



## Della M. Dunnigan

April 9, 1943 - June 22, 2020

Della M. Dunnigan was born April 9, 1943 to John and Fannie Gerrels Walz in the Alfalfa County Hospital in Cherokee, OK. She passed away on June 22, 2020 in Alva, OK at the age of 77.

The funeral service will be Thursday June 25, 2020, 10:00A.M. At the First United Methodist Church in Alva with internment at the Alva Municipal Cemetery under the direction of Wharton Funeral Chapel.

Della was raised on a farm west of Cherokee, OK, and graduated from Cherokee High School in 1961 and went on to attend NWOSU in Alva. On August 12, 1962, she was united in marriage to Dale L. Dunnigan at the First Christian Church in Cherokee, OK. To this union, one daughter was born, Denise Lyn Dunnigan Emmer.

After working at various jobs in Alva, she began working at the District Court Clerk's Office in 1976 at the Woods County Courthouse as a Deputy Court Clerk. In 1986, she was elected Court Clerk and served for 39 years before retiring in 2014.

She was a member of the Alva First United Methodist Church and served in various areas of the church including Chairman of the Administrative Board. She continued serving her church in her retirement. She also was a member of the Woods County Republican Women.

As a master seamstress and baker, Della never met a cake or cookie she could not bake or a piece of clothing she could not make or mend. She loved her family, her Boston Terriers and her African Violets.

Della was predeceased by her parents, John and Fannie Walz and by her two brothers, Lyle Walz and Charles Walz.

She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Dale L. Dunnigan of the home and her daughter Denise and son-in-law Chris Emmer of Metairie, Louisiana.

Also surviving are three nephews, Steve and Barbara Walz of Kiowa, KS, Mike and Raquelle Walz of Alva and Marc Walz of Alva.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Hannah Circle of the First United Methodist Church or to Creature Concerns with Wharton Funeral Home as Custodian.

# Cemetery Details

## Alva Municipal Cemetery

1698 Flynn Street  
Alva, OK 73717

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN 25. 10:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
626 College Ave.  
Alva, Ok

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wharton Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Della M. Dunnigan*



Wharton Funeral Chapel - June 24, 2020 at 02:19 PM



“ *Wharton Funeral Chapel created a Della Dunnigan Memorial Service Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 10 AM in memory of Della M. Dunnigan*



Wharton Funeral Chapel - June 23, 2020 at 07:22 PM



“ *I'm sorry to hearing about Della's passing. This family was very good to me in my gradeshchool years. She leaves a wonderful legacy. Prayers for Denise and Dale as they learn to live daily without this sweet soul on earth.*

Karen Sellers Laughlin - August 05, 2020 at 11:10 AM

DS

“ I just loved Della. She always said straight out what she thought & was very kind. She volunteered at church & helped with anything that needed doing. She enticed the board members to show up for meetings with her delicious cinnamon roll & was a fantastic baker in everything she made. She was beautiful & always looked so pretty. She was an excellent seamstress too. She was fun to be around! I'm so going to miss her, especially when I come home & church. She and Nancy Case were two of our best greeters ever at church. It's not going to be the same without her. May God richly bless her family with wonderful memories & smiles. Diana Stein



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**Diana Stein** - June 25, 2020 at 12:17 AM

BC

“ Babette Corby lit a candle in memory of Della M. Dunnigan



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**Babette Corby** - June 24, 2020 at 11:18 PM

SE

“ Our entire family sends sincerest sympathy to Dale and family. We cherish all the memories we have of our visits. They were filled with lots of laughter and fun. Della will be missed. Ted, Sylvia, Amanda, Adrianna, and Ian

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**Sylvia Eby** - June 24, 2020 at 10:14 PM

CS

“ Our deepest condolences for the family from Marlis Weber and Carol (Merrill) Stewart. Della was a very sweet person and one of Marlis' favorite customers! Her hot tea was probably waiting on her in heaven. Mom has very fond memories of her and her kindness.

