



Tonya Kay Hettler

September 8, 1959 - April 22, 2026

Tonya Kay (Zoch) Hettler, 66, of Idalou, Texas, passed away peacefully from natural causes on April 22, 2026. Born on September 8, 1959, in Lubbock, Texas, Tonya was the beloved daughter of Lubbock natives and cherished the community she called home. She graduated from Coronado High School and went on to embody the spirit of dedication and love as a devoted wife and a nurturing homemaker.

On May 26, 1987, Tonya married her soulmate, Alan Hettler, in a beautiful ceremony in Las Vegas, Nevada. Together, they built a life filled with love, laughter, and two wonderful sons, Paxton and Garrett. Tonya was an unwavering source of support for her family, and her warmth and kindness extended beyond her immediate loved ones.

A passionate genealogist, Tonya spent countless hours researching her family history, ensuring that the stories of her ancestors would be preserved. She attended Texas Tech University for accounting. She was also deeply involved in programs supporting individuals with autism, lending her voice and efforts to advocate for those in need. She was a lifetime member of the Wendish Heritage Society.

Tonya is survived by her husband, Alan, her mother-in-law, Gerry Hettler, her two sons, Paxton with wife Theresa and Garrett Hettler, and her sisters,

Rhonda Tate and Sandra Zoch.; numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at Sanders Memorial Chapel on Monday, April 27, 2026, at 2:00 PM. Following the service, Tonya will be laid to rest at the Cemetery located at 2011 E 31st Street, Lubbock, TX 79404. We invite all who knew and loved Tonya to join us in honoring her remarkable life and legacy.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to Burkhart Center for Autism and Education and Research in Tonya's memory, honoring her commitment to helping those in need.

Tonya was preceded in death by her parents, Sherrill Zoch and Patsey Parker.

Cemetery Details

City of Lubbock Cemetery

2011 E 31st Street
Lubbock, TX 79404

Previous Events

Funeral Service

APR 27. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Sanders Memorial Chapel
1420 Main Street
Lubbock, TX 79401

Tribute Wall



“ Sanders Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Tonya Kay Hettler



Sanders Funeral Home - April 27 at 11:03 AM

DL

Beautiful service, my deepest condolences to the family and my prayers for peace in this time of a loss of a loved one.

Daniel Langston - April 27 at 04:06 PM

IC

May all your wonderful memories comfort you all during times as this. Deepest condolences to you all for your loss. RIP Dear Warrior mom and friend within our advocacy work. 🙏🙏🙏

Irma Canfield - April 28 at 03:21 PM

OY

My deepest condolences to Tonya's family. Praying for peace and strength through this difficult time.

Olga Ybarra - April 29 at 04:48 AM



“ Sanders Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Tonya Kay Hettler



Sanders Funeral Home - April 26 at 12:32 PM

BR

Such a beautiful service

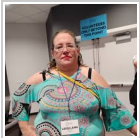
Brenda - April 27 at 03:37 PM

KN

“ I am so sorry for your loss! May the Holy Spirit comfort the family! God bless. I never had the privilege of meeting Tonya. I spoke with her on the phone. She helped me with genealogy. She was terrific.



Kathy Neal - April 28 at 09:58 PM

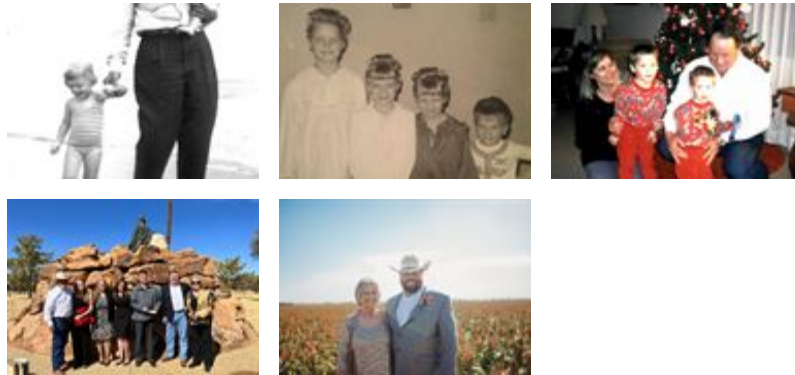


“ Tonya was an incredible gift to all autism families. I just hope I can help other families like she's helped ours. She will be incredibly missed.

Leigh-Ann Delone - April 28 at 11:41 AM



“ 79 files added to the album Life Tributes



Sanders Funeral Home - April 26 at 04:34 PM

BR

“ Already missing you. Beautiful, kind cousin.

Brenda - April 24 at 11:41 AM

SZ

“ You were a wonderful Sister. I will miss you deeply, ever day, for the rest of my life. Rest in Peace Tom-Tom. Sandi

Sandra Zoch - April 23 at 09:33 PM

PD

Sandi, she will always bring a smile as I do anyway when thinking of my dear super kind and smart friend ... Tonya...I will always Love You

PATTI DERR - April 25 at 05:56 PM

WE

Have loved this family for many years, since Tonya and Sisters were youngsters. We always considered them family to us. Rest in peace sweet Tonya.
Wanda Edwards

wanda Edwards - April 27 at 11:13 PM

TA

“ Tonya was an extra special person involved with so much information regarding Autism. I was honored to know her and call her my friend. I will always treasure our special moments together. Sending my deepest condolences to Alan , Paxton and Garrett. Hugs and prayers to you all.

Tammy Buckner Albrecht - April 23 at 04:09 PM