



Joyce Yvonne (Lawson) Bays

September 3, 1941 - September 17, 2025

Joyce Yvonne (Lawson) Bays was born September 3, 1941, at Leadington, Missouri, in St. Francois County. She was the daughter of Vernal and Leta (Stricklin) Lawson. Joyce grew up in Frank Clay, Missouri until her early teen years when her family moved to Viburnum.

Joyce married the love of her life, Glen Lavern Bays, on September 26, 1958, and to this union two children were born: Dennis and Debra, who later blessed them with three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Joyce and Glen enjoyed over fifty years of marriage together before his passing April 14, 2009.

Joyce was a dedicated homemaker where she took great pride in the care of her husband, children, and in later years her grandchildren. She enjoyed tending to her garden while sharing and canning her bounty. At times she could be found shopping with QVC, listening to gospel music, and studying her Bible.

Joyce loved spending time with her family. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren brought her great joy, and she cherished the memories made with them. Her faith, family, and friends truly were the most important pieces of her life. She was a long-time member to Boss Assembly of God Church. Joyce had a servant's heart and loved to serve and help with the funeral

dinners.

Joyce entered Heaven on September 17, 2025, surrounded by her loving family, at Parkland Health Center in Farmington, Missouri, at the age of eighty-four years. She is survived by her son: Dennis Bays and wife Cheryl of Farmington, MO; daughter: Debra Cole and husband David of Labadie, MO; brothers: Jack Lawson and wife Frances and Donald Lawson and wife Vicki; grandchildren: Erin Douglas and husband Kyle, Ryan Cole and wife Nichole, and Tyler Bays and wife Sara; great-grandchildren: Sydney, Xander, Everett, and Hudson; as well as several nieces, nephews, other relatives, and dear friends.

Preceding her in death were her husband: Glen Bays; parents: Vernal and Leta (Stricklin) Lawson; sister: Sharon Lawson; and brothers: Vernon Lawson, David Lawson, and Ronald Lawson.

Joyce leaves behind a legacy that will continue to shine in the lives she has touched along the way. She will be forever missed.

Funeral Services for Joyce Yvonne (Lawson) Bays were held Tuesday, September 23, 2025, in the Wilson Mortuary Viburnum Chapel with Pastor Paul Davis officiating. Special Music was provided. Serving as Pallbearers were Ryan Cole, Tyler Bays, Kyle Douglas, Dennis Bays, David Cole, and Donald Lawson. Honorary Pallbearers were Jack Lawson, Xander Douglas, Hudson Cole, and Everett Cole. Burial was in the Upper Indian Creek Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Wilson Mortuary of Viburnum, Missouri.

Condolences may be left online at www.wilsonmortuary.com

Cemetery Details

Upper Indian Creek Cemetery

Viburnum, MO

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 22. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Mortuary - Viburnum
548 Highway 49
Viburnum, MO 65566
(573) 244-5554
<https://www.wilsonmortuary.com>

Funeral Service

SEP 23. 11:00 AM (CT)

Wilson Mortuary - Viburnum
548 Highway 49
Viburnum, MO 65566
(573) 244-5554
<https://www.wilsonmortuary.com>

Tribute Wall



“ 9 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Wilson Mortuary - September 22, 2025 at 01:29 PM



“ 112 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Wilson Mortuary - September 22, 2025 at 10:10 AM

JA

“ Jessica Alley purchased the *Simply Elegant Spat hiphyllum* for the family of Joyce Yvonne (Lawson) Bays.



Jessica Alley - September 21, 2025 at 11:22 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joyce Yvonne (Lawson) Bays.

September 20, 2025 at 01:30 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Joyce Yvonne (Lawson) Bays.



September 20, 2025 at 01:30 PM

KD

“ Keith & Debbie purchased the *Blue Caribbean Bouquet* for the family of Joyce Yvonne (Lawson) Bays.



Keith & Debbie - September 20, 2025 at 12:23 PM

KL

“ Keith & Debbie Lawson purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Joyce Yvonne (Lawson) Bays.



Keith & Debbie Lawson - September 20, 2025 at 12:23 PM

JJ

“ I am sorry to learn that Joyce was summoned to her eternal home in Heaven. I have known Joyce and pastored her and her husband, Glen, for several years. She will be sadly missed by her family, friends, and all who knew her. Joyce was a dear friend and always had a sweet smile and a kind disposition. My thoughts and prayers are with everyone who knew her. Earth has lost a wonderful woman, but Heaven has gained a rare jewel. It was a privilege and an honor to know her. ~Pastor James (Jamie) Burrus

James C Burrus III - September 19, 2025 at 03:39 PM

DF

“ Donnie and Sherri Baldwin and family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Joyce Yvonne (Lawson) Bays.



Donnie and Sherri Baldwin and family - September 19, 2025 at 11:36 AM

LR

“ Prayers for family at this time. I walked the county road to her house when we were teens. She has been a good friend and always smiling and had something to talk about. Will miss her and that smile.

linda ragsdale - September 19, 2025 at 10:59 AM