



## Deanna Sue Bunch

January 2, 1954 - June 29, 2024

Deanna Sue Bunch, age 70, passed away June 29, 2024, at her home in Durant, Oklahoma. Deanna was born January 2, 1954, in Denison, Texas, to Jim and Peggie Prince. The oldest of five children, she grew up in Garland, Texas.

After graduating from Garland High School and spending some years working as an insurance executive for CNA, she met her husband, Mark Bunch. The two were married November 18, 1988, and welcomed a daughter in 1990. Shortly thereafter, they moved to Durant, where they attended church at Victory Life and Deanna began working as a teacher at Victory Life Academy. In the years to come, she would earn a Bachelor of Science and then a Master of Education from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Deanna served as a teacher at VLA for over two decades, and then an additional seven years at Durant Middle School before retiring. Though she taught many subjects over her years, she was always involved with English and Language Arts. She had an unparalleled desire to see every student develop a love of reading and learning so they could reach their full potential. She also possessed a unique gift for encouraging them to do so.

Many, many students in the Durant area will remember her as Miss Deanna. She spent hours tutoring those who needed it, and was quick to praise those

who thrived in her classroom. She also spent many dollars out of her own pocket to ensure “her kids” always had the supplies they needed. Both figuratively and literally — thanks to a certification earned from the Center for Early Childhood Professional Development — she was a Master Teacher in every sense of the term.

After leaving the teaching field in 2022, Deanna occupied her time growing plants, preparing world-class meals for her family, watching her beloved redbirds, and occasionally tutoring — often the children of her former students. Not long after, she was diagnosed with bile duct cancer, which she fought with courage, dignity, and prayer. In June of 2024, she passed away in her home with her husband and children at her side.

Deanna is preceded in death by mother Peggie, stepfather James, father Jim, and brothers Kevin and Kyle.

She is survived by her husband Mark, daughter Brandi, son Jeff, goddaughter Andrea, grandson Ryan, sister Dallas, and brother Kerry.

The family asks that those wishing to honor Deanna’s memory donate school supplies to local students or make a donation to cancer research in lieu of sending flowers. And remember her whenever you see a redbird.

A Celebration of Deanna's life will be held at 2:00 PM on Saturday, July 6th, in Brown's Funeral Home chapel with Pastor Lee Armstrong officiating.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [info@brownsfuneralservice.com](mailto:info@brownsfuneralservice.com).

<https://www.tributeslides.com/tributes/show/SB9FRD8R84YC7GHK>



# Previous Events

## **Celebration of Life**

JUL 6. 2:00 PM (CT)

Brown's Funeral Chapel  
4900 West US Hwy 70  
Durant, OK 74701

# Tribute Wall



“ *Brown's Durant Funeral Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Deanna Sue Bunch* ”



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**Brown's Durant Funeral Service** - July 03, 2024 at 04:52 PM

CB

*One of the most amazing people I have ever met and knew throughout my lifetime.*

*I love you so much Ms. Bunch*



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**Cindy Bennett** - July 13, 2024 at 11:12 AM

JM

*She was a stranger calling an Operator for Assistance ...  
It was Extremely busy day I was  
new and in training and  
I thought we were thru with our conversation .. Then she  
said .. I have a strange question to ask .. I said okay .. She said is  
there something specifically you need prayer for.? ..  
I hesitated .. I had Never had a Stranger ask me this at my place of  
employment before.  
Finally I said one word .. Favor.  
I had several Major areas in my life changing Drastically. I was doing my  
Best but it just did not feel like enough. I was Broken trying to pick up  
pieces.  
She said .. your name is Judy ??  
I said yes .. She said one Early morning at 1AM she was awoken and  
God told her to pray for Judy. She did not know a Judy at that time.  
But ... God ... Put that name in her heart when I was in GREAT NEED  
of Favor. She prayed in April 2022 1AM for a Stranger she NEVER  
MET. She mailed me a copy of scriptures she had come across about  
2 weeks before this call in Regards to FAVOR of God. We stayed in  
touch thru messages and phone calls. She will NEVER KNOW HOW  
MUCH I NEEDED THIS CALL OF ENCOURAGEMENT FROM A  
STRANGER WHO BECAME A God Sent Prayer Warrior for me.  
We Both Prayed for each other til the end.  
I never met her in Person on this earth but one day When I get to  
Heaven with her. I hope to Finally hug her neck and tell her how much I  
appreciate her listening to God in April 2022.  
Judy Martin  
The Phone Operator.*

