



# Joyce Theresa Williams Graugnard

June 18, 1927 - March 5, 2024

Joyce Graugnard, 96, of Reserve, Louisiana, passed away on March 5, 2024, after a long and healthy life and a very brief illness.

Joyce Theresa Williams was born in Lions, Louisiana on June 18, 1927, to parents John and Virginia Williams. She was part of two families, the first with five children, and the second, where she was one of nine siblings. Joyce graduated from Leon Godchaux high school in 1945. She went on to work at Altman's department store until meeting her future husband, Fernand, who happened to be the brother of her best friend and future sister-in-law, Regina.

Fernand and Joyce were married on September 23, 1950 in Reserve. They went on to have five children, Joyce, Emile, Fernand, Carolyn, and Virginia. They raised their family in Lions, on the Graugnard property abutting the Terra Haute plantation. Joyce retired from outside work to care for her husband, which turned out to be a common theme for the rest of her life. Always the caretaker, she looked after her parents, siblings, nieces and nephews, up through the final days of her last living sibling, Ethyl Mae.

Joyce has been an active member of St. Peter's Parish and a member of the Ladies' Altar Society. Her Catholic faith was paramount in her life, providing her comfort in her journey through to her last days.

Joyce was an avid gardener and active participant at the St. John's Parish Senior Center. A weed never survived in a garden she passed by! Her most cherished activity was coming to visit her grandchildren in Louisiana and Texas. One of her proudest accomplishments was getting her driver's license in 1973; an unintended consequence of helping her sister attempt to learn to drive.

Joyce was ready, as she put it, "to act foolish", and loved her family gatherings. All of us will remember Joyce for her generosity and willingness to care for family and friends, including the use of those driving skills to help out. She led a simple life; her priorities focused on being a loving part of our lives. Each of us has a story of Joyce's birthday and anniversary cards, jumping in to babysit, teaching one how to make a roux, or moral support when needed.

Joyce was preceded in death by her husband, Fernand, her daughter, Virginia, great-grandchildren, Hunter and Peyton, and her best friend Helen Kliebert, who just recently

passed. She is survived by her daughters Carolyn (Steve Waken), Joyce (Ralph Ruiz), sons Fernand (Patricia) and Emile (Sharon), and son-in-law Arthur Virgadamo (Virginia). Joyce was also the proud grandmother of eight, with sixteen wonderful great-grandchildren. Those of us who are not blood-related consider her to be our mother, aunt, and friend.

Funeral mass will be held at 11:00 a.m, at St Peter's Catholic Church, 1550 Highway 44, Reserve, Louisiana; viewing will be available beginning at 9:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St Peter Catholic School, at 188 W. 7th St, Reserve, LA, 70084, or at the school's web site [www.stpeterreserve.org](http://www.stpeterreserve.org).

Arrangements are by Millet-Guidry Funeral Home. To share memories or condolences, please visit [www.milletguidry.com](http://www.milletguidry.com).

# Cemetery Details

## St. Peter Cemetery

1550 Hwy 44  
Reserve, LA 70084

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 13. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter Catholic Church  
1550 LA-44  
Reserve, LA 70084

## Funeral Mass

MAR 13. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter Catholic Church  
1550 LA-44  
Reserve, LA 70084

# Tribute Wall

CP

“ *My Condolences on the passing of Mrs Joyce.*

*She is the most caring person I've had the pleasure of getting to know.*

*I was introduced to her by Sam and Stephanie Peranio my husband's brother and sister in law. They said she needed someone to help with cleaning her home. I took on the job. This turned out to be the greatest thing I ever did. I gained the greatest friend I ever had. She was always concerned for me. Wanting to know if I'm ok. We'd sit and talk for a while. That's what a special person she was. Caring of others. Which made me want to do special things for her. So my next cleaning day I showed up with a hand sewn curtain for one of her bedroom windows as a surprise. She couldn't believe it. She knew she had more than just a cleaning person. She had a friend. Most of all I had a very Special Friend.*

*I loved her very much. She will be sadly missed, but not forgotten. She always had a smile, so please remember that. Huuugs.*

*Cheryl Peranio*

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**Cheryl Peranio** - March 12, 2024 at 04:24 AM

AA

“ *So so sorry to hear of your mom passing away. What a wonderful life she had!! Such a beautiful woman inside and out, and always willing to help someone. She will definitely be missed by all who knew her. I have so many great memories to cherish in my heart growing up with y'all. Also deepest sympathy about Ginny! Didn't know she had passed away. Sending prayers to all of you, at this difficult time.*

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**Angel Levet Aycock** - March 11, 2024 at 10:36 AM

CB

“ *Rest in Peace Mrs. Joyce. I have so many memories of Mrs. Joyce when I was growing up. She was always such a kind person. Deepest sympathy to all of her family.*

*Carol Becnel Bruno*

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**Carol Bruno** - March 09, 2024 at 08:13 PM

ST

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Steve - March 09, 2024 at 06:52 PM

ST

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Steve - March 09, 2024 at 06:01 PM

ST

“ 35 files added to the album Virginia's Pics



Steve - March 09, 2024 at 05:55 PM

ST

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Steve - March 09, 2024 at 05:41 PM

ST

“ 51 files added to the album *Gia's Pics w/Grandma*



Steve - March 09, 2024 at 05:20 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *Deanna Barrios & Susan Barrios LeBeau*



Susan LeBeau - March 09, 2024 at 05:11 PM

ST

“ 58 files added to the album *Joyce Pics from Steve & Carolyn*



Steve - March 09, 2024 at 04:44 PM



“ You will be missed Aunt Joyce by all of the Barrios Family!!! So many wonderful memories over the years visiting you in the country as we called it!! We love you forever!



Susan LeBeau - March 09, 2024 at 04:32 PM

CS

“ So sorry to hear that Aunt Joyce passed, Gary and I just found out about aunt Joyce friday night. GARY HAS A TEST ON THE 13 AND WE NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE IT TO THE FUNERAL.Aunt Joyce was the life of the party and she will be missed by all who know her ,Will keep her and the family in my prayers, again i am so sorry for your loss.

Catherine simon - March 09, 2024 at 01:52 PM

PG

“ Aunt Joyce just might have been the happiest person I ever knew. She always had a welcoming smile on her face (just like the picture to the left). From my earliest memories of Lions until recently, she was always upbeat and always made one feel at home. I'm sure she went through some rough times in her life, but you'd never know it from talking to her. My mom thought the world of her, and she will be missed.

Paul Guidry - March 09, 2024 at 11:09 AM

LK

“ When we were neighbors, we would be outside cutting grass together. No one could stop her. Whenever I had extra food, I would bring her some. She lived coming eat watermelon with us. She loved my children. RIP Ms Joyce.

Lynne Vicknair Kissinger - March 09, 2024 at 10:26 AM