



## Josephine Bielowicz

March 19, 1924 - June 8, 2011

Given 12 to 14 weeks to live by doctors in early 2010, Josephine Bielowicz fought ovarian cancer until it was her time on June 8, 2011. It is by no stroke of luck that Josephine stayed with us for over a year after the doctors' predictions-she was set on living, but her body just wouldn't let her. This is one of the greatest testaments to the type of person Josephine was-determined, strong, honest, ingenuous and wise. When she set her mind to something, it was going to get done. There was nothing she could not tackle and nothing she could not fix. Born in Falls County, TX, on March 19, 1924 to Philip and Mary Kasowski, Josephine was one of eleven children. Without any brothers old enough for work and secondary school too far away, she finished seventh grade and started helping her father on the farm. She quickly became his "right-hand man" - plowing, bailing hay and driving the tractor until she married Jerome after WWII-a marriage that spanned 65 years. Always resourceful, Josephine, a self-taught seamstress, became adept at dressmaking and alterations to clothe and support her family. While still raising the younger of their eleven children, Josephine earned an associate's degree with honors in pattern making from El Centro College, graduating in May 1974. In her spare time, she quilted, creating beautiful works of art for her family and friends that will now be cherished in her memory. Josephine is survived by Jerome, Jr., Mark and Carol, Philip and Janice, Thomas and Susan, Cecilia, Mary Ann and Garvin, Bernadette and Bobby, Matthew and Brenda, Stephen and Pilar, Norbert, Bridget and Henry; her 27 grandchildren;

and seven great-grandchildren. We would like to express heartfelt gratitude to Linda Stubblefield, who was there not only for Mama, but for us, as well.

# Tribute Wall

BK

“ On occasion our family would see Jerome and Josephine at functions in Houston. Jerome was cousin to my father, Alexander Bielamowicz, originally from Bremond; he was the son of Adam Bielamowicz. I remember visiting Uncle Joe and Aunt Verna when we would go to Bremond. What a beautiful family your parents have - I know they left you all with memories never to be forgotten. I am so sorry for your loss.

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**Bernadette Bielamowicz Kologinczak** - July 02, 2011 at 01:27 PM

C(

“ I remember her - an amazing woman - and wish the family strength in this time of sorrow. Special wishes for my school-mate Matt and his family. Carol

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**Carol Wilson (Johnson)** - June 22, 2011 at 05:48 PM

KB

“ My heart goes out to all of you as you remember your mother and all the fond memories you share. Blessings to all.

*Karen Notter Berryman*

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**Karen Notter Berryman** - June 22, 2011 at 09:17 AM

ES

“ Matt,  
Your mom made my mother one of the most beautiful dresses that I can remember growing up. My mother had seen a dress in Vogue and your mother was able to replicate it in the blink of an eye. And when my mother was dying in 1987 your mother quietly kept checking in and offering her help. She was a wonderful person and I am so sorry for your loss.

*Elonide Caldwell Semmes*

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**Elonide Caldwell Semmes** - June 22, 2011 at 06:10 AM

AB

“ Dearest Cousins,

*There is hardly anything else to say since everything that needed to be said about Aunt Josephine was mentioned by so many attending Sunday's visitation. And of course how eloquently Cecilia was able to summarize the life that your dad and mom built together over their 65 years. I am sure that there were times when they tried each other's patience, but they never exhibited it in public. Now, the eleven of you must continue to live and pass on their legacy with yourselves, your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. One last memory that I must share: whenever they were in the presence of others, they always had smiles on their faces, which can only mean that they truly loved each other and their love grew from day to day over those 65 years. Your parents will be missed by so many, but take heart that they left a lot of us with many happy memories as well as how to learn from the life's lessons that they experienced. Again, I send all of you my deepest sympathies as well as my continuing thoughts and prayers. God bless all of you now and forever.*

*Angie*

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**Angela Bielamowicz-Stanford** - June 15, 2011 at 06:14 PM