



## Dr. Mary Jane Norman

October 16, 1951 - July 20, 2025

Dr. Mary Jane Norman of Sulphur, Oklahoma moved on to the next great adventure on July 20, 2025. Mary Jane, surrounded by the love of family and friends, held her daughter's hand as she set off on her journey.

Born on October 16, 1951 in Sulphur, Oklahoma to Attorney Lynn Wilkerson Norman and Teacher Byrd Ferguson Norman, Mary Jane was a beloved daughter, niece, mother, grandmother, doctor and friend. She touched the lives of so many with her profound warmth, creativity, compassion and humor. Mary Jane was a generous friend with a keenly empathetic heart.

Mary Jane graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor's Degree in Art History. Later in life, after becoming a mother, Mary Jane answered her calling of becoming a Medical Doctor.

Mary Jane pursued her Medical Degree in Family Medicine at the University of Utah Medical School. After the completion of her Residency at the University of Utah, she specialized for a time in women's health. However, her true gift was in Geriatric Medicine.

Mary Jane's personal mission was to create a model of compassionate care and dignity for those coming into the end of life. She leaves a legacy of kindness and understanding for this all important stage.

Mary Jane was passionate about all things colorful, bright and beautiful. She

possessed an amazing sense of style, think Rosalind Russell in Auntie Mame, and you will not be too far off the mark. Mary Jane was a brilliant artist and seamstress. She created numerous pieces of artwork for family and friends, frequently created her own clothing, and even made her daughter's wedding dress.

Mary Jane is survived by her daughter, Bena Kratochvil, and her granddaughter Ocean Wister Larkey. She is additionally survived by her dear friends Bruce Davies, Jolene Mitchell, Marilyn Bearen, Janice Warren, and Jack Kelly - all who will forever cherish her memory.

Mary Jane was predeceased by her Father, Lynn Wilkerson Norman, her Mother, Byrd Ferguson Norman, Brother, Lynn Byrd Norman, Aunts, Margret Jane McMakin, Mary F. Tate, Ruth F. Moore, Uncles, Bud Ferguson, and Tom Ferguson.

A service to honor and celebrate Mary Jane will be held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, July 24th at the Chapel of Crossway Baptist Church in Sulphur (which Mary Jane and her daughter lovingly referred to as "The Church of the Walmart"), with interment to follow at Oaklawn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, Mary Jane had requested that donations be made to one of the following organizations:

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org)

Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, [www.regionalfoodbank.org](http://www.regionalfoodbank.org)

The Family Shelter of Southern Oklahoma, [www.familyshelterofsouthernok.net](http://www.familyshelterofsouthernok.net)

Primary Children's Hospital, [www.intermountainhealthcare.org/locations/primary-childrens-salt-lake-city](http://www.intermountainhealthcare.org/locations/primary-childrens-salt-lake-city)

# Cemetery Details

## Oaklawn Cemetery

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Sulphur, OK 73086

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JUL **24.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Chapel of Crossway Baptist Church  
2108 W Broadway Ave  
Sulphur, OK 73086  
(580) 622-2550

# Tribute Wall

RM

“ I also knew Mary Jane from AMDA where we enjoyed a 20 plus year friendship. We always enjoyed our social time with the group over cigars and bourbon (she really preferred Booker’s). On several occasions when she was going to be alone for Thanksgiving, my wife and I invited her to our southern MO river home to enjoy the holiday with us. She really enjoyed being my sous chef for my Saturday Leftover Thanksgiving Turkey Gumbo for a gathering of our friends and neighbors, many of whom also came to count her as a friend. I had plans to visit her after my retirement this spring, but had to cancel and reschedule, but suddenly could not reach her. We were concerned something had happened and didn’t learn of her passing until my wife found her obituary on line. We are saddened and will miss her greatly. Our condolences to her daughter and family.

*Randall Huss, MD*

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**Randall Huss, MD** - September 27, 2025 at 09:15 AM

CC

“ I knew Mary Jane from AMDA, the professional society for doctors who worked in nursing homes. She was a delight and joy to be around with a great sense of humor. Even though we only saw each other every year at our national convention, several of us built a special friendship (including professors at Washington University and the Mayo Clinic). Always had bourbon and a cigar one night over tales of our trial and tribulations. We just found out about her passing. Condolences to her family

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**Charles Crecelius** - September 25, 2025 at 06:35 PM

MH

“ I am a few years older than Mary Jane, so I remember her in her childhood years. She always seemed to me to be "more" and not your average child or teenager. Therefore, I am not surprised to read of her intelligence, her passion, and her varied talents. She lived a full life in which she gave much to others. She was indeed "more". I'm sure family and friends were blessed to have Mary Jane in their lives.

*I remember Byrd Norman well. I did a brief stint as a practice teacher in her room at Cameron Grade School. It was only for a couple of weeks and before the fall semester at OSU began; a short time in which I learned much.*

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**Mary Lou DeFratus Heltzel** - July 24, 2025 at 10:38 AM