



## Stephanie "Tessie" Dodge Shelton

July 26, 2013

Stephanie "Tessie" Marie Dodge Shelton

Grand Coteau - Memorial services will be held on Saturday, August 10, 2013 at a 1:00 PM Mass at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Grand Coteau, LA for Stephanie "Tessie" Marie Dodge Shelton, 58, who died on Friday, July 26, 2013 at her Sunny Glen residence of Alpine, TX.

Survivors include her husband, James Bud Shelton, two sisters, Norma Lee Dodge Gardiner of Rayne, LA, Sylvia Dodge Sibille Prevost of Chicot, LA, three brothers, Cyril Dodge of Panama City, FL, Eddie Dodge of Antigua, Guatamala and Vaughan Dodge of Baton Rouge.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Leroy Dodge and Fabiola Castille Dodge.

The epitome of love, compassion and boundless joy, she was an inspiration to all whose lives she touched. A graduate of Academy of the Sacred Heart in Grand Coteau, LA and The University of New Orleans, former Montesouri teacher, massage and cranio-sacrial therapist, she was active in all the communities in

which she lived from an early age, serving as a volunteer hospice care worker in both Louisiana and Alpine, TX and recently volunteer with The Sunshine House Meals on Wheels in Alpine, TX.

In Lieu of flowers donations can be made to The Sunshine House Meals on Wheels, 205 E. Sul Ross Ave., Alpine, TX 79830.

Friends may view the obituary and guestbook online at [www.gossenfuneralhome.net](http://www.gossenfuneralhome.net)

Arrangements have been entrusted to Gossen Funeral Home, Inc. of Rayne, LA (337)334-3141.

# Tribute Wall

EP

“ Dear Ones,

*i was so sorry to learn of Tessie's passing. I think the last time I saw her was at Grandpa's funeral in 1996. I will always remember her sweet smile and gentle ways. You are all in my prayers.*

*Love, Emily Castille Prus (Joe and Barbara's daughter)*

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**Emily Castille Prus** - October 29, 2013 at 04:06 PM

GA

“ To the Family of Stephanie Dodge Shelton,

*You do not know me. I ran across Mrs. Shelton's Obituary in the Lafayette Legacy and just wanted to let you know how sorry I am for your loss. I did want to share a positive thought with you that would hopefully bring some comfort. In no way would I think I understand what you are feeling at this time. However i know when I lost my Grandparents it hurt me so bad. Only one thing brought me comfort. That is the promise that we are all given at John 5:28, 29. Please read that scripture at your earliest convenience. There is explains that soon our dear loved ones in the memorial tombs will hear Almighty God's voice and come out. So there will be a resurrection that will allow us to see our dear ones again. If you would like receive more encouraging information from the bible absolutely free please contact me via the email above.*

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**Gayle Francois** - October 29, 2013 at 04:06 PM

EF

“ Whether you knew her as Tessie.....Stephanie.....Tess,

*each of us had a singular and personal relationship with our dear friend.*

*Her ability to acknowledge you personally and individually made you feel*

*you were a special friend.*

*We each may have known her uniquely, and one to one,*

*but we were all blessed with her life energy.*

*Tessie's profound joy of life was infectious;*

*her determination to live life to the fullest was remarkable;*

*we all share together the joy of having known Tessie.*

*Each of us may have experienced some part of her physical problems,*

*her recoveries, her relapses, her fears and anxieties,*

*her anger and frustration with it all,*

*but none can deny she confronted her situation with full force.*

*Tessie confronted what was given to her with absolute determination to win.*

*And she did.*

*Although each of use may question this, considering her unexpected passing*

*two weeks ago, her last three years were a fulfillment of her desire for a healthy,*

*purposeful, and independent life.*

*Each of us, for the rest of our days,*

*will carry with in*

*a part of*

*Tess.....Stephanie.....Tessie*

*Written by Wendell Fjeld*

TA

“ Ms. Norma, so sorry to hear about your sister. Sending prayers for you & your family. God bless y'all & give y'all strength & courage at this time.

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**Tammy Vidrine** - October 29, 2013 at 04:06 PM

MD

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time. May God bring you peace soon. With all our love and prayers God Bless, Ray & Myra Mouton and family

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**Myra D. Mouton** - October 29, 2013 at 04:06 PM

RE

“ Vaughn, Cyril and all of the Dodge Family,

*My prayers are with all of you on the loss of Tessie....I so remember her battles with heart problems and I am truly sorry for her loss at such a young age.....God has a better plan and she is no longer suffering. Keep her memories close to your heart and know that God will get you thru this difficult time.*

*God Blessings to all today and always, With my deepest sympathy,  
Regina Guidry, Realtor*

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**Regina Guidry** - October 29, 2013 at 04:06 PM

JU

“ So sorry to hear this. My thoughts and prayers to all of you!

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**Judy Dodge** - October 29, 2013 at 04:06 PM

JU

“ So sorry to hear this. My prayers are with you all!

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**Judy Dodge** - October 29, 2013 at 04:06 PM

PE

“ Mr. Shelton, I did not know your wife, Tessie. As I read other condolences I can tell she was a special lady. To you and all of your family and friends I do want to express my deepest sympathy. (Jan, I know you will also miss her dearly.) What fond memories you have to hold on to.

*I pray that each of you find comfort from the scriptures and from each other at this sad time and on into the future.*

*Sincerely, Peggy Tupper*

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**Peggy Tupper** - October 29, 2013 at 04:06 PM

RC

“ We are so sorry for your loss. You are in our prayers.

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**Ronnie & Carmen Daigle** - October 29, 2013 at 04:06 PM

JJ

“ Norma, Sis, Cyril, Eddie, Vaughn, my prayers are with all of you. Tessie was so special to me! As a little girl we grew up together laughing and loving one another and always having so much fun. She reminded me so much of Goldie Hawn as an adult. Always happy and laughing!!! What a special person she was, more eager, more athletic, more courageous, more enthusiastic than any of us although she was the one with the heart condition. Don't tell Tessie she couldn't do something, there wasn't anything she couldn't do and she did it better than any of us. When we were in grammar school she was always the first one picked on the baseball team, even before any of the boys because she was the fastest runner and the hardest hitter, and of course, most loved! My favorite memories of her are when she and her mother were cooking in the kitchen. Tessie and she would laugh and tease one another all through the cooking process and the best part was when the meal was finally prepared we laughed so hard we could hardly eat. So after everyone went to bed we would get up, because we were hungry and heat up the DELICIOUS meal and gobble it up. We'd stay up all night but slept in Eddie's room because it was upstairs and so much more fun than her own room. We'd listen to his stereo and make fun of everything and laugh the night away, waking her mom up. When she came upstairs to quiet us, she wasn't able to fuss at us because Tessie make her laugh too. My childhood love, my friend, my encourager, my spiritual enthusiast, is now forever laughing with her mom. I will forever cherish the love we shared.

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**Jan Guidry Janice** - October 29, 2013 at 04:06 PM

LR

“ Norma, to you and your family our condolences, our heart aches for you. We are so sorry for your loss. Hold on to your memories, and let them guide you during this time of sadness. With much love and prayer. Linda & Raylin Alleman

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**Linda & Raylin Alleman** - October 29, 2013 at 04:06 PM