



Dekka Ruth House

September 12, 1946 - February 14, 2014

Born 9.12.46 in Artesia NM to Vada Ruth Coleman Clem and Howard Dee (Jack) Clem in Artesia, New Mexico.

Dekka led the “Leave it to Beaver” life in her younger years attending school and First Baptist Church as she grew an ever enlarging circle of life-long friends. She spent time serving in offices in the Artesia Jr. Story League and the Jr. American Legion. Her musical talents were established through piano lessons and playing the alto sax in the Zia Jr. High Band, the award winning AHS marching band, concert band and the dance band. She also served in several churches as a substitute organist while attending high school. She graduated from Artesia High School with the still close knit class of 1964 making grades just good enough to stay out of trouble and still allow time for a very active social life.

After a year of college Dekka met Joseph Roy House who was stationed at Walker Air Force Base in Roswell. They married on May 2, 1965 and then set out on a journey with the United States Air Force to Biloxi, Mississippi, two tours in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Rantoul, Illinois, two tours in Minot, North Dakota, La Junta, Colorado, Ritzville, Washington, as well as Holloman and Kirtland Air Force Bases in New Mexico. When he was stationed in Vicenza, Italy and Naples, Italy, Dekka packed up her two young children, William Todd House and Susan LeAnn House to follow her husband, where they spent his

down time touring Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Capri, Vatican City, and Germany. While in Europe, they were also able to follow in the footsteps of Paul the Apostle. When Joe served his tour in Vietnam, Dekka and her son returned to Artesia to be near her family.

After “seeing the world” with Uncle Sam, Dekka and family settled in Roswell where Dekka went to work for attorneys. She then established Dekka House Transcriptions, which she owned and operated until she made her final move to the home God prepared for her in Heaven. Since Dekka worked from home, she and Joe also shared their passion for rescuing small, needy dogs. Over the years, Dekka played an instrumental part of knitting together the AHS class of 1964. Amongst the class of 1964, a fund was established and directed by Dekka to provide support and comfort to each other. Representing the class, Dekka would send AHS blankets to class members who were sick and flowers to funerals of their families, as well as acts of kindness to classmates in need.

Over the years her children would provide Dekka and Joe with the prides of their lives, grandchildren Stephen Edward House, Colby Ryan House, Brandon Michael House, Kelsey Faith House, and Casey Ashtin House.

On February 14, 2014 Dekka completed her earthly assignment and was called home by her Heavenly Father. She and her family were members of Christ Church. Dekka was preceded in death by her parents. In addition to her family, she is survived by her favorite sister Vicki Lee Shaw, her husband Dewayne Shaw and their daughter Amy and her husband Tripp; her favorite brother Lloyd Clem and his wife BeeJ with their children, Ferrall Clem, his wife Sue and their children, Jennifer and Jason, as well as Shelly, her husband Randy Bristow and Shelly’s children, Brittany and Colton. There are also numerous cousins, all of who will be happy to share some really good “growing up” stories. She is also survived by her best friend of 64 years, Mary

Gill King and the AHS class of 1964. Public viewing will be held at Anderson Bethany Funeral Chapel located at 2609 S. Main Street in Roswell on Sunday the 16th from 2 PM to 4PM. The memorial service will be held at the Chapel at 10 AM, Monday the 17th with the Class of '64 serving as honorary pallbearers. For family and anyone who was unable to attend Monday service, burial and a time of sharing will be Wednesday the 19th at 10 AM in South Park Cemetery.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dekka Ruth House*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *I am so ashamed I totally missed this in the obits. Dekka was sooo dear to me and we had the best talks every time i did her hair. I simply can not believe this has happened. She would always kid me that I was the one that would do her hair when she died and I would start crying and said I could not do that cuz i'm so much of a cry baby. Well, maybe this happened for a reason my Dekka Dear! I will miss all of the laughs and cries we shared and May God rest your weary Soul. I love you and my prayers are with the surviving family. Prayers of strength and courage, Cheryl Wafful*

Cheryl Wafful - March 01, 2014 at 03:14 PM



“ *I just found out about Dekka. She was such a dear friend. Whenever I got an email I always thought oh good--I knew I would have a good laugh. I will miss her*

Vicki Ashcraft - February 18, 2014 at 10:51 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dekka Ruth House.*



February 18, 2014 at 10:47 AM

RR

“ Joe & family,
We are saddened at your loss. Our prayers are with you as you walk this hard journey!!
Rowan (Chancellor) & Robert Rennie

Rowan Rennie - February 17, 2014 at 09:56 PM

PS

“ To the Family of Dekka Ruth Clem House,
I never met your dearly departed, but after reading her obituary in the Artesia newspaper, I was moved to send my condolences, The little bit of information I read sincerely touched me, and even though I never knew her or even met her, I was saddened by the loss of such a well rounded, well lived and well loved human being. I even read it aloud to my family. Now, that's how you leave a memory! Your wife, mom, sister, grandmother, cousin, aunt and friend definately left an impression that will obviously be missed. I'm glad to know she lived a good life.
Sincerest condolences,
Penny Sarabia

Penny Sarabia - February 17, 2014 at 09:43 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dekka Ruth House.



February 17, 2014 at 03:13 PM

HD

“ Our sincere condolences. Dekka was a lovely person with a smile to light up a room. Henry Dickson & Diana Bendorf, Dickson Law, P.C. Roswell.

