



Joan (McElhannon) Harrison

November 16, 1952 - March 27, 2026

Joan (McElhannon) Harrison, 73, of Houston passed away Friday, March 27, 2026. Joan was born on November 16, 1952, in Baytown, Texas to William and Margaret McElhannon. She is preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by Gerard, her husband of 43 years of marriage, her children Sarah Kate, Benjamin, Gregory, and Mark; Grandchildren Hannah and Joshua Hirth, and Landon and Vance Harrison.

Joan grew up in Baytown, Texas and graduated from Robert E Lee High School in 1970. She graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in music in 1974, and taught choir until the birth of her first child in 1985. She then decided to dedicate herself to raising her growing family.

As a homemaker, Joan loved sewing and making beautiful, smocked clothes for her children and grandchildren. She loved attending seasonal craft shows each year and making music. She was a gifted pianist and singer, instilling in her children a love of music much like her own. She also participated in church choirs over the years and particularly enjoyed participating in the St. John Vianney choir.

One of her favorite things to do was to travel to Europe with her close friends via cruise, especially to Italy, Spain and Greece.

Above all, her life was shaped by her devotion to Jesus Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary. This devotion overflowed in her celebration of Christmas, and her yearlong anticipation of it; an anticipation that shone in everything she did, and continues to influence her family, today.

The Harrison family will be present to receive friends for services Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at St. John Vianney Catholic Church 625 Nottingham Oaks Trail, Houston, TX 77079 with Mass of Christian Burial at 11:30 AM. Reception to follow on church grounds in St. Jude Hall. Following the reception, Joan will be laid to rest at Memorial Oaks Cemetery. In Lieu of flowers please consider a charitable donation to the Gabriel Project. If you are interested in showing the love of Christ to others through charity, kindness, prayers, and service, or in learning more about the Gabriel Project please call 281.752.2400.

Previous Events

Mass Of Christian Burial

APR 14. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

St. John Vianney Catholic Church
625 Nottingham Oaks Trail
Houston, TX 77079
(281) 497-1500

Reception to Follow Service

APR 14. 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

St. John Vianney, St. Jude Hall
625 Nottingham Oaks Trail
Houston, TX 77079

Graveside Service Following Reception

APR 14. 2:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Oaks Cemetery
13001 Katy Freeway
Houston, TX 77079