



Zelda Louise Rentler Gatlin

October 3, 1931 - December 12, 2020

Zelda Louise Rentler Gatlin was born October 3, 1931 to Jacob Peter and Gladys Rentler. The youngest of their 6 children, she was their only Texan, having been born in Dallas, Texas. As a child, Zelda was schooled in the University Park area and spent her teenage years in and graduated from Cedar Hill.

She and her late husband, Delbert, married and raised their children in Lancaster, Texas. A legacy of love is seen in their surviving children, Marla and Rick McGinnis, Del and Marilyn Gatlin and Ed and Lisa Gatlin. She will be forever remembered most lovingly by her grandchildren, Seth and Haylee McGinnis, Dane and Ashley McGinnis, Dee and Andrea Gatlin, Tyler Gatlin, Shelbi Gatlin and Paden Gatlin.

A reflection of our Mother's steadfast love, tenacity and beautiful smile will always be seen in her pride and joy - the three great-grandchildren who would call her "MamMa Zelda" - Griffin Fae McGinnis, Halston Hayes McGinnis and Carter Grace McGinnis. Those who also survive her are her precious sister, Velma Davis, several nieces and nephews as well as friends. She wasn't perfect, but she was perfect for us.

Mother was a strong, tenacious and generous woman. There are many aspects of Proverbs 31 that are very fitting for Mother. Most every one of us

can look back and see her vividly active throughout our lives...A PTA/snow cone/room mother, a gifted seamstress, our biggest fan in the bleachers. She taught us important things like how to write thank-you notes, how delicious snow ice cream is, that birthdays are special and the image of how to be a wonderful grandmother. She showed us what a full Christmas stocking looks like, and how to have the best Easter egg hunts, and the love inside of a college care package. She let us learn that every child needs a dog and showed us how to protect our children...even to the point of killing a water moccasin under a boat. She exemplified that family meal time should be spent around the table together and that hard work pays off in success. Thankfully, and most importantly, Mother also learned the Truth of God's Word and had her part in leading all three of us to become Christians.

As a member of the Lord's Church, in lieu of flowers, Mother would want any memorials to be carried out in acts of kindness, showing love to others and more importantly, to each other. Life is the opportunity to impact the world and those around you, as a living example of Jesus. That is a person's true legacy. Our Mother was the first person the three of us ever loved; our hope is in the promise of seeing her again one day.

A private service for family will be December 28, 2020.

Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Zelda Louise Rentler Gatlin.*



December 26, 2020 at 10:33 AM



“ *My deepest condolences and love to the Gatlin family.*

Barbara Wilder



Barbara Wilder - December 22, 2020 at 06:29 PM



“ *It has been too many years and too many miles since I've been in contact with the friends that I made in Lancaster. So many of my fondest memories of those times are tied to the Gatlin household. After I had moved away in '72, during the the 8th Grade, Mrs. Gatlin always made me feel like I had never left whenever we came back to town for a visit. What a wonderful lady! Marla, Del and Ed...you have my deepest sympathies for your loss.*

Remember the good times and keep them close to heart.

Chris Adams

Chris Adams - December 17, 2020 at 12:24 PM

MB

“ *Zelda was one of the sweetest ladies I know. I was her hairdresser at Midtowne Assist Living. She was always ready with a smile to get her hair done. I will miss her dearly. Marilyn Bowen*

marilyn bowen - December 17, 2020 at 12:28 AM

DP

“ *Such a beautiful tribute to Mrs. Gatlin and my condolences to the family and to her sweet sister, Velma Davis! May God give ya'll peace and comfort during this sad time! May she rest in peace!*



Debi Whaley Parker - December 17, 2020 at 12:14 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Zelda Louise Rentler Gatlin.*



December 16, 2020 at 06:12 PM

SF

“ *Sue S Fabrizio lit a candle in memory of Zelda Louise Rentler Gatlin*



Sue S Fabrizio - December 16, 2020 at 09:55 AM

SE

“ *Selinda lit a candle in memory of Zelda Louise Rentler Gatlin*



Selinda - December 16, 2020 at 09:36 AM

TA

“ *Delbert and my Dad worked together when I was little, and we all lived in Lancaster. I can remember visiting their house and playing with Marla, Del, and Eddie. That was over 60 years ago, and I still remember Zelda always being so sweet and loving.*



To the family, I send my condolences and with you peace and comfort. To Zelda, I'll never forget you and may you RIP until we meet again.

Tom Allen

Tom Allen - December 15, 2020 at 06:14 PM



“ *Care and Compassion Spray was purchased for the family of Zelda Louise Rentler Gatlin.*



December 15, 2020 at 01:59 PM