Henry Dickson - February 17, 2014 at 12:52 PM

NS

“ So sorry to hear of Dekka's passing. Dekka was such a good friend to my sister, Sandy, and was so much help to us during her lengthy illness. My heartfelt prayers to all her family and Dekka, give Sandy a big hug for me....Norlene Ransbarger Shell

Norlene Ransbarger Shell - February 17, 2014 at 12:25 PM

MK

“ Hey "Jelly Bean" miss you oh so much already, I came from Houston to celebrate your wonderful life and I got sick, so am sitting here in local hotel thinking of you and loving the family you shared with me since we were four and five. God bless you and I'll see you again on day in the future. Love, Mary Gill King.

Mary Gill King - February 17, 2014 at 11:21 AM

JS

“ Dekka was a very special person. When we worked together on the AHS Class of 64 web site in 2000, we shared a lot of memories and sent a lot of Emails, doing the website. And since I have been over seas on assignment for the Lord, she and I exchanged a lot of messages and emails. I will miss her cheerfulness and good sense of humor... But I believe that she is busy helping to organize in heaven. I know that our whole class of AHS 64 will miss her greatly. May our great God who loves us so much, bless her loved ones, giving them peace and comfort, during this difficult time.

Johnnie Smith - February 17, 2014 at 09:16 AM

GG

“ Dekka was indeed a very special woman. She had many talents and gifts that she generously shared. Her light will continue to shine here on earth. May you rest in peace.

Ginger Warren Geisler - February 17, 2014 at 08:15 AM

NJ

“ My heart goes out to you all as you mourn the loss of Dekka! What a wonderful lady she was... She gave joy to so many of us with that brilliant smile and wonderful personality! Enjoyed getting caught back up with her through Facebook the last few years. I always thought of her as very special and she renewed those feelings these past years of getting reconnected. She is now at home with our Lord Jesus Christ and will be looking down on all of you with love as you share lifelong memories of love and laughter in her memory. Much love to all of you! Nancy (Warren) Jorren

Nancy (Warren) Jorren - February 17, 2014 at 12:05 AM

LM

“ I enjoyed working with Dekka. We had so much fun - sharing comments and jokes. I am so sorry to hear of her passing. My thoughts and prayers are with her family

Linda Mull - February 16, 2014 at 07:33 PM

LL

“ So sad to hear about my friend Dekka. I worked with Dekka several years and she was just a hoot and a half. Always ready to have a good laugh. My heart goes out to the family. May God comfort you in this time of sorrow.

LeAnn Lawlis - February 16, 2014 at 02:46 PM

LG

“ Our sympathy to all of those who are missing a very special lady at this time! I am saddened that I didn't get to know Dekka all the years we lived so close while in Roswell! But surprisingly enough, we became good friends and Word with Friends buddies on Facebook. So I had the pleasure of her AHS updates, the back and forth yow yowing between her and her favorite daughter, hearing the crazy stories she told about Ruth/Sarge/Mother, her new stove, her funny transcription stories, especially the note, how do you spell ...I Yi Yi! That cracked me up! My sister Norma used that term, and I still think of both of them when I use it! Anyway, I came to love Dekka from afar, too late in life, but I will cherish the memories! Our sincere love to the family and close friends!

Linda Gregory - February 16, 2014 at 01:07 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dekka Ruth House.



February 16, 2014 at 12:03 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dekka Ruth House.



February 16, 2014 at 12:01 PM

MM

“ *My sympathy and prayers are with you during this time. Dekka will be sorely missed by those who new her and loved her. I grew up in Artesia and remember her as the big sis of one of my dear friends, Vickie. In the last year Dekka and I have become FB friends and played the wicked "Words" game together, a lot. I had become reconnected to her and even her sister-in-law Barbara and I became friends. I will certainly miss her in my realm. Love to you all,*
Mary Collier Moore

Mary Collier Moore - February 16, 2014 at 12:56 AM

BB

“ *My sincere condolences to you, Joe, Todd, Susan, Vicki, Lloyd, all the Grandchildren and family! God created a VERY SPECIAL Person when he sent our Sweet Dekka to earth! She was my True True friend and those are hard to find! I feel so BLESSED that I had her for my friend for many years! I pray that you will let Jesus comfort you and give you strength during these difficult days! We may not be able to see her but she will always live in our hearts and our memories! Let our Lord embrace you and help mend your aching hearts until we see her again! Love and Prayers, Beverly Belshe*

Beverly Belshe - February 15, 2014 at 10:23 PM

PL

“ *'Cack-A-Doo' may be gone from our sight but she will never ever be forgotten! Our thoughts and prayers for you fill our hearts. May you feel God's everlasting comforting arms around you during this time. Love you all.*
Wayne and Pauletta

Pauletta Lapsley - February 15, 2014 at 07:21 PM

PL

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Pauletta Lapsley - February 15, 2014 at 07:04 PM

CR

“ *What a beautiful memorial to your mother. She was the light of the class of 64, even though I was in the class of 66 I knew who she was. I don't think I ever saw her without a smile bigger than Dallas. So very sorry for the loss but boy, God got a good one !! prayers and hugs to the family.*

carol clabaugh rose - February 15, 2014 at 05:17 PM