



Jo Ann Shrode

July 29, 1945 - June 5, 2014

Jo Ann Shrode

Jo Ann Shrode was born in Memphis, Tennessee on July 29, 1945 to Frank Joseph Grillo and Etta Minerva (Laxton) Grillo. She was preceded in death by her older brother William Grillo and both parents.

Jo Ann attended Central High in Little Rock, Arkansas and Central Texas College in Killeen, Texas. She worked as a Kelly Girl, managed apartment complexes, as bookkeeper for Cuero Land and Gravel and Arnold's Plumbing and 23 years at Killeen ISD where she was principal's secretary at Hay Branch Elementary and Fowler Elementary.

She leaves behind a bereaved family including her husband of 48 years Morgan Ellis Shrode, their son Morgan Ellis Shrode, Jr. and his wife Jill (Daniel) Shrode; brother Ronnie Grillo of Olive Branch, Mississippi; grandson Daniel Josef Shrode; stepdaughter Shannan (Shrode) Dager and her granddaughters Dani and Roxy Dager; great granddaughter Serenity.

Jo Ann was the greatest of human beings who walked through life with dignity and grace and showed us how to leave the same way. She will be sorely missed

Comments



“ There's not a day that goes by that you're not missed. We moved into our forever home...I wish you could be here. Dad helped with the move and managed to hurt his shoulder. He's a mess but the greatest dad ever made...I am truly a blessed man... Miss you mom...

Morgan - November 11, 2021 at 04:02 PM



“ Merry Christmas Mom....it is simply not the same. Dad does OK but he still needs you. I love you mom and really wish you were here.

Morgan - December 26, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ Happy Mothers Day to the worlds best mother. I'm kinda missing our Rudy's tradition. Really missing you so much that I hate Mothers Day. I can only imagine what you went through when I was a baby...I remember the sacrifices when I was a child...the headaches I put you through growing up...the hell you went through sometimes keeping me straight. The continuous love throughout....Happy Mothers day....I love you tremendously.

Morgan - May 08, 2016 at 09:44 PM



“ Hi again mom...Just learned of the passing of a high school buddy that I went to school with. He shot himself...and if you would think anyone had it all it would be him. The longer I live the more amazed I get at our human condition. Dad comes to see me nearly every morning. I really hope the Ringlers don't say anything because I really like it when he shows up. He only stays for a minute so I don't think they will say anything. I don't know whats worse....not getting to say goodbye or getting to say goodbye but watching them go away. I would give all I have for another hour....I love you mom.

Morgan - April 17, 2016 at 01:19 AM



“ Hi again....Jill, Daniel and Dad are going to Ruidoso. Dad told Jill to listen to your notes. I remember when you came back from Ruidoso you thought it was sooooo beautiful. Im happy Jill and Daniel can go. I will make it one day. Daniel goes to Vegas for a karate tournament. Dad says he is going to go then too....somewhere in the middle we are going to Colorado for our 25th anniversary. I love you mom....

Morgan - March 11, 2016 at 10:00 PM



“ Merry Christmas Mom...i really dont like you not being here for the holidays. Dad came over today and we did our best...just not the same without you. I miss you terribly...i wish you would have seen Daniels gift to his mom. He put it in a gift bag but couldnt fjnd any tissue paper so he put a piece of his notebook paper on and in the gift bag. Little feller did all he knew to do. Once again we were amused....love you mom...

Morgan - December 26, 2015 at 12:10 AM



“ Happy Thanksgiving Mom...will be thinking of you the whole day. Very Thankful you are my mom...

Morgan - November 26, 2015 at 10:26 AM



“ Hi mom....its our 25th anniversary. Joy Smith said she wished you were here to share. Many of us do mom. You meant so much to so many. I love you mom.



