



## Emma Jean Schrader

May 24, 1949 - April 30, 2026

Emma Jean Schrader (Gibson), age 76, of Killeen, Texas, passed away on April 30, 2026. She was born on May 24, 1949.

Emma was a woman you simply never forgot. She was strong, resilient, and worked hard her entire life, but more than anything—she loved deeply and genuinely. She loved straight from the heart, without hesitation, and that love is what held her family together. She was the glue, the storyteller, the one who made sure no memory was ever lost and no moment went without laughter.

To know Emma was to love her. She had a way of lighting up every room she walked into. She was funny, full of life, and a true entertainer at heart. Whether it was a family gathering or a room full of strangers, she made people feel seen, welcome, and happy. She was the absolute best Daughter, Wife, Mom, Mimi, and Friend anyone could ever hope for.

She is survived by her loving husband, Robert Schrader; her children, Rob Harmon and his wife Shelly, Tom Browne and his wife Tami, Angie Rutherford, David Browne and his wife Barb, Bev Phillips, and Kelly Harmon; her grandchildren, Angee Cox and her husband Doug, Emalea Case, RJ Harmon, Aubrey Browne, Tommy Browne Jr. and his wife Sarah, Jaymi Paige Gaines and her husband Carlos, Lily Browne, Jeremy Chapman, Aiden Browne, Makayla Harmon, Ariana Eiland, Layla Browne, and Hannah Browne; and her

great-grandchildren, Alex Cox, Kaleb Cox, Rosaleigh Case, William Paige, Lauralei Case, Alias, and Ellie.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jim and Jean Rankin, and is also remembered alongside her grandparents, Olly and Emma Tolliver.

Emma had a gift that not many people have—she could make people stop and listen. In the small town of Indian Springs, she became a local legend, creating the Indian Springs PTA song set to the tune of “Harper Valley PTA,” cleverly weaving in the names of those around her. It was just one of the many ways she made people laugh and feel special.

Her voice was something truly unforgettable. She was told many times that she sang Patsy Cline better than Patsy Cline herself, and when she sang “Crazy” or “Sweet Dreams,” people listened. One of those moments came at Sam’s Town Casino, when an entire room went completely quiet—no talking, no machines—just to hear her sing. That was Emma. She didn’t just perform... she created moments people carried with them.

She loved to entertain, to laugh, and to bring joy to others. Whether she was on stage or simply being herself, she had a way of turning ordinary moments into something special. She didn’t just live life—she made sure everyone around her felt it.

Emma’s faith was quiet but strong. She didn’t need to speak loudly about it because she lived it. She walked comfortably with God and Jesus Christ, carrying a peace and strength that guided her throughout her life. We find comfort in knowing that today, she is singing once again—this time in Heaven, her beautiful voice joining the choir of angels, just as it always seemed it was meant to.

A Celebration of Life will be held in her honor in November following Thanksgiving. Details will be announced as the date approaches.

Emma Jean Schrader leaves behind more than memories—she leaves behind laughter, stories, love, and a legacy that will live on in every person she touched. She will be deeply missed, forever loved, and never, ever forgotten.

Family Closing:

Mom,

You were our everything—the heart of our family, the one who kept us together, and the one who made life feel full. Thank you for every laugh, every song, every story, and every ounce of love you gave so freely. We will carry you with us in everything we do.

We love you more than words could ever say... and we will miss you every single day. Until we meet again.

“We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”

— 2 Corinthians 5:8 (KJV)