



Lawanda Rose Tonge

September 2, 1948 - January 5, 2026

Our sweet mommy, Lawanda Rose (Botone) Tonge, age 77, was born on September 2, 1948, in Anadarko, Oklahoma, and went to be with our Lord on Monday, January 5, 2026, surrounded by love.

Our mom devoted 34 years of faithful service to Klein Independent School District. After retiring, she made her home in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, to be closer to her brother, staying true to her roots and the culture and family she held dear.

She is survived by her brother, Tom Botone of Daugherty, Oklahoma, and by us—her daughters, Jennifer Mabrey and husband Chuck Mabrey, and Melissa Wallin and husband Chad Wallin. She was a loving and devoted Gran to Jackson and his wife Tori Weatherford, Emma and her husband Shay Easterling, Spencer Mabrey, and Matthew Wallin. Each of her grandchildren brought her so much joy, and she loved them deeply.

Our mommy was gentle, kind, and full of grace. She was our steady place, our encourager, and our constant prayer warrior. She was a cherished sister, a devoted Gran, and a faithful friend. She was blessed with many dear friends, and she carried each of them in her heart and prayers. With her kind and generous spirit, she never knew a stranger; all who crossed her path were touched by her warmth. She loved to visit with everyone and make them feel seen and cared for.

Above all, our mom loved Jesus. Her faith was the foundation of her life. She began each morning with the Lord, spending quiet time in prayer and filling

journal after journal with heartfelt prayers for her family, friends, and anyone God placed on her heart. Her love for Jesus was lived out in the way she loved others—selflessly, faithfully, and with great compassion.

Our hearts ache without her, but we are comforted knowing she is now at peace, whole, and resting in the loving presence of her Savior—the Jesus she loved so dearly.

Viewing will be held on Sunday, January 11, 2026, from 1:00–5:00 p.m. at De Arman–Wynnewood Funeral Home in Wynnewood.

A celebration of Lawanda’s life will be held on Monday, January 12, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at The House Church in Pauls Valley. A graveside service will follow.

With love,

Jen and Lissa

Cemetery Details

Dougherty Cemetery

Dougherty, OK

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 11. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

DeArman Funeral Home- Wynnewood
103 E Cherokee St
Wynnewood, OK 73098
(405) 665-4554
<https://www.dearmanfuneralhome.com>

Celebration of Life

JAN 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

The House Church
33440 Airline Road
Pauls Valley, OK 73075

Tribute Wall

MH

“*Lawanda was such a lovely person. I enjoyed working along side her at KHS. She had an infectious smile, and such sweet wit. I am so grateful to have known her. God bless her family. She will be missed.*

Marcella Hartman - January 12 at 09:35 PM

CT

“*Well done my good and faithful servant, well done! Lawanda has earned her well deserved wings! She was truly an inspiration to me. I first met her in 2004 when she became my first Assistant Principal Secretary (yes, I was trained by the best) while assigned to Klein High School. I had the opportunity to meet her daughter Melissa and to hear all about Jackson and Emma. She loved you all so much! Lawanda was extra special to me. She went a step above and took an interest in my son. She called him her "Little Bubala." In the midst of my busy mornings on campus, I always needed to get my text or telephone call from my son informing me that he caught his bus and made it to school. If my son forgot to call, she would call the attendance office at Jersey Village High School to confirm he made it. She knew i would not be at peace until I knew he was safe. There are so many more memories that I cherish and and will forever hold dear to my heart! Did you know her favorite actor was Matthew McConaughey? She said he was going to be her next husband and we would just laugh. Also, her favorite song was "This Will Be" by Natalie Cole.....and she was very dramatic when she song it!*

I feel truly blessed for having crossed paths with the one and only, Lawanda Tonge! Rest in peace, my friend!

