



## Annora Katherine Ables

July 5, 1935 - November 11, 2024

Annora Katherine Goss Ables, loving wife, mother, grandmother, passed away on November 11, 2024 at 7:43 PM.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, November 22, 2024 at Early Methodist Church in Early, Texas at 11:00 AM.

Annora was born on July 5, 1935 in Los Angeles, California to James Henry and Sheila Veatrice Goss. She graduated from John Burroughs High School in Burbank, California in 1953 and then attended the University of California at Santa Barbara. She graduated in 1957 with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education. She then started her teaching career in Monterey, California. It was there that she met and married Jerry L. Ables on June 19, 1959. After Jerry completed his tour of duty in Korea in 1960, they were sent to Two Rock Ranch near Petaluma, California, where Annora taught a combination first and second grade. When his enlistment ended in August 1961 with the United States Army as a linguist translator with the Army Security Agency, Jerry and Annora left California and headed to Texas; Jerry's home to begin their new life in Texas. In 1967, Annora graduated from East Texas State University with her master's degree in special education. During her teaching career of 28 years in Texas, Annora taught in Sherman, Bells, Clarksville, Brownwood, Mullin and Georgetown, Texas. She taught first, second, fifth, and sixth grades and also computer classes.

Annora retired from teaching in 1994, but remained active in education while working with adults at the Early Methodist Church in Early, Texas where she instructed them in the use of the computer and then with the Christian Women's Job Corps for almost ten years teaching their computer classes. Annora was a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for 37 years. Annora loved to hunt deer, turkey, quail and dove. She also loved to read, play bridge and bunco. Other hobbies included sewing, knitting, and crocheting as well as cooking her many kinds of candy.

Annora and Jerry were blessed with two children, Jami Katherine Lovelady of Glen Rose, Texas and Aaron Jay Ables of Austin, Texas. She is also survived by a sister, Callie Helen Pointer of Phoenix, Arizona, a daughter-in-law Melissa Ellis Ables, grandchildren Katelyn Ables, Larron Ables, Braeden Ables, Addison Ables, Colton Ables, Dawson Ables, Justin Ables, and Logan Matthew Ables.

The family would like to say special thanks for the care given by Hill Country Home Care, Interim Hospice and Pecan Bayou Nursing and Rehabilitation.

Memorials can be made in her memory to Early United Methodist Church located at 1073 Early Blvd. Early, Texas 76802, the Methodist Children's Home of Waco Texas or the Alzheimer's Association located at 225 N. Michigan Avenue, Floor 17 Chicago, Illinois 60681.

Heritage Funeral Home has been entrusted with the care and arrangements for Mrs. Ables.

Please visit [www.heritagefuneraltx.com](http://www.heritagefuneraltx.com) for additional details.

## Cemetery Details

**Doole-Stacy Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### **Memorial Service**

NOV **22**. 11:00 AM.

Early Methodist Church

# Tribute Wall

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“ This obituary does an excellent job of relating, chronologically, my mother’s life and, specifically, her professional accomplishments. It falls short, though, of telling you about the person and incredible “mom” she was to me. And, by having only learned of my mom’s passing on the same day as her combination memorial-graveside service, as well as by living roughly 1,200 miles away in deep East Tennessee, there was no other platform to share those memories than, right here.

*My mom was definitely a servant — with a servant’s perspective and a servant’s heart. But, that began in the home that, then, spread to, mainly, her students that, then, spread to her community.*

*One of my earliest memories of my mom’s combination of serving her family with a near-phenomenal creative resourcefulness was when she built — by hand, using power tools — a Barbie doll house from my sister. It was amazing! (I believe the local newspaper, “The Herald Democrat,” for Bells, TX may still have access to this story via their archives.) That doll house got me into trouble, though, because it was just big enough that I could crawl through it at that age — and irritate my older sister. :) But, “resourceful” would be an understatement for describing my mom’s creativity, here, as — for just one example — she would use small empty extract bottles to serve as the base of a lamp and the plastic top of an old hair spray can to serve as the lamp shade. And, this is just one example of the cranial horsepower she employed to create all types of furniture for my sister for this doll house.*

*Fast forward, now, to East Texas, where my mom was a First Grade teacher in Clarksville, TX for Clarksville ISD. My mom would start knitting (Or, maybe it’s crocheting, because — I don’t know the difference and, naturally, my mom excelled at both.) slippers and, later, beanies for EVERY child in her class for Christmas. A lot of those children, my classmates, didn’t have much, at all. And, winters in deep East Texas got pretty cold.*