Morgan - November 20, 2015 at 12:05 AM



“ I love you mom...!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Morgan - October 30, 2015 at 11:31 PM



“ Hi Mom...I was able to get off early on Tuesday and go watch Daniel's horseback riding lesson. He does sooooo well...you would love to see him. He is still not doing well in sparring for karate...but he places in forms at all the events and does a very good job. I went to go see him at a talent show for the school. I didnt even recognize him he was so good. The boy is capable of doing anything he wants to do...you would be so proud. Dad and I are doing as well as we can...he is getting along but not as well as if you were here. You are very needed...but we will manage. When I see you again I have so many questions and be ready because I am going to give you the biggest hug ever....I love you mom....

Morgan - October 01, 2015 at 01:32 PM



“ Happy Birthday mom....you would be 70 today. Next week dad is taking us to see Texas the musical. I remember how impressed you were when you came back from seeing it. We are going to stay in one of the cabins on the canyon. Last week dad took us to Indianola to go crabbin'...I really wish you would have been there and hope you were. Daniel caught a few crabs and you would have seen the "one that got away"..it was caught on video...hilarious. I love you mom....

Morgan - July 29, 2015 at 05:26 AM



“ Hi again...Happy 4th when we celebrate freedom. You have the ultimate freedom now that we will soon experience with you. Really wish you were with us though...selfish as I am...I love you mom...

morgan - July 05, 2015 at 11:37 AM



“ Hi again....Dad and I made it a year. Dad just goes driving places to get away and try to stay busy. He came to see me at work yesterday and bring my care package. I love his care packages...there is no telling whats in store. He sure does miss taking care of you. It has been a rough year. I keep hearing about how things will "get better" but so far I haven't seen it. Missing you....

Morgan - June 06, 2015 at 06:35 AM



“ Hello...good day today...slept in and felt good all day. We were discussing where to go for our 25th wedding anniversary and heres how it goes. If we have a good year we go to Hawaii...mediocre will be San Diego and if affordability hits we drive to Colorado Springs. None of these are bad at all. Alaska is out for our 25th....we will go another year..but it just wouldn't be enjoyable without you going. Dad is still a mess sometimes but he's doing better. I do love "taking care of him" ,,,(even though he takes care of me more...) I get the idea you knew exactly what you were doing...I MISS YOU MOM....!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Morgan - May 27, 2015 at 10:14 PM



“ Hi again...Mothers Day is just around the corner. We are going to Bill N Darlenes...she said she wants to make hamburgers for everybody. Dad is coming.... Mothers day this year is going to suck... I love you mom....forever.

MORGAN - May 08, 2015 at 01:28 PM



“ Happy Easter Mom...resurrection day. The thing is that you know better than I do. I got my cpap and it seems to do the trick. It has only been two days but the difference is remarkable. I have been miserable for years...but its all over now. Pretty neat. I have just accepted that I will continue to miss you for the rest of my life....it is supposed to get better but really I just have to learn to live with you being gone.

Morgan - April 05, 2015 at 08:25 PM



“ Hi Mom. I go in for my sleep study Wednesday after next. They are going to out one of those Cpaps on me. Everybody seems to think Im going to be a new man. We shall see. I really miss you something horrible. I saw a post that asked who your choice would me if you could spend an hour with anyone in history...dead or alive. Somebody replied "my mother". I think that wiuld be my answer too. What I would give to give you one more hug. We are taking care of Daddy and Daniel per your request. I love you Mom.

Morgan - March 24, 2015 at 05:55 AM



“ Happy Anniversary!!!! Ive been in the hospital for the past four days. It appears I had arterial flutter. They shocked me like they do in the movies...i was out so I didnt feel a thing. You are all dad and I think about. You have been gone for 6 months. Ill see you soon enough. Until then know that we miss you dearly.

morgan - February 03, 2015 at 08:08 AM



“ Having a bad night...bad dream that seemed so real about dad. Im off tomorrow. I see dad almost every day. He really doesn't know what to do with himself. He says he's getting fat eating too much blah blah blah....We are planning a trip to Palo Duro Canyon to go see Texas. Dad said it is a must see. Im sure you remember. We are going to try to stay at one of the cabins in the Palo Duro Canyon State Park....we shall see. I love you mom...I have these visions of you showing everyone there how to properly make sweet potato casserole...OMG...I ALMOST FORGOT...the Cowboys were in the second round of the playoffs...lost on a bad call by the refs with an obscure rule...I wish you would have seen it...Dez Bryant made a great catch and a great play...he got robbed...you would have been very miffed to say the least. What a crock...(I have memories of you leaving games when the Cowboys would do poorly in the Staubach era....good times....

