



Loretta Jane Drake

October 27, 1942 - February 24, 2023

Loretta Jane Drake passed away peacefully in her sleep on February 24, 2023, at her home in Elk City at age 80. She was universally loved, leaving a mark on all who knew her.

She was born on October 27, 1942, in Granite, Oklahoma to William Stonner Smoot and Jane Virginia (Hood) Smoot. Loretta grew up in Willow, graduating from Delhi. When she was 18, she married David Terrell Drake in Willow. They had Terri Jayne. Then, 21 years later, they were blessed by David Chantz. After graduating high school, she attended Paul's Beauty College in Oklahoma City and returned to Willow, where she owned and operated her own beauty salon for eight years. She then opened one in Mangum that she ran for nine years. In 1980, after moving to Lubbock Texas, she worked in physical therapy clinics as a massage therapist until 1998. Loretta then moved to Elk City and worked for the Myofascial Pain Clinic until she retired in 2018. Loretta was a member of the United Methodist Church in Willow. She loved to read, particularly true crime. She enjoyed movies and thrift shopping, but her favorite activity was to spend time with her family.

Loretta is survived by her husband David Terrell Drake and her two children, Terri Jayne Drake and David Chantz Drake. She leaves a legacy of five grandchildren: Tawny Kalen Collins, Gary Madison Moorhead, Evelyn Winter Dozoretz, Aurora Jayne Drake and Galen Grey Drake. Great-grandchildren: Archer Jack Collins, Daisy Jayne Collins, Mark Wesley Moorhead, and one on the way, Willow Dean Cornelison.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Stonner and Virgie Smoot, siblings, Iris O'Dell Witt, Alvah Leo Smoot, Thomas Morris Smoot, Juanita Zoe Fletcher, William Stonner Smoot Jr., Wanda Faye Harris, and Delmar Wayne Smoot.

A family directed memorial service will be held Saturday, 2 P.M., March 4, 2023, at the United Methodist Church in Willow. Loretta will be laid to rest in the Willow Cemetery in her family plot.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that memorials for Loretta be made to the Willow Cemetery Association at PO Box 158, Willow OK 73673 or to the Carnegie Library in Elk City. Online condolences for Loretta can be made by visiting www.peoplescooperativefuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara Roulain lit a candle in memory of Loretta Jane Drake* ”



Barbara Roulain - October 27, 2025 at 03:42 PM



“ *Loretta Jane Drake* ”

October 08, 2023 at 02:10 PM



“ *Loretta Jane Drake* ”

October 04, 2023 at 11:28 PM

TW

“ Loretta had a way of bringing **SUNSHINE** to everyone she met. She and I were childhood friends and continued throughout the years to keep in touch. She was always smiling, helping, and caring for others. I saw her just a few months ago, and she flashed that beautiful smile and said, “ sit with me so we can catch up.” and later sent me a picture that Terri had taken of the two of us with a sweet comment. I never dreamed it would be our last visit on this earth. I know she is having a wonderful time in Heaven being with Jesus and all of her family and friends that have gone before, but the world will never be quite the same without the bright light of love that shone so brightly in Loretta Jayne.
Loretta was the epitome of God’s love and grace. She didn’t preach it, she lived it. I cherish the friendship and memories we shared. My thoughts and prayers are with Terrell, Terri, Chantz, and all the grandchildren. She loved you all so much.

Travonna Wootton - March 03, 2023 at 10:44 PM

ST

“ I thought it would be a Sad time. Then realized, She wouldn’t have wanted that, because she was the most Happiest Person I have ever known!
I was a client of her’s for a few years. I would love to hear the weekly breakdown on the best places to eat, or the best item to try. Also, on what story she was reading in a crime novel.
The only time I heard her complain, was the time she hired an inexperienced yard man.
He had wipe out her Roses. But, She was willing to give him another try. But she was going to watch him the next time.
She will be Greatly Missed!
Steve Trotter

Steve Trotter - February 28, 2023 at 11:00 PM

EF

“ My story starts in 2008, when I only knew Loretta as "Sweetie". Hours of chatting with Mr. Drake, who obviously adored this woman! Soon after meeting Mr., I made fast friends with Chantz. I'd been causing mischief with these guys for years before meeting Loretta, when I began visiting Mr. at their home after she stopped working. I never imagined the admiration that I would develop for this amazing woman. After a couple visits, expecting a tired, overwhelmed caretaker I was greeted with a smiling cheerful Loretta! I asked Chantz, is she REALLY this happy!? It's the only way I've ever known her, he says.

Loretta is the only woman I've ever met to face and overcome life's obstacles still loving, still smiling, still full of such grace and caring. That is a beautiful strength. Most of us will only be able to TRY at being this wonderful. She was and is an inspiration to me. I am also thankful for the truest of friends she has given to my life. Getting to know Loretta has been a privilege and an honor and joy . With lots of love, rest peaceful.

Emily Frey - February 28, 2023 at 10:22 PM

BS

“ Rest in Oeace Loretta you were the best friend ever and you will be missed greatly . Heartfelt prayers go out to your family and all your close friends . Thoughts and prayers for comfort for all your family and love ones . Bonnie & Elmer Stone Sayre, Oklahoma

Bonnie & Elmer Stone - February 28, 2023 at 02:47 AM

RC

“ RIP Loretta Drake! You Will Be Greatly Missed By Us All!