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**Judy Martin** - January 22, 2025 at 04:33 PM

RA

*“ Mrs. Bunch was a lady that truly cared about all of her students.  
She taught excellence and pushed us to be the best version of  
ourselves. Her impact and legacy will live on through every  
individual she touched.*

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**Ryan Allison** - July 17, 2024 at 10:16 AM

KA

“ Mrs.Bunch was an extraordinary teacher! She did exactly what I believe teachers should do and that is touch lives forever! She changed my daughter’s life. She excelled under her and learned she could do anything. She believes in her students and pushed them to be the best they can be. She brought me to tears at parent teacher conferences that year. She told me what a fine job I was doing raising an amazing young lady in today’s society. She went on to praise her more but that sentence has stuck with me since. My daughter has gone on to be an amazing young lady because of teachers like Mrs.Bunch. She now serves our great country and a U.S Army soldier. Mrs. Bunch made life easier for her at such an important age. She will be truly missed! Actually this past week while in Alaska I thought of her. I wanted to bring a rock back from Alaska for her but wasn’t sure if I could get it on the boat. She was truly a beautiful soul. What an amazing lady she was. Rest easy Mrs.Bunch.

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Kaler - July 07, 2024 at 04:24 AM

KB

“ Mrs. Bunch was an excellent teacher and such a bright spirit in this world. I'm so grateful for the time I spent as her student. Praying for peace and comfort for the family. ❤️

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Kaelan Bedwell - July 05, 2024 at 08:41 PM



“ 86 files added to the album Gallery of Pictures



**Brown's Durant Funeral Service** - July 03, 2024 at 04:54 PM

LP

“ Mark, I am so sorry to hear of Deanna's passing. She was such a sweet soul. An encourager of many. I was blessed to work with her. She was always such an encouragement to me. I will pray for God's comfort and compassion to surround you and all of your family.

**Lori Peddy** - July 03, 2024 at 03:27 PM

AW

“ Deanna was such a blessing to work with...always honest and genuine with the children and her coworkers.

**amy wells** - July 03, 2024 at 06:32 AM

LP

“ Deanna Bunch was a precious, wise, loving women. I am so blessed to have gotten to know her. I will forever cherish the redbird in remembrance of her.

**Larissa Perkins** - July 02, 2024 at 10:22 PM

SM

“ Mrs. Bunch was an amazing person and truly cared about those around her, she will be missed.

Sarah Morrison - July 02, 2024 at 09:30 PM

DE

“ Ohhh I'm heart broken... what a wonderful praying Christian woman, with a quick wit and a sharp mind. She could make out-of-this-world cheesecake. The trouble was getting it past Mark... 🤔. I'm so sad for us, but I know where she is. Hugs to Mark and her family...



Deb - July 02, 2024 at 06:35 PM

DM

I am so heartbroken. We shared so much with things in common. I met her at the middle school and continued our friendship after we both retired. Our hope is we'll see her again on those streets of gold. What an amazing woman she was. I won't be able to make it to the celebration of life for I will be out of town. I'm sad I won't be able to go  
💛

Dianna M. - July 03, 2024 at 04:16 AM

KM

“ Kim Morris lit a candle in memory of Deanna Sue Bunch



Kim Morris - July 02, 2024 at 01:10 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Deanna Sue Bunch.



July 02, 2024 at 10:56 AM



“ Kerry and Doreen Prince planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Deanna Bunch.

Kerry and Doreen Prince - July 02, 2024 at 10:56 AM



“ Michelle Lynm lit a candle in memory of Deanna Sue Bunch



Michelle Lynm - July 01, 2024 at 06:20 PM



I miss this lady sooo much. She was such an encourager. She was an amazing CHRISTian woman. Last time she messaged me was on my birthday April 13 before she passed in June.

Dianna Mosley - November 13, 2025 at 08:30 PM