lights in his rear view mirror. What’s a guy to do? When the cop asked why he was in such a hurry, Joy replied, “I was just listening to Merle.” No ticket for him that night. The last time I saw him before moving to East Texas was in 2017. I wish I had taken the time to drive back to visit one more time. He will be sorely missed.



Nancy Malone - November 17, 2023 at 06:39 PM

LW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lonna Westeman - November 17, 2023 at 11:57 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joy Lee Parish.



November 16, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joy Lee Parish.*



November 16, 2023 at 06:13 PM



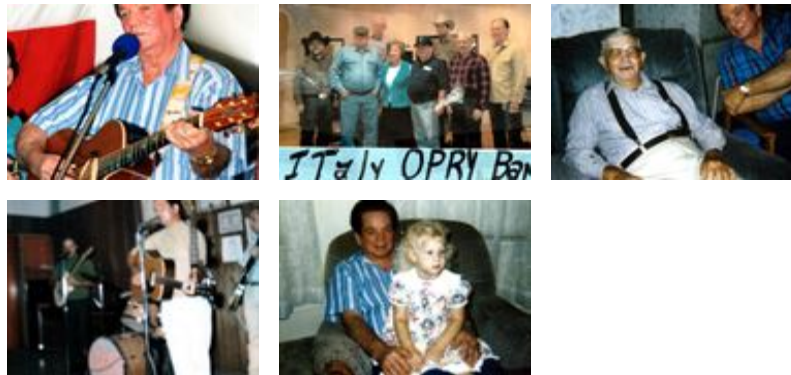
“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joy Lee Parish.*



November 16, 2023 at 03:28 PM



“ *77 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Byrum Funeral Home - November 16, 2023 at 01:19 PM



“ *0 file added to the tribute wall*

Byrum Funeral Home - November 16, 2023 at 12:53 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Joy Lee Parish.*



November 16, 2023 at 11:09 AM



“ *Del and Lonna purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Joy Lee Parish.*



**Del and Lonna** - November 15, 2023 at 02:52 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Joy Lee Parish.*



November 15, 2023 at 09:02 AM



“ *Paula Fuller-Humphrey lit a candle in memory of Joy Parish*



**Paula Fuller-Humphrey** - November 14, 2023 at 05:36 PM

BB

“ When I was 14 yrs old, I wanted to be a sound guy. I had no money saved but I did earn my own pay. I went into Joy’s store to see if he had some gear. He did, and I asked him how much so I could begin saving. Joy told me to take it home with me that day, and come in once monthly to make payments. I never missed a payment. His sincerity and kindness payed dividends for many folks and for many years. I will never forget.

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**Brandon Bevers** - November 14, 2023 at 05:07 PM

MB

Joy was one of the sweetest men I have ever met. He was always there to help someone. He was always such a caring and Christian man. He will be very missed. Love and miss you Joy Parish!

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**Melba Blissett** - November 14, 2023 at 08:24 PM

PB

“ Joy was a very big part of the local music scene and was well loved by all of us who played any part in it..  
He will be missed by us all...

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**Paul Buchanan** - November 14, 2023 at 03:21 PM

DH

“ To the best brother in law anyone could have. Our loss is Heavens gain. His music will always be heard in our hearts. Go rest high on that mounain. Don and Sue

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**donald hardin** - November 14, 2023 at 02:15 PM

DH

“ *donald hardin lit a candle in memory of Joy Parish*



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**donald hardin** - November 14, 2023 at 02:11 PM