Ray Carver - February 27, 2023 at 11:53 PM

PH

“ Hugs and prayers of comfort to Loretta’s family. Loretta was a great neighbor and good friend. I loved visiting with her and her family and seeing her for a message when we came town. God bless you wonderful lady.

Patty & Melton Heath - February 27, 2023 at 09:46 PM

JM

“ Loretta started doing massages for me in 2000 when I moved to Elk City. I had just had a new baby and my husband was coaching football at the time. I brought my son with me into his carrier to my first massage. I told her we could just see how it worked out. 🤔 She would massage me and if Alec started to get fussy she would rock his carrier with her foot and keep going with the massage at the same time!! Now, if that’s not total greatness, I don’t know what is! Loretta was my one and only massage lady for 18 years, until she retired. She managed to see my son grow to be 18 and massage him and my daughter too!!! They loved her! They would come to the car afterwards and just melt in the seat!! She truly was the best at what she did! She was also my friend. Because of her, I found my dream hygiene job with Danny and Cathy Fuchs that she recommended I get in touch with. I have been there 17 years and it all started because of Loretta!! She was a true blessing in my life and I will never forget what she meant to me and so many others! May God bless you all! Hugs and prayers!!❤️❤️❤️

Jody meinert - February 27, 2023 at 08:26 PM

NC

“ Oh my gosh I am so shocked jane we had lots of fun being young and giggling you were a treasure memories of you bring such warmth to me you were full of sunshine I know you are looking at Jesus. Nadine carver

Nadine carver - February 27, 2023 at 07:37 PM

BR

“ Too many memories to even begin. Loretta was a rock and a treasure. Many hours listening to Roger Miller and moving on to Freddie Mercury, all fun times. She will be sorely missed by all who had the privilege to know her. Luv ya, gal.
Barbara Roulain

Barbara Roulain - February 27, 2023 at 06:17 PM

SS

Loretta & I were fast friends from the time Delmar brought me home to meet his Family. We soon loved each other like Sisters, She loved my Babies and I Love hers. We enjoyed each other and were never crosswise . I have many fun times and Happy memories. You were The Best!!! I'm sure going to miss Stonner's (Gal Baby) 💕💕

sur Smoot - February 27, 2023 at 07:58 PM

TS

There's no way I can express how much Loretta's friendship meant to me. Special doesn't even come close to describing what kind of person she was. She was kind; she cared about everyone. She listened to all the stories and details in others' lives her entire life, when she was doing someone's hair or when she was giving a massage. And I mean she truly listened. She was always genuinely interested in others. She was always happy. And she had the most beautiful smile; it would light up her whole face. She was so smart and so well read, but you wouldn't know it unless you started talking books with her. She always preferred true crime stories; it was amazing how much she knew. If you ever had the pleasure of receiving a card from Loretta, you know what I mean when I say it was a genuine pleasure to read it. It would be on nice stationary, written in a penmanship that any writing teacher would be envious of. And she was always so proud of her family. Although I've spent very little time with her family, I feel like I know them from her stories. Most of us complain about family from time to time, but not Loretta. She loved you all so much. She lived a fairly quiet and unassuming life, but her goodness was like a lighthouse beacon. I could have had a really stressful week, or I could have been fighting a terrible headache, or any number of things. I would go see Loretta, and I would leave an hour later just feeling better. That sounds selfish, I know. But that's what she did, and not just for me. She did it for so many, for so many hours and for so many days. I wish I had seen her more these last few years. Now our loss is heaven's gain, as they say. My life is better simply for having shared so many conversations with her, some serious, some silly, some meaningful, some not. To know her was to love her, and I love my friend Loretta so much. Terrell, Terri, Chantz, Tawny, Gary, I can't imagine the loss you must be feeling right now. My heart goes out to you. Please know that what Loretta meant to me, she also meant that much to so many others. Thank you for sharing her with all of us.

Trish Southard - February 27, 2023 at 10:26 PM

NG

I was thinking about all the times she bleached and fixed my hair when I was in high school. lol.. Lots of good memories. I am so sorry for your loss.

Nancy Hays Greer - February 27, 2023 at 10:51 PM

JS

Visiting with Loretta and family always felt good, and that good feeling lingered indefinitely. Pleasant memories of visits in Willow as a child at her home, and at her beauty shop, have persisted in mind and heart through more than five decades now, providing warmth and happiness at some of the most unexpected moments in life. A rare power of positivity few possess and even fewer wield so genuinely.

Loretta lives on in my memories, with gratitude beyond description.

Joe Summars - February 28, 2023 at 12:26 AM

JB

Loretta would laugh this is my second time to attempt this!! My telephone computer skills are none.

There are not enough words in the English language to express how much I admired and loved Loretta as a person and a friend. She was the most caring genuine person I know.

Of course she always have the best massage but everyone got a free counseling listening session with their massage . She made everyone feel like they were her favorite.

I am so fortunate to have been one of those people. My husband Mike who also loved Loretta was confined to our house for many months due to his brain tumor so I also was home . Loretta without being asked came one night and said "Judy let me give you a massage". I can still remember the relief I felt physically and mentally by her coming . That is just one example of her love, kindness , and caring. I always looked forward to seeing her , visiting with her , and sharing all our stories.

Glad I could still have those visits after she retired. A blessing she was to many people. To say I will miss her is an understatement . To her family I say thank you for sharing her with us . Many hugs

Judy Bugher - March 01, 2023 at 11:12 PM

BR

Happy Birthday! We are still celebrating ours together!,

Barbara Roulain - October 27, 2025 at 03:51 PM