



## Paula Jeanette Keenum Philyaw

October 16, 1958 - July 15, 2025

Paula Jeanette Keenum Philyaw, of Forrest City, died Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at her home in Forrest City. She was born October 16, 1958, in Marianna, and was the daughter of Charles Keenum and Mary Lou Andrews Keenum Pierce. She lived in Forrest City most of her life, was retired from First National Bank of E.A., and was a member of the Beck Spur Baptist Church. With hearts full of sorrow but also deep gratitude, we announce the passing of our beloved Paula, who went home to be with the Lord. Paula was a beautiful light in all of our lives- a woman whose love, warmth, and faith touched everyone she met. She had a gift for making people feel seen, cherished, and completely at home, whether through her kind words, her radiant smile, or the comfort of a home-cooked meal shared at her table. Cooking was one of Paula's greatest joys. Her kitchen was a place of love, laughter, and unforgettable aromas- a sanctuary where memories were made and hearts were mended. No one ever left her home hungry, and no one ever left without feeling deeply loved. But beyond her incredible meals, it was Paula's unwavering faith and devotion to the Lord that defined her. She lived her life as a true servant of Christ, walking in grace and humility, trusting His plan, and sharing His love through every word and action. Her quiet strength and spiritual wisdom were a guiding light for our family, and her prayers wrapped around us like a warm embrace. Family was everything to her. Whether she was attending a birthday, comforting someone in need, or just calling to check in, Paula made it known that we were loved deeply and unconditionally. She created a legacy of

compassion, unity, and faith that will live on through each of us. Though our hearts are heavy, we rejoice in knowing that she is now at peace, reunited with loved ones in Heaven, and held in the arms of her Savior. We will miss her terribly, but we will carry her spirit with us- in every recipe passed down, every family gathering, every quiet prayer. Rest well, sweet Paula. Your love was a gift. Your life was a blessing. Your memory will forever be a treasure. Paula married Lindy Philyaw Jr., in 1994, and he preceded her in death in 2005. She is survived by two sisters; Karen Keenum and Bettye Bryant, one brother Steve Abbott, and wife, Carole, several nieces and nephews and several great-nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held at the Beck Spur Baptist Church, 2:00 P.M. , Saturday, July 19, 2025. Memorials are to be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73123-1718. You may log on to [stevensfuneralhome.net](http://stevensfuneralhome.net) for the online registry.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUL 19. 2:00 PM (CT)

Beck Spur Baptist Church  
180 SFC 219  
Forrest City, AR

# Tribute Wall



“ Lovie sent a virtual gift in memory of Paula Jeanette Philyaw



Lovie - July 18, 2025 at 05:09 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Paula Jeanette Keenum Philyaw.



July 18, 2025 at 03:05 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Paula Jeanette Keenum Philyaw.

July 18, 2025 at 03:05 PM



“ Often times families drift apart and as we all know the Andrews clan fits in this category. When we were younger, we had the best times when my mom and dad played cards and us girls-Gina, Karen, Paula, Linda and I-would play barbies or use our imagination. Rest in Peace sweet cousin of mine. Maybe we didn't visit but I have never forgotten you!

Kathi Andrews Walker

Kathi Walker - July 18, 2025 at 12:51 PM

BB

“ Sincere condolences to Keenum/Philyaw family, May you find strength in God during this trying time. Keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers.



Brenda Ann Brown - July 18, 2025 at 10:42 AM



“ So sorry to hear the news. I spent a lot of time with Paula oh as they say back in the day. Will never forget 'poor man's spaghetti'. Prayers for the family.

Jill Ferguson Simpson - July 18, 2025 at 06:44 AM

LO

Sending condolences on behalf of the Forrest City High School class of 1977

Lovie - July 18, 2025 at 05:11 PM