



Shelley Elaine Knowles

MAY 23, 1956 - JUN 11, 2021



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 6
Media	Page 9



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Shelley Knowles, 65, passed away at Golden Age Care Center in Centerville, Iowa on the afternoon of Friday, June 11, 2021.

After a year of very few visitors due to COVID-19 directives, she was blessed to have seen two of her daughters and her grandchildren in the days before (and even the morning of) her passing.

Although she was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimers disease at the age of 57, her life leading up to (and beyond) that point was filled with wonderful experiences and loads of love and laughter

Shelley Elaine Collins was born on May 23, 1956 in San Antonio, Texas. From 1958 to 1963, her family lived on the Zweibrcken Air Base in Germany where her father worked for the United States Air Force Security Service (a secretive branch). While attending Winston Churchill High School in San Antonio, she played the flute in the marching band and loved driving her friends around in her yellow Volkswagen Beetle.

After graduating in 1974, Shelley went on to receive a degree in horticulture from Southwest Texas State University (now Texas State University) in 1979. That same year, she married Reagan Simon of Kyle, Texas and was a homemaker for many years as they raised their daughters, Lindsey (born 1983) and Amanda (born 1986). Though their relationship turned out to be less permanent than either of them expected, they both went on to remarry and raise exceptional children.

Shelley moved to nearby San Marcos, Texas where she went on to raise her youngest daughter, Emmalee Collins (born 1993). She had a successful career with Cellular One (eventually AT&T) in Austin, Texas for several years. On July 17, 2004, Shelley was baptized as one of Jehovahs Witnesses.



Obituary

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She fell in love with Shane Knowles when he had visited her Kingdom Hall in Martindale, Texas and they were married there on May 26, 2007. The newlyweds settled into a house that Shane had admired for years in the town of Centerville, Iowa where he had lived for many years before.

When Shelleys family would visit, she loved taking them to see the covered bridges that inspired the name of the book and movie, The Bridges of Madison County. Shelley was an exceptionally talented artist and gardener, and she was also pretty good at playing the piano and making people laugh. Her daughters loved her schnitzel, and they already miss her unduplicable strawberry-banana milkshakes.

Over the years, Shelley traveled for work and with friends and family, making memories in places like Hawaii, Tokyo, London, Paris, Germany, Ireland, Maui, New Mexico, Colorado, California and Las Vegas, of course! When she lived in Texas, she particularly loved spending family time at her sister and brother-in-laws beach condo in Port Aransas as often as she was able to do so.

In Centerville, she enjoyed spending her time teaching others Bible truths as a Regular Pioneer for a number of years in the local congregation. Driving long distances in the surrounding rural areas afforded her many opportunities to take pictures of the interesting plants and animals she found. She was always known to take more pictures of plants than people, but she also especially loved to photograph run-down barns and cows.

Shelley is survived by her husband: Shane Knowles of Centerville; her daughters: Lindsey (Neil) Finlay of New Braunfels, TX, Amanda (Chris) Rickman of Driftwood, TX, and Emmalee (Andrew) Wade of Centerville; her grandchildren: Isla and Coy Finlay and Aiden Wade; her sister: Karen (Heinz) Roesch of Blanco, TX; her mother-in-law: Alberta Fowler; her sisters-in-law: Kim Duhamel, Tammy (Bill) Wells, and Carol (Bruce) Knight; Shanes children: Jesse Knowles, Latisha Rider, Charlet (Mark) VanHook, and Jadrien (Brooke) Knowles, as well as their children.

She also leaves behind many beloved cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends. Shelley was preceded in death by her father, Bryan D. "B.D." Collins, mother Peggy "Joanne" (Powell) Collins, brother Bryan Paul Collins, son Cameron Preston, and many aunts and uncles.

A service will be held on Zoom on Sunday, June 20th at 1:00pm. Use Zoom code 241 240 2383 to join. A private reception will be held at another time. Interment will take place at the Marion



Obituary

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Cemetery in Lohn, Texas at a later date, as well as a memorial reception for her family and friends in Texas.

Condolences may be sent c/o Wade: 521 E Clark St, Centerville, IA 52544, or c/o Finlay: 234 Pinnacle Pkwy, New Braunfels, TX 78132. For more information, text or call (563) 554-9154. Lange Funeral Home and Crematory in Centerville, Iowa is handling the local arrangements for the family.

Condolences may be shared online at www.langefhcom. or on Lange Funeral Homes Facebook page.



Tribute Wall

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Thomas Funeral Home posted:

October 21 at 3:25 PM



Thomas Funeral Home shared an album called **Obituary Wall**.



October 13 at 3:10 PM



Elise Sidles posted:

Shelley was such a joy to be around. Her calm manner and sense of humor made her presence enjoyable. That sweet smile of hers! We both had our start in Texas and were transplanted to Iowa. I loved getting to know her Mom too when she visited Iowa. Until we see her again healthy and enjoying nature again! My sincere condolences to all the family. Elise Sidles meet again Shelley! My sincere condolences to her

June 18 at 7:00 PM



Jana Davis posted:

Linda, She loved you so very much. I am so glad she had you. Thank you for that! Sincerely, Jana Powell Davis

June 17 at 7:00 PM



Danny And Diana Fryer posted:

Our deepest sympathy for your loss. Shelly always brought a smile when we did get to be with her. Looking forward to being with her again soon.