*Then, there was Cub Scouts ... Geez. I don't know how she did it in putting up with us boys. I mean, I was already a handful, but — Then, you add in my buddies in Rusty Lowe, Steven Stringer and Antwine Gill, as well as many others over the years, including through our Webelos years, along with campouts at our family farm, the Annual Cake Auction and Pinewood Derby Races. Lemme tell you, too: My mom came up with some outright cool designs for our Pinewood Derby cars!*

*My mom was not only a lifelong learner, but she was a lifelong learner that also wanted to share that knowledge — and better her students. Although teaching in Brownwood, TX was very, very different from the aforementioned poorer school district, the Brownwood ISD engagement opened her eyes to new opportunities that, then, would serve her well in her teaching role in Georgetown, TX. Back then, it was just me and my mom at home ... My sister lived and taught in Corsicana and, then, my dad commuted during the week from Georgetown, TX to Greenville, TX to serve as a Principal for Greenville ISD. After hearing about my love for high school physics, though, well — Mom talked me and absolutely 'the' best physics teacher ever into bringing a field trip to her classroom for her students. Paul Hudspeth and I loaded up his van with all types of experiments and demonstrations; headed to what is, now, the Georgetown ISD Administration Building; and, brought high school physics to eager 5th & 6th Graders.*

*It didn't stop, there, though ... In 1995, I landed my near dream job working for Texas Instruments, Inc. (I mean, c'mon ... Our plant was situated upon slightly over 200 acres of game preserve, where I had Whitetail Deer bedding down outside my office window.) By this time, my parents had relocated back to Brownwood, TX, where my mom had begun teaching for the Mullin ISD. And, now, my mom was deeply into computers! Well, 125 miles to the south, I was responsible for managing the material, scheduling, contracting, etc. that, coincidentally, went into a lot of the PCBs, PWBs, etc. within her classroom computers. Before long, I found myself pleading a case before my Cost Center Manager to pull select scrapped circuit*

*boards and components for my mom to, then, use as visual aids for students in another budget-tight classroom. My mom could be very convincing. ;)*

*Missie and I married later that same year with my mom knitting an absolutely beautiful afghan that we still have — and use — 29 years, later. When our oldest daughter grew into the age of dolls, my mom sewed the most comprehensive assortment of doll clothes I believe I've ever seen. And, then, when more grandchildren arrived, my mom took orders — from each grandchild — for her annual “Glass Candy,” which was the equivalent of thin Jolly Ranchers made, right there, in her kitchen.*

*I'll bet there's a LOT from above that caught you by surprise, but — Well, that's my mom. :) Now, here's a little trivia in closing that I'll bet you also didn't know ... John Burroughs High School: Although, the 1978 hit in “Grease” was not filmed, here, my mom was very familiar with the other three (3) area high schools, as well as the geographical area. And, then, watching “Grease” with her was kinda like walking with my mom through her high school years. Walt Disney & Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer: My mom's dad (my Grampa Goss) was a gaffer for the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) and, then, worked on the set of multiple Disney classics, including “Old Yeller” and “20,000 Leagues Under the Sea,” as well as MGM's classic “The Wizard of Oz.” Hunting: Our family used to trek from way up in Red River County southward to the good ol' days of Fredericksburg, Menard and Junction for deer hunting, where my mom bested my dad one year with a perfect shot to an 8-point with a perfect crown. (It was also the only deer for which my dad was willing to pay for a professional mount.) Marriage: My mom knew the way to my dad's heart, too. She followed her husband, as previously shared, from California to Texas. Her cooking was not only amazing, but it also knew no bounds with her shipping — among my dad's other favorites — homemade chocolate pies roughly 6,000 miles to my dad's post in Korea. And, for years, my mom's wedding anniversary present to my dad was a case of shotgun shells!*

*“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.” John 14:27*

*Aaron, Missie, Katie, Larron, Braeden, Addie, Colton, Dawson, Justin and Logan*

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**Aaron Ables** - November 23, 2024 at 04:07 PM



*Thank you both for sharing! I went to school with Aaron in Brownwood. My mother was in Delta Kappa Gamma with Mrs. Able for numerous years.*

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**Jana Wright** - December 15, 2024 at 10:34 AM