Cheryle Thompson - January 11 at 01:57 PM

LA

“ My heart is broken. Lawanda was my first secretary at Klein High when I became an AP. She honestly trained all the rookies! She was the funniest, kindest, hardworking, most giving and loving person I knew. We became great friends and have been lucky to stay in touch with each other. Her faith was so strong. She loved her Almighty God fiercely, and we prayed together on more than one occasion. Her daughters and grandchildren were the loves of her life. I will so miss all her sayings, her singing, her hugs, and her love. Rest in peace my dear, sweet friend. I will miss you so much! Love you Wand!

Lynette Acosta - January 10 at 08:12 PM

SD

“ Beautiful family, I am so sorry for your loss. YI worked with your mom at KHS for years. She was always ready with a smile and something funny to say. Her office always radiated the love of her family and culture! Once she moved we kept up on FB and sharing God! My heart will be with you during her celebration of life. Sandy Daron

Sandy Daron - January 09 at 08:00 PM

RM

“ Rose M. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Lawanda Rose Tonge.



Rose M. - January 09 at 07:02 PM

HA

“ Oh how you will be missed! I am grateful to have known you in this life. I can hear you singing with the angels now giving God all his Glory!!

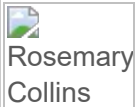


Hannah Autin - January 09 at 02:53 PM



“ Your mother didn't just show kindness, she was a walking kindness. I am so blessed to have known her (if for only a short time at KHS). I Know God's love and strength will keep you all during this difficult time and in the days to come. May you be drawn as close to the Savior as she was.

Dawn Moses - January 09 at 01:14 PM



“ Your mother was such an inspiration to everyone. I had the pleasure of working with her at Klein High School. I was so happy for her when she retired and relocated back home. Be encouraged and continue her legacy loving the Lord and others. Love never fails. 🙏
❤️

Rosemary Collins - January 09 at 12:16 AM



“ *Lawanda was such a warm, giving, loving friend. So many good memories of our time working together at KHS.* ❤️



Carolyn Roberts - January 07 at 11:44 PM



“ *Jr Toehay lit a candle in memory of Lawanda Rose Tonge*



Jr Toehay - January 07 at 10:23 PM



“ *Lawanda and her family were wonderful active members of our congregation at the Presbyterian Church of Glen Cove Long Island! We will miss her!* 🙏❤️



Gordon M. Allan - January 07 at 09:33 PM

GA

“ *Lawanda was loved and adored by all who met her at our Presbyterian Church, Glen Cove, Long Island, NY. Sending hugs & prayers!* ”

Therault, Diane Ekoblad, Dottie Luhrs Wend Roth, Gail Allan, etc!
Top row starting left:
Lawanda Tonge, Marge Powers, Gail Allan, Dottie Wend, Carol Muzic, Marjorie Hansen, ?
Bottom row, starting left:
Val Ruckert, ? Becky Allen, Diane Ekoblad, Selly Sharp, Donna Orlando.



Gordon M. Allan - January 07 at 09:26 PM

AC

“ *Here are just a few pictures from Hope Church functions.* ”



Anna Chaykoski - January 07 at 07:40 PM



“ *What a beautiful tribute to such a wonderful Christian woman. Lawanda was friend and family to so many and will be missed dearly. Her legacy of love will never be forgotten. I will never think of or hear the word Oklahoma without hearing the voice of Lawanda “K70” Tonge in the back of my head breaking out in her best musical voice singing “Oooooooooooklahoma, where the wind comes sweepin’ down the plain...”* ❤️ *Love you Lawanda!* ”

Chad Stolle - January 07 at 07:20 PM

JN

“ Matt and I are saddened by her passing, she was so kind, sweet, thoughtful and a prayer warrior. She will forever be in our hearts and her memories will forever live on. We have been praying over your family for strength and comfort. Love to all.

jill Nichols - January 07 at 05:41 PM

MS

“ Lawanda was a wonderful person to work with at KHS. She always had a beautiful smile on her face and a welcoming office with all sorts of interesting native artifacts. She was just the kindest lady to interact with each day and will be greatly missed by all who knew her. ❤️

Mindi Seawright - January 07 at 05:36 PM

CM

“ I worked with her at Klein High School. She was always there for you. Sorry for your loss.

Cheryl McCormick - January 07 at 04:54 PM