I remember Heidi telling me the day before you left that the pain would eventually go away and the good times would be remembered. She's full of hooey....according to Kim, Quay, and everyone else I have talked to...all you do is learn to live with it. I love you mom.....forever...

Morgan - January 18, 2015 at 01:54 AM



“ -pjk

p - January 04, 2015 at 08:24 PM



“ Merry Christmas Mom...Dad got to come over and Jill made him a nice roast. We got him an electric razor. He gave Daniel and I a rifle each. We took him to go see "Into the Woods" with Meryl Streep. Weve seen better...
Christmas without you just isn't the same...you should see dad playing with Daniel. Daniel got a motorized scooter and took a spill,,,dad gets soooooooooo worried. Im sure you would expect nothing less...
I really wish you were here...just once more....I love you Mom.

Morgan - December 25, 2014 at 06:41 PM



“ Hi again Mom. Christmas is just around the corner and I'm dreading it a little. Dad doesn't do well...says he hates holidays. Can't say I blame him. Daniel is doing a production for the Temple Civic Theater called the "Best Christmas Pageant Ever". He does a wonderful job in the role of Charlie. It is so fun watching him grow up.... Your boys are getting along OK. We will make it. Dad keeps reading your old letters from when he was in Viet Nam. He shows me a select few....evidently I used to LOOOOVE just being outside. That's a fact even today....

I really wish you were still here. All the clichés and idioms are still so true. There is nothing I wouldn't do, pay, whatever just to have one more hug...I don't need a day, hour or minute...just one more chance to hold you and tell you you are the best mom in the world.

I love you Mom....

Morgan - December 14, 2014 at 04:05 AM



“ Happy Thanksgiving Mom...you should know the sweet potato cassarole was very well done. Second best Ive ever had. Thanksgiving was done at Bill and Darlenes....dad showed up, ate, and left. He told his stories and did what he does. We miss you terribly...dad is having a very hard time; particularly on the holidays. I don't know what to do other than just love him as best as I can. Dad said he hates holidays and I can't say I blame him. He is writing his memories and every mention of you nominates your name for sainthood. (I can't help but agree....unbiased of course)

He showed me some high school and college yearbooks where you wrote in them...I still have a hard time getting my head wrapped around you guys being more than Mom and Dad. You never had a life before me...no ma'am...

He showed me a letter you wrote him before we moved to Victoria...I still cant get over the lengths he went through just to provide for his family. I remember watching him walk away as you would drop him off to hitchhike to Victoria. I really HATED that...couldn't get away with doing that these days...

Im listening to stories of his mom and dad...your mom and dad...how tough your mom and dad had it making a living...providing...knowing need. Listening to Uncle Ronnie your dad would do whatever to provide the best he could.

Now you and dad did the same for me...but better...I never had to worry about going hungry, no clothes, etc...

I hope to provide for Daniel the same way...Im very concerned about his future with the direction the country is turning. Thanks to you and dad I hope to be able to make him independant of any and all things necessary to make it in this world.

You going away pointed out how much pain this world has in it. in part Im glad you don't have to live in it anymore but I wish you were still here anyway. I miss you...

Morgan - November 29, 2014 at 02:42 PM



“ Hello....went to your house yesterday and dad found some videos of you. "how can I miss you if you never leave me alone." I am doing my best to maintain your request to "take care of daddy". Rest assured....he will be taken care of. He's kind of thick headed though....Im sure I don't have to tell you that. The problem is that 99% of the time is right....but I try anyway. I really wish he would move in with us....but you know how that's going to go. Tomorrow I take an AFIP test. It's pretty difficult....we shall see. Talk to you later....I love you mom. I am really hoping you can read these...and will continue like you are...

