



## Joyce Hunsaker Thatcher

January 9, 1928 - October 24, 2018

Joyce Hunsaker Thatcher, 90, passed away on Wednesday Oct 24, 2018 peacefully at home. She was born on January 9, 1928 in Mesa Az to Clyde and Hazel Hunsaker. She was one of 9 children.

Joyce was raised in Pine Az but graduated from Chandler High where she met the love of her life, Leavitt Thomas Thatcher. They had 8 children, and lost two at birth. She went back to college at ASU and graduated with a teaching degree. She taught 14 years for the Sacaton School District and loved every minute of it. She was a lifelong member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints where she raised her family and served in various callings. She love The Lord Jesus Christ and was Christ like in all her actions and serving. There could not have been a sweeter gentler woman than Joyce, who loved her family and would do anything for her husband, children and grandchildren.

In her later years she spent time cleaning, washing and doing the hair to refurbish dolls to give to needy children.

She was preceded in death by her parents, 6 siblings, 3 daughters, Judith Gail, Lynn Maria, and Janis Ruth Thatcher, a granddaughter BreAnne Ferrin, Daughter-in-law Beverly Thatcher and son-in-law Melvin Hakala .

Joyce is survived by her husband of 72 years, Leavitt Thomas Thatcher, Edith (Leonard) Lamb, Clyda (Michael) Morris, Dennis (Debbie) Thatcher, Jerold Thatcher, Karen(Mark) Ferrin, 21 grandchildren 48 great children, and 1 great great granddaughter.

Funeral services will be held for Joyce on Monday October 29, 2018 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Saints building at 1100 N. Cooper Road Gilbert Az, at 10:00 a.m., with a viewing before the service from 9:00-9:45.

Interment will be in the City of Mesa cemetery.

# Cemetery

---

## City of Mesa Cemetery

1212 N. Center St.

Mesa, AZ, 85201

# Events

---

**OCT** **Visitation** 09:00AM - 09:45AM

**29**

---

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
1100 N. Cooper Rd., Gilbert, AZ, US

**OCT** **Funeral Service** 10:00AM

**29**

---

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
1100 N. Cooper Rd., Gilbert, AZ, US

# Comments

---



“ Joyce Thatcher was my Mother-in-Law. For many years I have loved and respected her as if she were my own mother. I felt respect and admiration for her even before I knew that she had a beautiful daughter. She taught me at times in church youth classes. Her humor and pleasant demeanor were her hallmark. Joyce always enjoyed the life she made for herself. She loved her children and was thrilled to be able spend time with them. She endured the discomfort of her final months with good humor, seldom complaining.. I will forever treasure my memories of this remarkable woman.

Leonard Lamb - October 31, 2018 at 06:10 PM

---



“ I still can't wrap my mind around the fact that you are gone mom. Being the youngest, I didn't get as many years with you as the rest of my living siblings, but I was privileged to never live very far from you and I had many, many times to be around you. You were my cheerleader. You loved me and supported me. You gave me courage to do hard things. You were my babysitter. My children were blessed to spend so much time with you. Just being in the same room together brought me so much comfort. You made me laugh. Oh, how we would have fun together. I loved your smile and the way you would light up when I came over, especially if I brought my grandkids. You were such a joy in my life and I will miss you more than anything. I already do. I love you to infinity and beyond. Thank you for being such an awesome mom and for teaching me how to live the gospel so I can be with you again someday. “Mother Dear, I love you so, your happy smiling face was such a joy to look at. It made home a lovely place. “

Karen Ferrin - October 31, 2018 at 03:52 PM

---



“ I'll always remember Grandma Thatcher as one of the most kind, thoughtful and comforting souls I've ever known. Her smile and unconditional love could ease the toughest of life's headwinds. The life she lived is one to be admired and the example she set for us is worthy of our aspiration. It's somewhat ironic that the time we need her comforting the most is at this extremely difficult time in dealing with losing her. I personally find solace in the fact that her love was so strong I can still feel it today and know I will for the rest of my life. Our Grandma will be sorely missed but always remembered fondly by us grandkids.

Tom Lamb

Tom Lamb - October 30, 2018 at 11:54 PM



“ I have so many precious memories of grandma. I loved when I got to spend the night with her and help her get the barbies all clean and ready for the humanitarian center. I especially loved that I got to play with them first too. I remember grandma would tell stories about her life before bedtime. She would often ask if she had told me a story before but I didn't care if she had and would ask her to tell me it again. I loved hearing her stories. I will especially cherish the way she would hold on just a little bit longer during hugs and that she loved to just hold my hand while we talked.

**Holly Morgan** - October 30, 2018 at 09:29 PM

---



“ I know my mother loved me. I'll remember her hugs and whispers telling me I was special. The softness in her voice, the kind words, her smile, her gratitude. I am so thankful I was sent to live her and my dad. I truly have been blessed! I promise to take care of dad ,To comfort him until he is back in your arms.

**Clyda Thatcher Morris** - October 28, 2018 at 11:02 PM



“ I still can't wrap my mind around the fact that you are gone mom. Being the youngest, I didn't get as many years with you as the rest of my siblings still here, but I was privileged to never live very far from you and I had many, many times to be around you. You were my cheerleader. You loved me and supported me. You gave me courage to do hard things. You were my babysitter. My children were blessed to spend so much time with you. Just being in the same room together brought me so much comfort. You made me laugh. Oh, how we would have fun together. I loved your smile and the way you would light up when I came over, especially if I brought my grandkids. You were such a joy in my life and I will miss you more than anything. I already do. I love you to infinity and beyond. Thank you for being such an awesome mom and for teaching me how to live the gospel so I can be with you again someday. "Mother Dear, I love you so, your happy smiling face was such a joy to look at. It made home a lovely place. "

**Karen Ferrin** - October 30, 2018 at 10:16 PM



“ I kept singing the song that Karen posted last to bring me comfort after mother passed away. She did make home a lovely place. Mother was kind and patient and she had a sense of humor. We knew she loved us no matter what we did. When she was teaching me to drive, I hit the break hard which sent little Karen out of mom's arms into the dashboard and cut her lip. I panicked and jumped out of the car and mother calmly called me back and had me finish driving home. Other times when I thought and deserved to get in trouble mother would be patient and talk things out. Of course there were times that she must have been in a bad mood but sometimes we could get her laughing. She taught me how to sew and I made most of my school clothes. There's so much more I learned from her. I feel so blessed that I got to help be her caregiver this past year. I will miss the tender moments we shared. I love you mother and will deeply miss you.

**Edith Lamb** - October 31, 2018 at 01:18 AM



“ I know this is late and I hope Aunt Clyda hasn't printed the memories yet.

Grandma always told me that I was beautiful whenever she saw me or over the phone. It really boosted my confidence especially at the times in Jr High. She always supported the things that I did and loved me for who I was. She is part of the reason I am who I am today! I can't believe in all the years that I did Colorguard that she never mentioned that she did it also. It's no wonder that I loved it so much- it was in my blood :) I love you, Grandma!

**Amanda Leavitt** - November 08, 2018 at 02:00 PM