



Ruth Elizabeth Maxson

July 9, 1938 - February 12, 2026

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Ruth Elizabeth Maxson, age 87, was born on July 9, 1938, in Seminole, Oklahoma, to A.W. and Mildred Barrett. She went home to be with the Lord surrounded by the legacy of love she so faithfully built throughout her life.

Ruth met the love of her life in September of 1958 at a Church of Christ “get acquainted” party at Oklahoma State University. That evening marked the beginning of a lifelong love story. Ruth Elizabeth Barrett and Joe Mac Maxson were united in marriage on June 17, 1961, in Coalgate, Oklahoma. Together they built a life centered on faith, family, service, and education.

She was preceded in death by her parents, A.W. Barrett and Mildred Barrett; her sister, Betty Bailey; her brother, Paul Barrett; her beloved husband, Dr. Joe Mac Maxson; and her cherished sons, Joe Barrett Maxson and Brian Jeffory Maxson.

Ruth was a lifelong educator whose influence reached far beyond the classroom. She graduated from Oklahoma State University in the summer of 1959 with a degree in Home Economics and immediately began her teaching career at Waurika High School. She spent twelve years teaching vocational

home economics to high school students, including one year at Caddo and four years at Bokchito. She later served as an Assistant Professor in Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising at Oklahoma State University for five years. She concluded her professional career as Supervisor of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) for Bryan, Choctaw, and Pushmataha counties, retiring after years of dedicated service to families across Southeastern Oklahoma.

Her professional excellence was recognized through numerous honors, including nomination for Outstanding Teacher in the College of Home Economics at OSU, the New Professional Award from the Oklahoma Association of Extension Home Economists in 1991, and the Oklahoma Award for Consumer Media Grant in 1990.

While her professional accomplishments were many, Ruth was most proud of her family. She was known first and foremost as a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Anyone who ever stopped by the Maxson home knew they would not leave hungry. Ruth had a true servant's heart, always ready to feed, encourage, and care for others. Her home was a place of warmth, generosity, and faith.

She was deeply devoted to her church family and lived out her faith through quiet acts of service. She loved to sew, quilt, scrapbook, and cook—each stitch and recipe another expression of her love for those around her.

She is survived by her son, Stephen Maxson; her daughter-in-law, Janeva Maxson; granddaughter Tacie Maxson and wife Stacy Maxson; grandson Brantley Maxson and wife Amanda Maxson; grandson Brayden Maxson and fiancée Brittney Henry; and her beautiful great-grandchildren Addie Maxson, Brooklyn Maxson, Chloe Maxson, and Ivy Maxson. She is also survived by her sister-in-law and brother-in-law Gary and Norma Littleton; sister-in-law Georgia Cagle; and many beloved nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and

great-nephews.

Ruth's legacy is one of steadfast faith, unwavering love, and humble service. She will be deeply missed by her friends and family and by the many lives she touched throughout her remarkable life.

A visitation will be held on Thursday, February 19, 2026, from 6:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M. at Brown's Funeral Service.

A graveside service for Ruth will be held on Friday, February 20, 2026, at 2:00 P.M., at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Armstrong, OK, with John Carrell and Paul Mauck officiating. Serving as pallbearers are Brayden Maxson, Brantley Maxson, Steve O'Steen, Brett Barrett, Eric Littleton, and Kendall Bohannon.

Services are under the direction of Brown's Durant Funeral and Cremation Services.

<https://www.tributeslides.com/tributes/show/D6883QRMJSK2WQ8L>

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Hill Cemetery

Armstrong, OK

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 19. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Brown's Funeral Service - Durant
4900 West US Hwy 70
Durant, OK 74701
(580) 920-0393
info@brownsfuneralservice.com
<https://www.brownsfuneralservice.com/>

Graveside Service

FEB 20. 2:00 PM (CT)

Pleasant Hill Cemetery
Armstrong, OK

Tribute Wall



“ *Brown's Durant Funeral Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Ruth Elizabeth Maxson*



Brown's Durant Funeral Service - February 18 at 03:28 PM

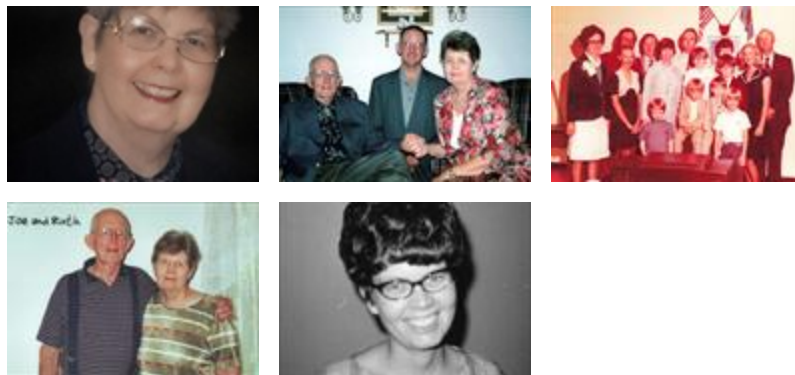
RC

“ *So saddened to learn of the passing of Ruth. She and Joe were very special to me and my wife, Jo. Joe was a professional colleague of mine for many years and I got to know and appreciate the graciousness of Ruth, A kind and caring woman. United again with Joe, Joe Barret, and Brian. Ray Campbell*

Ray Campbell - February 20 at 01:19 PM



“ *86 files added to the album Gallery of Pictures*



Brown's Durant Funeral Service - February 18 at 03:33 PM

YB

“ *Your cousins, The family of Otha Barrett purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Ruth Elizabeth Maxson.*



Your cousins, The family of Otha Barrett - February 18 at 12:41 PM

DB

“ *My family and my parents attended church with Ruth and Joe. Both wonderful Christians and amazing people. My deepest condolences.*

DeeAnn Ballew - February 17 at 11:41 PM

SL

“ *Sending hugs with fond and warm regards to Janeva, Stephen, and families. We will be doing a planting in Ruth's memory here at our home in Kansas City.*

Scott and Louise Lee - February 17 at 06:45 PM

DW

So sorry to hear of Ruth's passing. I will miss her and her smile.

Deanna woods - February 18 at 05:34 PM

SF

“ *Sabrina, Brac, & our Families. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ruth Elizabeth Maxson.*



Sabrina, Brac, & our Families. - February 17 at 05:58 PM

LG

“ We shared so many good times with Ruth and Joe. Ruth and I shared many good times together sharing our love for sewing embroidery. I will not be able to come but she will always be in my heart.

LaDona Gordon - February 17 at 03:22 PM