



## Joan Harmon Howard

March 11, 1913 - February 23, 2010

Joan Harmon Howard was born on March 11, 1913 in Vinita, Oklahoma to James and Vinnie Harmon. She had two older sisters, Thelma and Lucille, and one older brother, James.

Joan was raised on a ranch where she learned to ride horses at an early age. She and her sister, Lucille, learned to trick rope when they were 4 and 6 years old, taught by Will Rogers, a friend of their father's. The girls were natural performers and eventually became known as "the youngest trick ropers and riders in the world." They traveled with the Miller Bros. 101 Ranch Wild West show, and performed in many places including Madison Square Garden and the Kansas City Stock Show.

Joan attended Oklahoma A&M, now known as Oklahoma State. After attending school, she lived with her sisters in Sand Springs, Oklahoma, where she met a young Tulsa University student, Tom Howard. They married in 1935 and had one daughter, Jean. He was the love of her life, and they were married for 57 years before he passed away in 1993.

She had a passionate love for the outdoors and delighted in observing nature from her garden patio - wild rabbits, bird nests, squirrels, cardinals, flowers. She loved to golf and was a charter member of the Champions Golf Club, playing well into her 80's. She loved to garden and play cards, especially

bridge, poker and crazy eights. She was a devotional leader at St. Lukes United Methodist Church, where she was a member for 56 years. She also loved to cook and sew and she was good at everything she did. She loved her home and prided herself by living alone and keeping it up herself.

She passed away on February 23, 2010 after living the life she loved. She is survived by her daughter, Jean Brandt, three grandchildren, Linda McSwain, Cindy Crosson, and Susie Hopper, and six great-grandchildren.

# Previous Events

## Service

MAR 1. 2:00 PM (CT)

Dettling Funeral Home  
14094 Memorial Drive  
Houston, TX 77079  
(281) 497-2121  
[david@dettlingfuneral.com](mailto:david@dettlingfuneral.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joan Harmon Howard*

October 08, 2023 at 10:52 AM



“ *Joan Harmon Howard*

October 06, 2023 at 01:12 AM



“ *Joan Harmon Howard*

October 05, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *Joan Harmon Howard*

October 05, 2023 at 01:54 AM



“ *Joan Harmon Howard*

**Linda McSwain** - March 02, 2010 at 07:10 PM



“ *Grandma was such a dynamic women with and a passion for life! She loved telling us stories of the ranch and her beloved daddy. She grieved terribly when Grandpa died and loved him and her precious Jean with all her heart. We will miss her but know she is reunited with Grandpa in paradise. It is comforting to know we have such special angels in Heaven watching out for us. Love Ya Grandma!*

**Cindy Crosson** - February 28, 2010 at 08:30 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Photos



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**Cindy Crosson** - February 28, 2010 at 08:23 AM



“ Candle lit by



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**Cindy Crosson** - February 28, 2010 at 08:15 AM



“ My grandmother was one of a kind...they do not make them like her anymore. She was a true lady from the old south who refused to break into this new age. Her one concession was a big screen tv, but that was out of necessity as she couldn't hear a thing and her aging eyesight was even worse. She loved getting out of bed in the morning, hearing the birds, seeing the squirrels, writing devotions, playing poker and talking about the past. She followed football religiously and loved the Dallas Cowboys. She could be difficult, as older people sometimes are, but she was feisty and spirited and loved to laugh. Someone said you don't stop laughing when you grow old...you grow old when you stop laughing.. She had a lovely laugh that was always genuine. She found beauty in everything and never failed to thank God for her life; and now she's with God and Heaven is on notice...



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**Linda McSwain** - February 26, 2010 at 09:05 PM