



## Martha Jewel Cordes

October 5, 1920 - August 9, 2020

Martha Jewel Cordes, 99 of Springdale passed away Sunday, August 9, 2020 at her home. She was born October 5, 1920 in Broken Bow, Oklahoma to James and Rachael Viola Pennington.

Jewel led a very interesting full life. She attended the University of Arkansas where she graduated as an honor student. She then taught school for 20 years, most of it at Westwood Elementary School in Springdale. She then, at 70 years of age, attended nursing school where she graduated at the top of her class. She worked in the medical field as a homecare nurse for several years. At the age of 86 she wrote and published a book. The book entitled, "The Story of Jewel," shares the amazing story of her life. She was an awesome Christian and shared Jesus with everyone she met. She led many people to Jesus and is now with Him for eternity. If she were here today, her words to you would be, "Make sure you meet me in Heaven."

She is preceded in death by her husband Virgil Cordes.

Survivors include her two children, Ted Cordes and wife Beverly of Rogers, Arkansas and Darlene Ballenger Singleton and husband Bob of Pensacola, Florida; three grandchildren, Len Ballenger of Pensacola, Florida, Jana Cordes of Rogers, Arkansas and Angela Fox of Pensacola, Florida and 7 great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be Friday, August 14, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at Sisco Funeral Chapel of Springdale with Pastor Len Ballenger, Pastor Steve Dixon and Pastor C.L. "Red" Dixon officiating. Visitation will begin Friday morning at 10:00 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow in Bluff Cemetery.

Online condolences may be left at [www.siscofuneral.com](http://www.siscofuneral.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Bluff Cemetery

795 N. Shiloh Street  
Springdale, AR 72764

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Sisco Funeral Chapel  
705 West Meadow  
Springdale, AR 72764  
(479) 751-4577  
siscofuneralchapel@gmail.com  
<https://www.siscofuneral.com>

## Funeral Service

AUG 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

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705 West Meadow  
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# Tribute Wall

DH

“ I just ran across this doing some research. My mother's parents moved the family to Springdale in 1942 and her mother, Ollie Viney, taught Sunday School at First Assembly of God (the rock church) until she passed away in 1958. When she passed the new church on Huntsville St. wasn't quite ready yet but they had her funeral there anyway. My mother, Mary Rose Viney Hancock, spoke many times over the years of the Cordes family and what good people they were. She mentioned Jewel many times as well as Mrs. Cordes (Dora).

Dwight David Hancock - May 28, 2024 at 02:51 PM



“ Martha Jewel Cordes

January 21, 2023 at 02:29 PM

GA

“ My Favorite teacher! She was so kind and poised. I remember clearly when she announced to our 5th Grade class that President Kennedy had been shot, with such grace she answered some very difficult questions. She was always so approachable with her huge smile and I Loved running into her over the many years later. She was such a lovely lady with a beautiful spirit. I know you will miss her.

Gay Brandon Riner

GayRiner - August 28, 2020 at 08:23 PM

PI

“ Beverly, I will always remember your mom's smiling face and perfect posture at Westwood Elementary in the 1960's! You, too, inherited those two qualities and I'm so glad we got to teach together for years at Walker Elementary. I've lost track of you the past few years, but please know my thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Paula Irwin*

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**Paula Irwin** - August 26, 2020 at 05:11 PM



“ Jewel and my mother, Olga, became friends in Pensacola shortly after she moved there. It was a special friendship - two older women who needed a girlfriend to play with and share their life stories. They kept in touch after my mother moved to NY. After my mother passed over, Jewel became my pen pal. We shared our stories and like she and my mom, grew to love each other. I will miss her very much.. She was a gem!!!

*I know you're having fun and basking in the light - with an endless supply of hats, of course. RIP Mamma Jewel! 💕💕💕💕💕*  
*Wendy Pereira*

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**Wendylee Pereira** - August 25, 2020 at 10:15 PM

CO

“ She was one of my favorite teachers at Westwood. Loved her colored chalk drawings on blackboard.

