



## Joy Vinson Oliver

June 29, 1938 - March 4, 2018

Eva Joy Vinson Oliver, 79, passed away on March 4, 2018 in Searcy, Arkansas. She was born in Pangburn, Arkansas to her parents, Thelma (Crosby) and Roy Vinson. Joy was preceded in death by her grandson, Blake Ryan Hunter; her parents, her brothers, George Bryant and Lamar Vinson; and her sisters Betty Fowler and Gay Holmes. Joy was married to George Oliver for 60 years. Together they had three children, Debbie Oliver Starks (Don) of Searcy, Michael Oliver (Nancy) of Searcy, and Dedra Oliver Hunter (Steve) of Bentonville, Arkansas. Grandchildren – Shannon Starks Davis (Greg), Andrew Starks (Haley), Josh Starks (Leah), Natalie Oliver Dockery (Jared), Huston Oliver (Reagan), John Oliver, Joseph Oliver, Kalyn Hunter McCoy (AJ), and Chase Hunter. Great Grandchildren – Samuel, Isaiah, Jack Henry, Zaylie, Zander, Parker Jo, Hosea, Everett, Elizabeth, Riley and Clay. In Lieu of flowers the family would appreciate memorials being made to: Blake R. Hunter Memorial Scholarship Fund, University Advancement, HU Box 12238, Searcy, AR 72149 or International Healthcare Foundation/African Christian Hospital, 102 N. Locust St., Searcy, AR 72143. Visitation will be at Powell Funeral Home on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 from 6pm-8pm. A celebration of life will be at the College Church of Christ on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 2pm. Arrangements by Powell Funeral Home of Searcy. [www.powellfuneralhome.net](http://www.powellfuneralhome.net)

# Cemetery Details

## Henderson Cemetery

Pangburn, AR

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 6. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services (Searcy)  
2602 W. Beebe-Capps Expy  
Searcy, AR 72143  
(501) 268-7220  
searcy@powellfuneralhome.net  
<https://www.powellfuneralhome.net/>

## Celebration of Life

MAR 7. 2:00 PM (CT)

College Church Of Christ  
712 E Race Ave  
Searcy, AR 72143-4421  
(501) 268-7156

# Tribute Wall

RK

“ George and the family, we were so sad to hear of Joy's passing. She was a great example to me and a big part of my life while I was at college and even years later. She was beautiful inside and out. She will always hold a very special place in my heart and has touched my life in so many ways. I will forever be grateful for God bringing her and the family into my life. Sending love from, John, Robin (Pruitt), Jay & Alisa Klein

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**Robin Klein** - March 08, 2018 at 11:00 PM

RD

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Joy was a good friend growing up in Pangburn. We had several bunking parties at her house and always had a good time. She was such a pretty person inside and out. Lots of good memories.  
Rachel Lewis Davis

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**Rachel L Davis** - March 07, 2018 at 11:10 AM

LJ

“ Thinking about and praying for you George!  
David & Lisa Jarnagin

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**Lisa Jarnagin** - March 07, 2018 at 10:30 AM

LF

“ *Lee Colglazier and Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Joy Vinson Oliver.*



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**Lee Colglazier and Family** - March 07, 2018 at 08:48 AM

“ It was when I first started working at Oliver Twist (ice cream shop/ex garage). Grampa Bill Oliver had sweated mopping the entire floor to a spotless shine. I spilled a slushie drink all over his floor. Joy looked at me, smiled, and said, "It's a good thing he likes you, Karen." I was allowed to live another day.

*Joy had a loyal, loving nature. She looked at all sides of an issue and was able to discuss pros and cons in a way that most people failed to see. She was fiercely devoted to family. I can still hear her talking in my head with tidbits of wisdom. Joy shaped the person I am today. I am greatly blessed by knowing her.*

*When I first saw Shannon as a toddler everyone was commenting on how she was the exact replica of Debbie. I couldn't see that Shannon was the negative of Debbie. Take the photo of Debbie as a toddler, look at the negative film and there was Shannon.*

*What I remember about Michael was the story Joy told about him. We (the Dale Gaw clan) were moving from Madison Heights, MI to Lebanon, TN. After the church announcement of our move, Joy noticed how upset Michael was. She said she hadn't realized that he was so fond of my younger sister Kim that he would miss her. Kim and Michael had been in the same Sunday School classes from birth. Joy was questioning Michael and it came out that he was quite concerned that my father, Dale Gaw was leaving. "But why, Michael?" asked Joy. "Because HE always runs the Easter Hunt each year!" said Michael. Children do notice actions.*

*I so enjoyed Dedra in the three months that I lived with Joy, George and Dedra (don't forget Frosty the dog). That was her lilac/lavender phase. Most of her outfits were lilac/lavender. I slept in Michael's room in the basement. One day Dedra and I discovered a old electric blanket of her parents. We excitedly put it on the bed, got underneath it, and turned on the blanket to full power. It had dual controls. Dedra's side became toasty warm in seconds. My side never heated. Joy laughed when I later asked her about that. She*

*had discarded the blanket when her side burned out from overuse.*

*I see the love and respect that Joy and George had for each other continued in their children and I fully expect that legacy will be found in the grandchildren, great grandchildren and others. May God bless and keep you. May he lift his face upon you, be gracious to you and give you peace. Amen*

*With much love,  
Karen Gaw Stephens*

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**Karen Gaw Stephens** - March 07, 2018 at 04:47 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joy Vinson Oliver.*



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March 06, 2018 at 05:07 PM