Morgan - September 26, 2014 at 12:32 AM



“ Dad still misses you terribly...I am not doing so well either. Every day we wish for just a moment to get you caught up on whats going on. Daniel is growing like a weed...you should see him. He is in sword class now. He seems to be doing well in school. I am so so glad you were my mom...I love you...

Morgan - September 13, 2014 at 04:41 PM



“ We blew off the Alaskan cruise because it just wouldn't be the same without you. We have decided to go to Niagara Falls. I told dad this and he cut me off...telling me that was where you guys were probably going next. Of course I will say no more about it...but Im going to tell you all about it when I see you again. Jill came up with it for our 25th anniversary and I think its a fantastic idea. Daniel is going to love it. He misses you as we all do. I love you mom....

Morgan - August 14, 2014 at 08:33 PM



“ Happy Birthday Mom. We celebrated your life Sunday and the turnout was fabulous. Dad is still having a hard time. You were his life you are missed...he wants his Jo back. Gwen told me you gave her the assurance that her child with asthma would be fine...giving her the freedom to do what needed to be done to keep her house in order. I finally met Mrs. Douse and she is every bit the class act you told me she was. You worked with some fine fine people and Im happy I got to meet them all. I miss you mom...you should be here listening to Daniel sing you Happy Birthday. We can't compete with the choir you have now...but i think you would like it just the same. I love you mom....

Morgan - July 29, 2014 at 06:21 AM



“ You told me...and made sure I was prepared, to take care of Dad. He is holding up as best as he can but the sadness won't go away anytime soon. You left a big void that can't be filled with all the kind words and gestures in the world. I continue to hear stories of a JoAnn I didn't know...the Joann I knew was full of love and kindness...a little bit silly...lots of fun, but still Mom. Always Mom. The JoAnn I hear about was a delight to work with and be around...popping off random song lyrics...and extremely efficient in the workplace. Dad, Jill and I were going through the pictures of when you guys were in Hawaii while Dad was in the Army. There is a picture of you looking over the ocean on top of a mountain...what you were thinking?....Im sure Ill find out soon enough. You will be pleased to know that the big smile you gave me when I told you I was marrying Jill was very worthy and warranted. She has been the beautiful heart you knew she would be. I miss you so much.....so much.....

Morgan - July 15, 2014 at 01:31 AM



“ You are so loved by so many...

Morgan - July 06, 2014 at 10:26 PM



“ JoAnn's sweet husband wrote and found me to tell me of her passing.....she was my best grade/ high school friend...we reconnected through Facebook in 2011.....birthdays and Christmases we exchanged cards.....such a dear sweet friend.....gosh I hate to know she is gone.....a very special person....I truly will not forget her or the times we shared.....love you JoAnn.

Marian Gray - June 26, 2014 at 07:40 PM



“ PJ Keyes lit a candle in memory of Jo Ann Shrode



PJ Keyes - June 25, 2014 at 01:32 PM



“ There isn't a minute that goes by that your not on my mind...somewhere....no matter who I'm with or what I'm doing. I miss your smile...your little "I love you" wink...your presence. There are no words....I hope somehow you can feel my heart....because words just aren't adequate. I love you my mom...

Morgan - June 25, 2014 at 12:29 AM



“ Morgan lit a candle in memory of Jo Ann Shrode



Morgan - June 13, 2014 at 11:09 PM



“ I miss you...

