



## Bonnie Mae (Swerkstrom) Baranski

January 9, 1943 - August 29, 2024

Beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother Bonnie Mae Baranski died in her home in Beasley, Texas on August 29, 2024. She was 81 years old. Bonnie was born on a very cold day in Frederic, Wisconsin on January 9, 1943; born to Stanley Marvin Swerkstrom (1911-1988) and Dorthea Barbara Liesch Swerkstrom (1910-1999). Bonnie attended Alabama Grade School until the eighth grade and graduated from Luck High School in 1961. In her early twenties, Bonnie relocated to Stillwater, Minnesota shortly after graduating from high school where she worked at 3M as an administrative assistant for a few years.

Bonnie desired to escape the cold of the Midwest. She moved to Jacksonville, Florida to enjoy the sunny beaches and breezy nights. Bonnie met John Paul Baranski (1940-2002) from Houston, Texas while working as a secretary at Shell Oil company. They were married in Luck, Wisconsin on June 7, 1969. The happy couple settled in Houston after they were married. Soon after settling in, Bonnie gave birth to three girls: Shawn, Cheryl, and Shannon. In 1974, Bonnie and John relocated to Guthrie, Oklahoma. In 1976, Bonnie gave birth to Shane, the only son. They resided in Oklahoma until 1982 when they returned to Texas to live in Beasley.

Bonnie worked multiple jobs over the years to supplement her husband's income. She was an active member of Holy Rosary Catholic Church for many

years and loved being a part of the church choir.

Bonnie enjoyed the simple things in life, she was a self-made “master” gardener, she loved scrapbooking, listening to classical music, playing the piano, sewing, watching the Houston Astros win and most of all being a wife, mother and grandmother.

Bonnie is survived by her siblings; Shirley Junker, Marty Swerkstrom, Mary Lou Junker, Pat Swerkstrom and James “Buz” Swerkstrom, her children Shawn and son-in-law Donald Self, Cheryl and son-in-law Ashley Fuhrmann, Shannon Baranski, and Shane Baranski. Grandchildren; Samantha Parsons, John Micheal and Olivia Furhmann, Holly, Natalie, Eric, Justin, Stephen, Katelyn, Brian, and great-granddaughter, Lena.

Bonnie’s funeral will be held on Friday, September 20th at Holy Rosary Catholic Church at 1416 George Street Rosenberg, TX 77471 at 10:00 a.m., a luncheon reception will follow the mass, burial services will follow the reception at Forest Park Lawndale at 6900 Lawndale Houston, Texas 77023 at 3:00 p.m.

While flowers are welcome, the family would appreciate assistance with funeral costs for Bonnie. If you would like to donate to the funeral funds, please contact the family or use the following Venmo: @Cheryl-Fuhrmann.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Mass

SEP **20**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Holy Rosary Catholic Church  
1416 George St. Rosenberg, TX US 77471  
Rosenberg, TX 77471

# Tribute Wall



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Bonnie Mae (Swerkstrom) Baranski.*



---

September 18, 2024 at 11:34 AM



“ *Terri Garza and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bonnie Mae (Swerkstrom) Baranski.*

---

**Terri Garza and family** - September 18, 2024 at 11:34 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bonnie Mae (Swerkstrom) Baranski.*



---

September 18, 2024 at 09:16 AM



“ Gma Bonnie

*Aka best gma ever (and she won't let you forget it)*

*Spare ribs, sugar cookies, mint surprise*

*Mushrooms*

*Scrapbooking*

*Crafts*

*Dads triscuts*

*Safe space when I felt like a beach ball*

*Those punches*

*Alex taught me she can't spell. Cristmas and. Catalac*

*Dip cone in a cup*

*Getting water gallons refilled*

*Lasso me to get lawn chairs that blew in the field (la-soo)*

*Fig nutens*

*Shot glasses of sprite to take my medicine*

*Grinding your teeth and bite plate*

*All the smells - NO GUM*

*Minerva*

*Pink bathroom*

*Medicine drawer*

*Reheating the same coffee forEVER*

*Front room*

*Piano - music - classical*

*Plants in the garden*

*Coming to my events throughout time in school*

*Loving me*

*Sugar in my cheerios and rice Krispies*

*Tasting homemade cottage cheese which was a left out glass of milk that we were going to wash*

*Forever organizing*

*Chew 32 times*

*Don't stir both ways or you'll unmix your ingredients*

*Gingerbread cookies and those cinnamon pinwheels*

*Vanilla malts*

*My mom working nights*

*Board games - letting me cheat*

*Candyland, chutes and ladders, scrabble, tiddlywinks*

*Bedtime stories*

*That one time you left me a birthday voicemail of you singing the oddest birthday song ever*

*Making up little jingles regardless*

*Writing letters*

*Sending cards*

*Library*

*Cupboard*

*Zeke*

*Bean and bacon soup with toast and butter and cheddar cheese*

*Dag nabbit*

*Sneezes*

---

**Sam Parsons** - September 16, 2024 at 06:05 PM

PS

“ Lots of wonderful memories of my sister, Bonnie, but I'll share just a couple of fishing ones.....

We would walk over to Anderson's to fish. Cane poles, from the shore of the river. We were doing pretty good, too, catching some nice fish just below the crab apple tree that grew on the bank there. Then I got the great idea that we should cross the bridge and go fish on the other side of the river, in the shade of the big basswood tree over there. Bonnie reluctantly agreed, being the nice big sister she was, but when we got there, I immediately got tangled up in the branches of the tree. Not very good fishing up there : )

In the meantime, somebody else had moved into our first fishing spot and we could see them pulling in the fish, one after another. Bonnie had that look in her eyes that she wasn't very happy with her brother, Pat. Sure wish we'd stayed in that first spot!

Another time, it was Bonnie who made the bit of a goof up. Or maybe me.

We were out in a boat and I had caught two or three nice bass and clipped them onto the stringer, which I then fastened to the boat at the oar lock.

Bonnie decided it was too easy catching fish along shore so she rowed us out a ways and then pulled the oars out, to get them out of the water, I guess.

When she did that, the stringer fell off the oar lock and the bass sank into the deep water, never to be seen again. After that I changed the way I attached the stringer to the boat : )

Wouldn't trade those memories for anything.....

---

**Pat Swerkstrom** - September 07, 2024 at 09:28 AM

JF

“ I'm so sorry, she was such a kind person. My prayers are with your family.

---

**Jonathan Fausset** - September 06, 2024 at 07:43 PM

AW

“ *Thinking about you all as you say good-bye. Cherish all the memories. Holding you in my heart.*

---

**Angela Wright** - September 06, 2024 at 12:21 PM

AW

“ *Angela Wright lit a candle in memory of Bonnie Mae (Swerkstrom) Baranski*



**Angela Wright** - September 06, 2024 at 12:19 PM