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**Connie O'Mara** - August 14, 2020 at 04:30 PM

LP

“ Dear Cousins,  
When I would call my dear sweet Aunt Jewel,  
I would always say, “This is your favorite nephew.” The thing is she  
always made everyone of us feel like her favorite. She loved me  
and still does. I know it. I feel it, still. By the grace and mercy of  
God, I know we will see her again. She wants us to love each other.  
I have no problem with that what so ever! You are all my perfect  
favorite cousins and I dearly love you, each and every one- from the  
ones I’ve had for 68 years to the latest wonderful children. I’m proud  
and happy that you are my family. If not for the current virus  
problems I would be right there with you. It’s good I’m not there  
because we hug people we love. We need to make good choices to  
be safe. I hope to see you soon. Please, allow God to give you the  
pease and comfort He has promised. I am praying.  
Love and blessings to all,

-Lon Pennington

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**Lon Pennington** - August 14, 2020 at 12:27 PM

AC

“ Mrs. Cordes was my fourth grade teacher. She was and still is my  
favorite teacher of all time. She retired in the middle of that year,  
and I was devastated. I love her so much. She is the kindest, most  
loving person I have ever had the chance to know. Every time she  
saw me, she would make me feel like I was the most important  
person in the world. I will miss seeing her beautiful smile and  
hearing, "Oh, honey!" every time she would see me. She was  
definitely a lighthouse in the sea of negativity of our world!

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**Audra Fulfer Corbitt** - August 14, 2020 at 11:59 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Martha Jewel Cordes.*



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August 13, 2020 at 01:56 PM



“ *Prayers and love to the family! Amy Moore*

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**Amy L Moore** - August 13, 2020 at 01:44 PM



“ *Jewel was a very special lady. She had a big impact on so many people. Our family knew her through church as well as Westwood Elementary. Sending your family love and prayers.*

*The Bill Sellers Family  
Ruth, Mike and Michelle*

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**Michelle DeCanio** - August 13, 2020 at 10:36 AM

JY

“ Ted, Darlene, Beverly,  
Your family has been part of my family since 1952 when my parents moved to Springdale. I remember going to church at the old rock church with all of you, our dad's building the church on Huntsville Avenue, working on it after working all day at their jobs, both of our dads serving on the church board. They are the ones who saw a young evangelist by the name of Red Dixon and brought him on as the pastor. I remember so well spending Sunday's after church at either your house or at my folks home. Jewel was a Godly leader in so many ways. She stayed in contact with my mother during my dad's home going and with mom till she passed. Saints like Jewel are not easy to find this day and age. She made a definite impact on my life as well as countless hundreds of others. I loved her like she was my mother and my life today was greatly shaped by her.  
Jack & Lana Yates

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**Jack Yates** - August 12, 2020 at 10:47 PM

DH

I just ran across this doing some research. My mother's parents moved the family to Springdale in 1942 and her mother, Ollie Viney, taught Sunday School at First Assembly of God (the rock church) until she passed away in 1958. When she passed the new church on Huntsville St. wasn't quite ready yet but they had her funeral there anyway. My mother, Mary Rose Viney Hancock, spoke many times over the years of the Cordes family and what good people they were. She mentioned Jewel many times as well as Mrs. Cordes (Dora).

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**Dwight David Hancock** - May 28, 2024 at 02:46 AM

SY

“ I met Jewel when I was 10 years old. She lived by my grandparents house so I use to go over all of the time and visit with her. She taught me how to play piano, makes cookies, and she would often just tell me about her life.

I went over a lot, until I got into 8th grade. My life started to become really busy and hectic, but I always managed to call and check up on her. These last few years I haven't been over to see her and it saddens me now that I didn't get to see and talk to her one last time. I'm so glad for all of the lessons that she taught me and I'll forever cherish the memories we did get to have together❤️



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**Sydney** - August 12, 2020 at 08:14 PM

JC

Syd,

I had the pleasure of seeing her in church from time to time. Jewel was an inspiration to everyone who had the opportunity to visit with her. She is definitely loving her eternal home!

