



Wilma Jean Valdez

February 19, 1937 - April 21, 2025

Wilma Jean (Zeller) Valdez, 88, of Idalou, Texas, departed this life on April 21, 2025, after a lengthy illness. She was a dairy farmer and a Seventh-day Adventist.

Wilma was born to Kenneth Leroy Zeller and Wilhelmina Christina (Weber) Zeller on February 19, 1937, at home on the family farm in Beloit, Ohio. Always a music-lover, she would loudly sing when working the fields. She soon joined the church choir. She graduated from Alliance High School in 1955, the first in her family to do so. In 1962, she left the farm and traveled across the country in her 1960 Studebaker Lark VI convertible to California to work in her aunt's restaurant, accompanied only by her German Shepherd, Tracy. In California, she met "James" Alfonso Valdez, whom she married in 1964. Their 30-year union produced three children.

In 1971, the family moved to New Mexico, where Wilma began her own dairy farm with three Jerseys. From then on, even when the family moved (three more times), she maintained cattle and chickens. Additionally, she was a loving, strong, hard-working, and creative Christian mother who supported all her children's endeavors.

Wilma was preceded in death by her parents, a sister, Chrystal (Zeller) Rainey Conrad, two grandsons, Kallen and Lorren Valdez, a daughter-in-law, Camille

(Rabel) Valdez, and her ex-husband, James.

Left to cherish her memory are her children, Monica (Sam) Kennedy of Lubbock, Melba Valdez (Dan Jones) of Ruidoso, New Mexico, and Roger Valdez of Idalou; six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be held at Sanders Funeral Home Chapel in Lubbock, Texas, on Friday, May 2, 2025, at 10 AM. Interment will be at the City of Lubbock Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

City of Lubbock Cemetery

2011 E 31st Street
Lubbock, TX 79404

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY 2. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Sanders Memorial Chapel
1420 Main Street
Lubbock, TX 79401

Tribute Wall



“ Sanders Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Wilma Jean Valdez



Sanders Funeral Home - May 02, 2025 at 10:49 AM

LS

“ Linda and Lee Scott purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Wilma Jean Valdez.



Linda and Lee Scott - May 01, 2025 at 09:04 AM

LS

“ Linda and Lee Scott planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wilma Jean Valdez.

Linda and Lee Scott - May 01, 2025 at 09:04 AM

LS

“ Wilma was so kind and sweet. She loved my parents and came to my Mom's service when she was not doing well herself because she loved her so much. RIP Wilma.

Linda Scott - May 01, 2025 at 08:52 AM

FR

“ From Russell and Suzanne Hughes, Ruidoso planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wilma Jean Valdez.

From Russell and Suzanne Hughes, Ruidoso - April 30, 2025 at 09:20 PM

FR

“ From Russell and Suzanne Hughes, Ruidoso purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Wilma Jean Valdez.



From Russell and Suzanne Hughes, Ruidoso - April 30, 2025 at 09:20 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Wilma Jean Valdez.



April 30, 2025 at 07:48 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Wilma Jean Valdez.

April 30, 2025 at 07:48 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Wilma Jean Valdez.

April 30, 2025 at 06:33 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Wilma Jean Valdez.*



April 30, 2025 at 06:33 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Wilma Jean Valdez.*



April 29, 2025 at 10:38 PM