



Joyce Elaine Poole

June 25, 1947 - November 8, 2025

Joyce Elaine Poole, age 78, of Fitzgerald, peacefully passed away with family by her side on Saturday, November 8, 2025.

Born and raised in Fitzgerald, GA, she was the daughter of the late Lester L. Smith and Myra M. Holley, and entered this world on June 25, 1947. She was the owner of Paul's Bait and Tackle for many years and loved all of her customers who turned into friends. She enjoyed serving her community and sharing her love of fishing with all who entered the store. Being a fisher herself- she not only had knowledge for fishing but many stories to share of her own experiences. Joyce had a genuine heart for others and surrounded herself with a good time. Whether it be working, fishing, dancing, or sharing a good meal with others- she never met a stranger and made everyone feel comfortable and apart. Even as a small business owner, she always made time for her family. Joyce was so proud of her family and cherished every moment together.

Survivors include her children- Kelly Blum, Tina (Joseph) Dixon, and John Sanford, 6 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren, sister- Jane Smith, and brothers- Ronald Smith and Henry (Eve) Smith.

In addition to her parents, Joyce was preceded in death by husband- Archie Paul, grandchild- Kurt Sanford, brothers- Thomas Smith and Donald Smith, and sister- Carlese Carroll.

A graveside service will be held at 11:00am, Saturday, November 15th, 2025 at Frank Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery in Ocilla, GA.

Reflection Cremation & Funeral Service is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

NOV 15. 11:00 AM.

Frank Primitive Baptist Church- 627 Frank Church Rd, Fitzgerald, GA 31750

Tribute Wall

CS

“ 1 file added to the album Tribute Wall



Cousin Selena - November 14, 2025 at 11:26 PM

CS

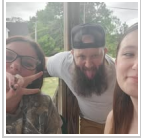
The words have been difficult to come. In our younger days we were all like a brother and sisters, growing up alongside each other and with several mothers. Aunt Joyce, your momma being one of them. I love you all so much and my heart hurts for you all. Sending love, hugs and prayers to each and every one of you! I am with you in heart and soul. I loved your momma so much, I remember having the best Christmas at her house with you all! She is the reason I can spot a tornado in the sky and know when to take cover or run, she is the reason I am unbeatable in a game of Spades or Rummy! She is the reason for my love of Elvis, and she is the reason I love the South so, so much! I love to hear her laughing; she has that shocked laugh in the beginning that goes into the giggle of a 12-year-old. If I remember correctly, Kelly laughs like that too! There have been many years between us, but I loved Aunt Joyce like I love my own mother. She is much of the reason I am who I am, her strength and survival skills instilled in me to this day!

Kelly, Tommy, Tina know that I am praying for you all and with you in spirit and a heavy heart as this day comes. I wish that I was standing next to you as you lay your mother, my Aunt Joyce to rest. I hope you will use the last 'mother' left of 'the sisters' your Aunt Jane or me if you ever need to talk, cry, scream, or just reminisce of the stories we all know, full of her love and playful spirit.

Please know I have the secret to those turkey sandwiches as long as we never tell my mom, your Aunt Jane!

I love you all so much.

Cousin Selena - November 15, 2025 at 12:03 AM



“ *Every time insaw her she lit up the room that I was in and I will miss u and I'll see u tomorrow <3*



Charlie Green - November 14, 2025 at 06:36 PM



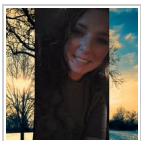
“ *Aunt Joyce was really my second cousin but I always called all my older cousins aunt or uncle, she was really sweet she looks so much like my grandmother who was her aunt... She will be missed. Every time she walk in her room I would just see my grandmother.*

Lisa Lewis - November 11, 2025 at 11:58 AM



“ *A very loving and special lady, she will be missed <3 you*

Geri Tormey-Carey - November 11, 2025 at 09:12 AM



“ *Amber Marie lit a candle in memory of Joyce Elaine Poole*



Amber Marie - November 10, 2025 at 02:29 PM



So sorry 🙏 to hear this God bless ya'll sending love prayers for y'all I loved me some joyce

Ruby I chambers - November 10, 2025 at 03:18 PM

JS

This is so hard to do, I don't have the words that portray my emotions. Kelly, Tina, and Tommy, I know, you know how much I loved your Mother. She was my mom, when my mama was away from home. Growing up, we spent hours in the living room listening to Elvis on her record player. She made the best fried turkey sandwiches after Thanksgiving, with all the extras. Life wasn't always easy for her, but she made the most of it.

The only thing positive I see, is that Kelly won't have to put up with me calling and being hysterical about where is she and what is going on with her. We know where she is...RIP my "Joy Drop". Till we meet again.

Jane Smith - November 10, 2025 at 04:23 PM