



## Mrs. Mary Jo Cooley

June 2, 1932 - January 1, 2023

Funeral services for Mrs. Mary Jo Cariker Cooley will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 7, 2023, at the Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Mark Manning and Rev. Wayne Cooley officiating. Burial will follow in the Long Branch Cemetery under the direction of Hawthorn Funeral Home. Visitation will be 1:00-2:00 p.m. Saturday prior to the chapel service.

Mrs. Mary Jo Cariker Cooley was born on June 2, 1932, in Long Branch, Texas. She passed this life on January 1, 2023, in Carthage, Texas. Mary was one of nine children born to the marriage of James Otis and Sally Rebecca Morris Cariker. She was raised and schooled in Long Branch through the fifth grade, attended Carthage schools and graduated with the Bulldog class of 1950.

Mary Jo married her love, Gene Alden Cooley September 9, 1950. They celebrated 66 years of marriage and three children. She was a loving homemaker, cooking for family and friends. Mary Jo loved the outdoors, working with her flowers and gardening. She is also preceded in death by her parents, and two daughters, Debbie Darlene Lavergne and Sandra Gomez; five sisters; and three brothers.

Mrs. Cooley is survived by her devoted son, Jeff Cooley and wife Sandra of Groves; grandchildren, Troy Cooley and wife Ashley of San Antonio, Sean Cooley and Kristen of Eureka, CA, Rhonda LeLeux and husband Corey of Spring, Stephanie Pipes of Nederland, Derek McDaniel of Nederland, Steven Gomez of Groves, Casey Warner of Groves, Crystal Jordan and husband

Justin of Port Neches; eight great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law, Joy Cariker of Carthage and Myrle Cariker Gay of Arlington; son-in-law, Jerry Lavergne of Carthage; numerous nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

Serving as pallbearers will be Dean Giles, Gene Giles, Troy Cooley, Sean Cooley, Mark Cariker, Buddy Gossett and Derek McDaniel. Special thanks to Brenda Hall, Elizabeth Waters, Alice Williams and the staff of UT Health Carthage. In lieu of flowers contributions may be given to Footprints in the Sand Foundation, 808 Ray Street, Carthage, Texas 75633.

A guestbook can be signed at  
[www.hawthornfuneralhome.com](http://www.hawthornfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Long Branch Cemetery

696 CR 161  
Long Branch, TX 75669

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 7. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel  
307 W Wellington St.  
Carthage, Tx

## Funeral Service

JAN 7. 2:00 PM (CT)

Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel  
307 W Wellington St.  
Carthage, Tx

# Tribute Wall



“ Hawthorn Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Mary Jo Cooley



Hawthorn Funeral Home - January 05, 2023 at 06:21 PM

ML

“ Jeff, I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your mom. Mary was an awesome lady was such a good hearted lady never meet a stranger. Was an awesome cook and loved her flowers . We always went to y'all's house R our house after games . We all went to Inks Lake and you ate a cactus LOL. I was young but Ronnie & Marty were right up with y'all's age. We all had a blast even though we were all sun burned. Mary and Gene were so much fun to be around . Such a good hearted family  
Praying for y'all . Love y'all , Mandy Landrum

Mandy Landrum - January 07, 2023 at 08:26 PM

CO

“ I remember Mary as being a kind and loving person. Will miss her.

Corrine - January 06, 2023 at 10:40 AM

SF

“ Sammy Corrine & family purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Mrs. Mary Jo Cooley.

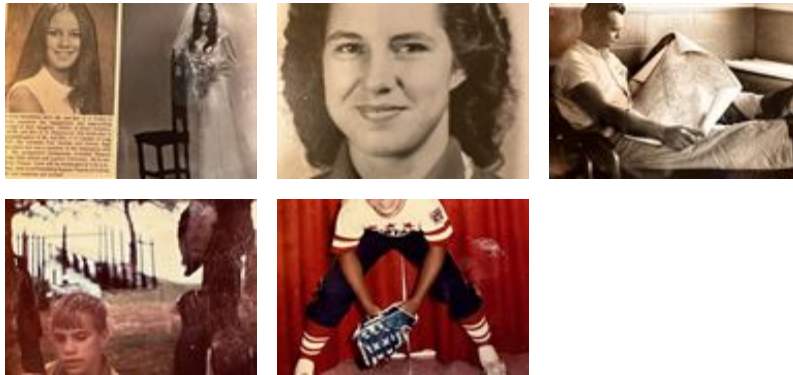


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**Sammy Corrine & family** - January 06, 2023 at 10:37 AM



“ 78 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**Hawthorn Funeral Home** - January 05, 2023 at 05:57 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Mary Jo Cooley.



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January 05, 2023 at 12:40 PM

TA

“ Sending love to Aunt Mary's family at this difficult time. It is sad to think she was the last of that generation of Carikers. It is comforting to know she is reunited with Uncle Gene in heaven.

Tracy Arnold-Chapman - January 04, 2023 at 01:49 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mrs. Mary Jo Cooley.



January 04, 2023 at 10:05 AM

LA

“ We dearly loved Mary. She, without doubt, was one of the sweetest and most welcoming women we have ever known. She was a loving, devoted and carrying wife and mother, always supportive, brave and wise. We would add one more feather to her cap: she was an absolutely amazing cook! She will be long-remembered and a role model to all who aspire to live a life of love, possibility, gratitude and joy. Our prayers for comfort are lifted up for her family and friends. - Mary and Lynn Adamson

Lynn and Mary Adamson - January 04, 2023 at 09:57 AM

SD

“ I knew Maw Maw Cooley through her grandson , Troy. She was a wonderful women. Her grandsons are a testament to what wonderful, kind people the Cooley's were. She will be greatly missed but her legacy will live on. She is resting in a beautiful place. My prayers are with Jeff, and the entire family and they will continue for your comfort.

Shannon Hollamon Dukes - January 03, 2023 at 10:31 PM

LH

“ Mawmaw Cooley was a dear friend and family to our daughter Ashley Cooley. We enjoyed so many special times with her and Gene , but my fondest memories are the numerous baseball games we watched together. They loved being outdoors and enjoyed the games so very much. Her cooking and flowers were amazing. We will truly miss you Mawmaw! Lecia and Randy Schriewer and Sandra Hollamon.



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**Lecia, Randy Schriewer & Sqndra H.** - January 03, 2023 at 07:54 PM

MH

“ May God comfort the Cooley family! I've heard so many sweet things about this wonderful woman. My condolences !

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**Mary Grace and Mark Hair** - January 03, 2023 at 06:43 PM

RP

“ Perry and I always enjoyed visit with Mrs. MARY AND MR GENE and talking about fishing and the lake . She was a Sweetheart .



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**Rhonda Johnson Pitts** - January 03, 2023 at 05:34 PM