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**Jason Crittenden** - August 12, 2020 at 08:27 PM

JF

“ Sending Love and Prayers of Comfort for All Dear Family and Friends of Jewel (Lovingly known to us as Mamaw). She has touched so many people throughout her life. Her treasured words and lessons of faith will live on in each person she blessed with her love and Friendship. Love You Mamaw!

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**Jamie Faubus** - August 12, 2020 at 06:55 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Martha Jewel Cordes.



August 12, 2020 at 06:05 PM



“ she was my fifth grade teacher, 1960 westwood school. she was a beautiful lady

Betty s Hoff - August 12, 2020 at 04:58 PM



my maiden name was Hartman

Betty s Hoff - August 12, 2020 at 04:59 PM



Jewel was a wonderful friend and neighbor, All of the kids in the neighborhood loved her! She had a special friendship with our Granddaughter Sydnie , gave her piano lessons for a short time !She always had a nice treat for the neighbor kids on Halloween. She will be. Missed ,

Julia and John Crittenden - August 12, 2020 at 07:54 PM

RH

“ OUR FAMILY ARRIVED IN SPRINGDALE 1966 FROM LITTLE ROCK. FIRST SUNDAY, WE ATTENDED FIRST ASSEMBLY, MET VIRGIL AND JEWELL. WE KNEW TED'S WIFE BEVERLY THRU MY SISTERS WHO AS TEENS WITH MY WIFE SHARON ALL HAD ATTENDED SUMMER CHURCH CAMPS IN HOT SPRINGS DURING THE 1950's. WE IMMEDIATELY WERE WELCOMED TO THE CHURCH FOLD. OF COURSE, MY FATHER AN ASSEMBLY MINISTER AS PASTOR “ RED “ DIXON HERE, OLE FRIENDS SINCE 1955 WHEN I WAS STILL LIVING AT HOME. JEWELL AND BEVERLY TAUGHT BOTH RHONDA AND HOLLY HARRISON AT WESTWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON MC RAY AVE. WHERE WE LIVED. WE HAVE BEEN CLOSE FRIENDS SINCE DAY ONE. WE WILL MISS JEWELL,

RONDELL & JANE HARRISON - August 12, 2020 at 04:17 PM



“ Divine Light was purchased for the family of Martha Jewel Cordes.



August 12, 2020 at 02:15 PM

CC

“ Jewel's life was very impactful to many people. She led many to Jesus Christ. Her life was a witness to her faith. Jewell was all things good and great.

Cliff Cordes - August 12, 2020 at 02:08 PM



“ I am so honored to have known and been loved by Mamaw Jewel. Her love for Jesus was known by all. My husband met her one time years ago but he remembers that about her. She was an elegant and amazing woman. I loved her laughter, her uplifting spirit, her joy for life. Like the song "I Can Only Imagine", I can only imagine her reaction when she saw her Lord and Savior for the first time. Sending love to the family.

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**Kim McJunkins** - August 12, 2020 at 11:32 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Martha Jewel Cordes.



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August 12, 2020 at 08:24 AM

GW

“ *Ted, Darlene, and extended family*

*My family will always remember the genuine goodness, extravagant kindness, and un-bounded love Jewel shared with us. Her actions epitomized the everlasting assurance found in Jesus. She did not conform to this world but rather was transformed by the power of Christ in her redemption... “A Faithful Servant“... to His Kingdom.*

*I could write much more regarding the meeting of our families in 1972 and the many pleasantries exchanged, but time nor space would permit the overload. Suffice it to say... “Our Redemption Draws Nigh“.*

*Blessings of calm assurance and quiet rest be prevalent among you.*

*Gary Walker, and DeShon Walker*

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**gary walker** - August 12, 2020 at 04:46 AM

KC

“ *I remember being in some services with her at Faith Assembly of God. She was a great lady.*

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**Kelly Couch** - August 12, 2020 at 01:51 AM