



Esther Kay Lee

September 4, 1958 - February 14, 2026

Esther Kay Lee, 67, passed away peacefully at her home in Houston, Texas on February 14, 2026. Esther was born on September 4, 1958 to parents Cecil Vernon Cazel and Hazel Belle Bowles in Olney, Illinois. She married Jack Lee Jr., also of Olney, in 1978 and relocated to Houston, Texas.

Esther was a kind-hearted and warm person who became friends with everyone she met. Through Esther's love of art and children, she was involved in many community activities throughout the years. She served in the Katy Area Parents of Multiples (KAPOM), contributed mosaic art to the memory wall at Smither Park, worked as a children's photographer, caregiver and teacher, and enjoyed aquatic fitness classes. Through all of these activities and more, Esther made lasting friendships with so many people who cared deeply about her.

Esther was a wife, mother, and grandmother who dearly loved her family and will be deeply missed by all who knew her. Survivors include her husband Jack, twin daughters Melinda Lee (Brock Nedland) and Melissa Richard (Russell), grandsons Lewis and Henry Nedland, grandsons Arthur and Edwin Richard, mother Hazel "Ande" Sterchi, sister Sherri Brazil (Phil Novak), stepbrother Kevin Sterchi, brothers-in-law Robert Lee (Diane) and Patrick Lee (Denise), sister-in-law Cynthia Lee, and beloved nieces, nephews and cousins.

Esther is preceded in death by her father Cecil "Ben" Cazel, stepfather Elmer Sterchi, stepsister Terri Novak, father-in-law Jack Lee Sr., mother-in-law Mary Anola Lee, brother-in-law Timothy Lee, and sister-in-law Lisa Ruiz. Esther dedicated her section of the Smither Park memory wall to her late lifelong friend Tami Hunley Tracy.

A service celebrating Esther's life will be held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 24, 2026 in the Chapel of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home in Rosenberg. The family will receive guests starting at 1:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations in Esther's memory to The Autoimmune Encephalitis Alliance, a foundation that provides financial support to scientific research focused on the diagnosis, management, and outcomes of individuals with autoimmune encephalitis. More information can be found at <https://aealliance.org/>.

Expressions of remembrance and condolences are welcome and may be left for the family at www.davisgreenlawnfh.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home, 3900 B.F. Terry Blvd. (Hwy 59 South @ FM 2218), Rosenberg, Texas 77471, Phone: 281-341-8800.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 24. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Davis Greenlawn Funeral Chapels and Cemeteries
3900 B.F. Terry Blvd.
Rosenberg, TX 77471
(281) 341-8800

Celebration of Life

FEB 24. 2:00 PM (CT)

Davis Greenlawn Funeral Chapels and Cemeteries
3900 B.F. Terry Blvd.
Rosenberg, TX 77471
(281) 341-8800

Tribute Wall

MA

“ Mike and Millie Allen purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Esther Kay Lee.



Mike and Millie Allen - February 23 at 08:39 PM

JK

“ Judy Kimble lit a candle in memory of Esther Kay Lee



Judy Kimble - February 22 at 12:38 PM

JK

I met Esther at water aerobics class and thru that I had the privilege of meeting her husband, Jack, and seeing her talent and artwork in her home. I am lucky enough to have one of her pieces in my yard. I have missed her ever since she became ill and no longer came to swimming. She was such a sweet lady. She is at peace now. I pray her family will also find peace in their happy memories of her.

Judy Kimble - February 22 at 12:45 PM

DM

“ Debora M. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Esther Kay Lee.

Debora M. - February 21 at 09:44 PM

AB

“ I am so thankful for Esther's friendship and will miss her so. Ann Blackford

Ann Blackford - February 21 at 08:09 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Esther Kay Lee.

February 20 at 07:38 PM



“ *Rose Garden Heart was purchased for the family of Esther Kay Lee.*



February 20 at 07:38 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Esther Kay Lee.

February 20 at 05:53 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Esther Kay Lee.*



February 20 at 05:53 PM

SM

“ *Jack, I'm so sorry to learn of Ester's passing. Please know that my thoughts are with you and your family. Deepest sorrow and kindest regards. Steve Miller*

Steve Miller - February 20 at 04:04 PM



“ *Esther was always Very Sweet & always Smiling! She will definitely be missed.*



Susan Schmalhausen - February 20 at 12:39 AM

CF

“ *Cindy Foerster lit a candle in memory of Esther Kay Lee*



Cindy Foerster - February 19 at 10:15 PM

CF

“ Our Deepest Condolences to her family from the Noble, Illinois facebook group..

Cindy Foerster - February 19 at 07:55 PM

MP

“ Mr & Mrs John F. Parker planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Esther Kay Lee.

Mr & Mrs John F. Parker - February 19 at 04:40 PM

MP

“ Mr & Mrs John F. Parker purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Esther Kay Lee.



Mr & Mrs John F. Parker - February 19 at 04:40 PM

PS

“ Philip Lupo and Michael Scheurer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Esther Kay Lee.

Philip Lupo and Michael Scheurer - February 19 at 04:12 PM

PS

“ Philip Lupo and Michael Scheurer purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Esther Kay Lee.



Philip Lupo and Michael Scheurer - February 19 at 04:12 PM

RR

“ Ruthie and Mike Roberts planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Esther Kay Lee.

Ruthie and Mike Roberts - February 19 at 04:04 PM

RR

“ Ruthie and Mike Roberts purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Esther Kay Lee.



Ruthie and Mike Roberts - February 19 at 04:04 PM

KS

“ Esther was my friend at Smither Park - she would volunteer to sort tile and clean up the warehouse. She would find little pieces of this and that that perfect for each artist. I will always see her in the little pieces she brought me and be reminded of her sweet friendship.

Kelly Snook - February 19 at 01:00 PM

TF

“ The Sterling Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Esther Kay Lee.



The Sterling Family - February 19 at 12:52 PM

FB

“ Frank & Diane Bowles purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Esther Kay Lee.



Frank & Diane Bowles - February 19 at 12:41 PM

FB

“ Frank & Diane Bowles planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Esther Kay Lee.

Frank & Diane Bowles - February 19 at 12:41 PM