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**Carol (Merrill) Stewart** - June 24, 2020 at 08:40 PM

DH

“ Della was a very sweet person. I met her when we attending Court Clerk meetings as I worked in the Cotton County Court Clerk office. We sometimes went to lunch together and discussed the office at length. The family will be in my prayers.

*Debbie Hodnefield,  
Retired Court Clerk  
Cotton County  
clerk: 2007-2012  
deputy: 1984-2006*

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**Debra M Hodnefield** - June 24, 2020 at 06:07 PM

DC

“ Mrs. Dunnigan was one of the nicest ladies I have ever known. Whenever I went with my dad over to the courthouse and we saw her, she always had a smile and a kind word to say. Her light is definitely going to be missed. May God grant you peace, hope and love.

*Donise(Sterba)Cinnamon*

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**Donise Cinnamon** - June 24, 2020 at 04:56 PM





“ 43 files added to the album Della



Ready to serve - representing the Woods County Court Clerk office  
and from left: Roger Court Clerk, Matt Davis Court Clerk, Steve  
Hammann Deputy Court Clerk, Cassie Fleming and Eric Rogers  
Court Clerk, Harry S. Williams, Notary Public Deputy Court Clerk  
Matthew Briggs. Photo by Christine Carlsberg.

Wharton Funeral Chapel - June 24, 2020 at 02:38 PM



“ We were very sorry to hear about Della. She was a wonderful person and she will be truly missed. We extend our sympathy with thoughts and prayers for all her family. May all her loving memories bring comfort and peace to all of you.



Virgil and Lavon Wiersig - June 24, 2020 at 12:15 PM



“ Dale and family,  
  
We were so sorry to hear of Della's passing. She was such a wonderful person and will be truly missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of you.



Tom and Sherry Ramy

Sherry Ramy - June 24, 2020 at 02:19 AM

PH

“ So sorry Dale and family To hear of Della’s death. She was a very sweet wonderful lady and did a great job at Woods County . Pam Phillips Henderson

Pam Phillips Henderson - June 23, 2020 at 11:08 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Della M. Dunnigan.



June 23, 2020 at 09:58 PM

BB

“ Dale and Denise and extended family,  
So sorry to hear of Della’s passing. I always enjoyed and always knew where I stood with Della. She was so sweet.



Bill and Linda Beeler - June 23, 2020 at 09:13 PM

SK

“ Dale so sorry for your loss she will be deeply missed if you need anything just holler!!!! 😞😞😞

Steve Kramp - June 23, 2020 at 08:10 PM

PJ

“ So very sorry for the loss of Della. She was always friendly and kind to everyone.

Pam Jones - June 23, 2020 at 05:23 PM

TF

“ Prayers for the family. Della will be missed.

Tammy (Bishop) Frazier - June 23, 2020 at 03:19 PM

SW

“ We are so sorry for your loss. I worked for Della for many years. She was always for the employees and fought to get raises. She was always fair. A favorite saying of hers was, "There isn't any mistake that can't be fixed."

Sherry I. Williams - June 23, 2020 at 02:09 PM

JB

Sorry for your loss. Della was all class and for the common people. Would see her at walmart on occassion and take up where we left off talking from the last time. Della you will be missed.

Jeff Blackshaw - June 23, 2020 at 02:50 PM

GB

Della had a very dry sense of humor! She could put you and keep you in laughter by the hour. She was always dressed to perfection, baked incredible desserts for church luncheons,! Was precise in her work,! Articulate, very smart, a woman of all trades, a forever present body at her church and a beautiful Christian lady. She had very few things she couldnt do. I will greatly miss being blessed by her presence wherever I went in regards to the Church. Shes received her crown of jewels!

Gwen Burroughs - June 23, 2020 at 03:11 PM

CS

Della will missed by many. She was a wonderful lady. We are praying for her family through this difficult time.

Cindy & Ted Shafer - June 23, 2020 at 09:04 PM

DC

*I worked with Della at the Court House many years. You could always count on her for doing the right thing. A fine church worker. She could bake darn good cookies which she brought to the church along with pies and cakes. We were good close friends and I will sure miss this fine lady. Duane Carter*

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**Duane Carter** - June 23, 2020 at 09:32 PM