Morgan Shrode Jr/ - June 12, 2014 at 09:26 AM



“ JoAnn was the most amazing people person I have ever met. She was kind and encouraging to everyone she met. I never ever heard her speak a cross word to anyone. Actually, I do not know how she did it some days, but I knew I wanted to be just like her. Bless you JoAnn and the many joyful and courage examples you have left for us all to remember you by. You will always be loved and never forgotten. My deepest sympathy to your family. Love, Debbie Drever

Debbie Drever - June 09, 2014 at 11:25 PM



“ Julie Hagey lit a candle in memory of Jo Ann Shrode



Julie Hagey - June 09, 2014 at 11:46 AM



“ JoAnn's smile and laugh are burned into my memory. She made working at Fowler so much fun. She played along with every joke. She was the first face the Fowler parents would see as they came into the office. Everyone was always greeted by her warm presence. I'm so glad I had the opportunity to know her. We love you and miss you JoJo. My condolences to the family, people who bring so much joy to others leave a big hole. But they also set a great example to others! I pray that God will wrap his loving arms around you in your time of grief. Love, Julie Hagey

Julie Hagey - June 09, 2014 at 11:46 AM



“ Jo Ann's smile lit up the room and you couldn't have a bad day with her around. I'm blessed to have known her.

Julie (Foeltz) Williams - June 09, 2014 at 11:27 AM



“ Julie (Foeltz) Williams lit a candle in memory of Jo Ann Shrode



Julie (Foeltz) Williams - June 09, 2014 at 11:24 AM



“ Jo Ann was such an amazing woman. I can still see her sitting in the front office of Fowler smiling and laughing and taking everything that came at her in stride. She was a blessing to work with and a joy to have as a friend. I am so thankful for the opportunity to work with and spend time with her. She will always have a special place in my heart. Love you, Jo Ann!

Christy Fairey

Christy Fairey - June 09, 2014 at 11:20 AM



“ Christy Fairey lit a candle in memory of Jo Ann Shrode



Christy Fairey - June 09, 2014 at 11:11 AM



“ Any time I visited all those years ago, she treated me just like I was just one of her own. I knew Morgan Jr as a young man and I know the man he is now - a good man. And that speaks volumes about his momma. Jo Ann was a force for good in this world and I'm sure she's continuing her good work. Unfortunately just not here on earth with us. We will sorely miss her.
-Paul Keyes

Paul Keyes - June 09, 2014 at 05:21 AM



“ JoAnn always had a special way of making everyone she came into contact with feel important. Her warm smile and kind words made all who entered Fowler Elementary School know they were welcomed with open arms. My heart aches when I think of how much I will miss her, but it is full of gratitude for having known her. Heaven gained another sweet angel. See you in eternity, JoAnn!
Love, Nancy Scott

Nancy Scott - June 08, 2014 at 10:09 PM



“ I loved JoAnn and appreciated her so much while she was at Fowler. She always had a kind word. She demonstrated grace, dignity, fun, efficiency, warmth..... the list goes on and on. God bless the family with peace at this time.

Shirley Parr - June 08, 2014 at 09:12 PM



“ Shirley Parr lit a candle in memory of Jo Ann Shrode



Shirley Parr - June 08, 2014 at 09:10 PM



“ Jo Ann was a delight to work with. Although I did not work directly with her anytime we spoke on the phone it was with a special person who did her job well and was easy to get along with. The last time I saw her was at HEB, where all of us retirees seem to run in to each other, I could tell the light of her life was her grand child. To her family, I know that she will be sorely missed, my deepest sympathy to all of you. May God grant you wonderful memories and strength as you grieve for Jo Ann.

Arlene Aldrich

Arlene Aldrich - June 08, 2014 at 09:56 AM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Morgan Shrode Jr. - June 06, 2014 at 10:10 PM



“ Mrs. Joann, was warm and wonderful and always ready to help in any way and made sure to leave you with a smile. My deepest condolences to her family. Love Monica Hinojos

Monica Hinojos - June 09, 2014 at 07:11 PM



“ Mom...you have only been gone a short time and the huge chasm in my heart still burns for you. It is so so hard to process...you we're bulletproof and your armor was the love for those you came in contact with. Those like you should live forever....this is my mom!

Morgan Shrode Jr. - June 06, 2014 at 10:06 PM