



Delva Joyce Higgins Ward

August 23, 1936 - May 26, 2022

Delva Joyce Higgins Ward, 85, of Old Town, Florida, passed away May 26, 2022 at Ayers Health and Rehabilitation Center in Trenton, Florida.

Joyce was born to the late Joel and Louisa Wright Higgins in Brownfield, Texas, on August 23, 1936.

She married Harry LeRoy "Roy" Ward October 31, 1953 in Roswell, New Mexico. She and Roy lived in New Mexico, Guam, Texas (twice), Oklahoma and Denmark before retiring to Florida at the conclusion of Roy's Air Force career.

Together they raised three children and were Granny and Grandpa to a multitude of others. Her family was her life. If you talked to her, you knew how proud she was of her children and Roy. In her spare time, she enjoyed watching Little League games and Dixie County High School Football.

Joyce is survived by her three children, Kay Burkhart, Joel Ward (Shyrel) and Melanie Wright (Genia Lubin); 10 grandchildren, Shanna Valentine, James McCall Tramel, David Valentine, Joel Ward II, Justin Ward, Michelle Wright, Nick Burkhart, Mike Burkhart, Matt Milnes and Chris Burkhart; 21 great grandchildren; two brothers, Mack Higgins (Judy), and Ray Higgins; her sister, Opal Teinert; and a host of nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Roy Ward, a grandson, Bryan

Wright, 2 sisters, Movaline Inez Robinson and Roberta "Bobbie" Krouse.

Graveside services will be held at Rock Sink Cemetery in Old Town, Florida, at 3:00 PM, Friday, June 3, 2022.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Arrangements have been placed under the care of the Rick Gooding Funeral Home Cross City Chapel, with locations in Cross City 352-498-5400 and Chiefland 352-493-0050. Please sign the online guest book at rickgoodingfuneralhomes.com

Cemetery Details

Rock Sink Baptist Church Cemetery

471 NE 816th Ave
old town, FL 32680

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUN 3. 3:00 PM (ET)

Rock Sink Baptist Church Cemetery
471 NE 816th Ave
old town, FL 32680

Tribute Wall



“ Rick Gooding Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Delva Joyce Higgins Ward



Rick Gooding Funeral Homes - June 03, 2022 at 03:58 PM



“ *Delva Joyce Higgins Ward*

October 08, 2023 at 10:03 PM



“ *Delva Joyce Higgins Ward*

January 30, 2023 at 01:26 AM



“ *Joyce and I were sister-in-laws and close. I loved her for her out spoken ways. You always knew where you stood with Joyce. She was never one to smile to your face and talk behind your back, We were the Mexican and the Yankee.I will miss you friend.*

Linda Patrick - June 01, 2022 at 07:01 AM

CB

“ I am so sorry to hear of her passing. Yet know she's with our Heavenly Father. She kept our two nieces Felicia and Mary for a lot of their childhood while my sister, Virginia Sue and brother, Jim Fales worked. She was like a granny to them, more so than a babysitter. This extended to the ball field and girl scouts where she was a constant source of support and encouragement, cheering them on in they took on. She was a lot of fun to to be around. I personally thought the world of her. I know Jim and Sue both are forever grateful. Our sincere condolences and prayers to the family. Thank you for sharing her with us.

Cindy Barber - May 31, 2022 at 09:12 PM

KB

“ This precious lady was granny Joyce to my sisters two children. They stayed with her and Mr. Roy many times throughout their childhood. An absolute treasure for many here in Dixie. Most precious memories of her we will carry. 🙏❤️

Kathy Barry - May 31, 2022 at 02:22 PM