June 15 at 7:00 PM



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DJ

Davis Jana posted:

Shelley Elaine, there's so many things I could say! We lived life when we were young! When I would come to San Antonio we would hop in the yellow bug and go! When I graduated High school who did I want to come see, you! We have had more fun together over the years! You have never been far from my thoughts. I was sad when you left Texas and went so far away. I knew I would not get to see you as much. Yep, I was right. I got to see you at Mookies wedding. We talked and talked that night. That was the last time I got to physically hug you. I was so lucky to talk to you one last time before this disease robbed you of everything. I consider myself lucky to have had you in my life for the time I did and cherish each and every moment we got to share together! I am glad you will be placed with the family at Marion! That is where you need to be back in Texas, back home! With Aunt Joanne, Uncle B.D. and Bryan, Cameron, Grandmother and Granddaddy Powell, and daddy. Of course all the Aunties and Uncles! Rest easy Shelley you are free! Until we meet again my sweet cousin. ❤️❤️❤️
Jana L Powell Davis

June 14 at 7:00 PM

LK

Linda Moore Kowalak posted:

Shelley was my best friend almost immediately after my family moved into the neighborhood, we were 13. We spent so much time together in high school that there was a path worn between the two houses. We roomed together in college until I left school and moved to Michigan. Shelley will always be in my heart, giggling and talking into the wee hours! ❤️❤️❤️ Linda

June 14 at 7:00 PM

KM

Kelli & Tony Mccarty posted:

We are so sorry for your loss. Shelley was a great person and had such a beautiful smile! Our thoughts and prayers are with your family during this difficult time.

June 12 at 7:00 PM

KJ

Karla James posted:

I remember Shelley and Shane taking Jerry and I out for lunch when we came up to Centerville when Jerry gave the talk. She was quite but we had a great time. She was a beautiful and very nice sister who loved Jehovah very much. We look forward to seeing her soon when Jehovah remembers her and brings her back to life. What a wonderful day that will be.

June 12 at 7:00 PM



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Josh & Kayla Beck posted:

Shelley was such a nice person!! We are so sorry for your loss. We are thinking of you and you will be in our thoughts and prayers. ❤️❤️

June 12 at 7:00 PM



Nellie Thomas lit a candle in honor of Shelley.

Lit a candle in memory of Shelley Elaine Knowles

June 12 at 7:00 PM





Media

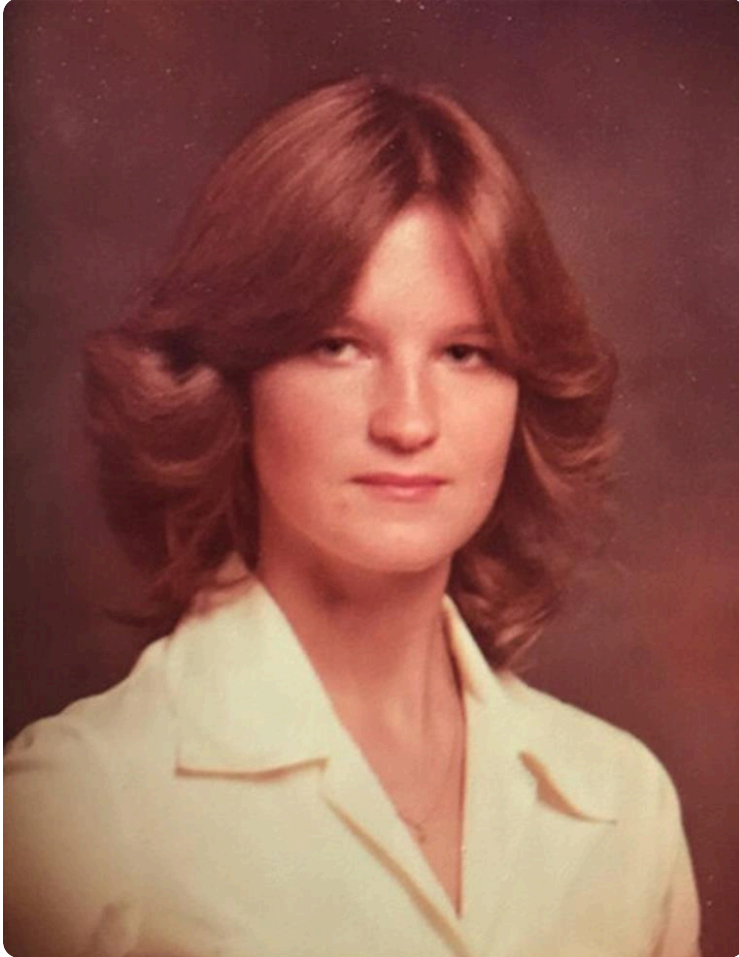
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Thomas Funeral Home shared a photo to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 3:10 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Shelley by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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