



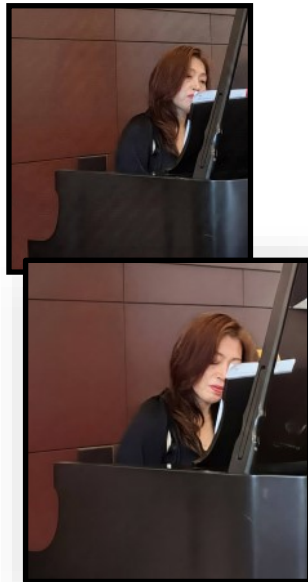
MONTHLY NEWS ~ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

August 19, 2026

Annual Indoor Picnic ~ *Happy Birthday America*
Featuring Dr. Felicia Kim



Dr. Felicia Kim



Our theme for this year's annual indoor picnic was a special celebration recognizing our country's 250th birthday.

We were especially grateful to have Jim Hammock, owner of Bush's Chicken, generously provide the main entrée for the evening. Class members contributed a wonderful assortment of side dishes and desserts, and a cup of Blue Bell ice cream made the perfect finishing touch.

This year, we were delighted to have a total of 90 members participate in the festivities! To close out the evening, Dr. Felicia Kim, our church pianist, entertained us with a unique blend of show tunes.

As in years past, the evening was a wonderful opportunity to enjoy good food, fellowship, and a variety of music that everyone could appreciate and relate to. It was a memorable celebration and a wonderful time together!







Susan Warren

A Tribute to **Susan Warren** and the Social Committee

During the past 15 years Susan Warren has been the sole Chair of this "committee". Initially, Mary Lee was the main contact for the group, formed with Carol Bowman and Georgia Ann Timberlake. These ladies took it upon themselves to serve as a body that would be in charge of various social events for the class.

After Mary Lee left, Susan took Mary Lee's spot and the group continued. Over the last 15 years, the Lamplighters class has been entertained by individual artists as well as duets and groups. Susan has done a fine job helping to coordinate the events we've come to enjoy. Participants in this group have come and gone depending upon circumstances and new ones are always welcomed.

In accordance to showing our appreciation not only for the work Susan has done but to congratulate and thank each member who has volunteered their services to make our group a successful one!

So Kudos and Hats Off to all these folks!
Many Thanks!!



Alex Davis



Barbara Casner



Phil & Clifteen Samuelson



Tom & Sue Phillips



Jan Hessellsweet



Jean Bellard



Kay Newman



Larry & Stevie Logsdon



Leila Cassady



Lynnda Mullen



Sirlee & Vanesia Williams



Sally Wiedemann



Eddy & DaLee Trevino



Susan Sanders



August 19, 2026

Breakfast on the “Lanai” at Maudie’s is always a treat! Especially when shared with friends, good conversation and great food.

Our monthly gatherings continue to be a source of great fellowship.



It's Saturday,
get jiggy 'wid it!





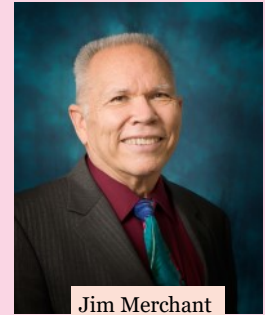
Gene Elizabeth Merchant
nee Mahker

May 2, 1940

~

July 31, 2026

Wife of Jim Merchant



Jim Merchant

Gene Elizabeth Merchant nee Mahler, 86, of Liberty Hill, Texas, was unexpectedly called to be with the Lord on Friday, July 31st, 2026. Born May 2nd, 1940 in Chicago, Illinois to George and Helen Mahler, the family relocated a few years later to Tucson, Arizona where she grew up. A graduate of Amphitheater High Class of '58, she married her high school sweetheart, **James (Jim) Merchant**, in March 1959.

They were married for sixty-seven years and together for seventy. They moved all over the United States – Anchorage, Alaska; Rochester, Minnesota; and Boca Raton, Florida – for her husband's work with IBM before finally settling in Austin in 1980 and calling it home. She worked for many years at Lumberman's Investment Corporation before entering into State service at the Texas Department of Safety, from which she retired.

From a young age she was a highly involved person, participating in many clubs, such as Future Nurses, and writing a sports column for the Los Angeles Times. She continued to serve her community throughout her life and through all her travels. Once in Austin, she joined the local Republican Women's group, the Greater Austin Doberman Pinscher Club (GADPC), and was a faithful attendant at several local churches in the Austin Area over the course of the last forty-six years (Allendale Baptist, Great Hills Baptist, Parmer Lane Baptist, Austin Baptist Church, and Crestview Baptist). She was a devout Christian, a stalwart patriot, a proud Texan – she was an avid follower of Texas Longhorns sports teams – and she never saw Texas-shaped paraphernalia that she didn't like.

A woman of action, she felt there was no challenge too great, and certainly no problem that couldn't be made better (if not resolved) by her involvement. She had a wonderful knack of making order out of chaos and taking charge with her just-do attitude, and if she felt compelled to action, she was tenacious. A consummate extravert, she truly lived her life with joy, making friends everywhere she went. She also loved quilting, frequently blessing friends and family alike with a quilt she had made just for them. If she wasn't home taking care of her family and Dobermans, she could be found at one of the nearby H-E-Bs or one of the local fabric stores.

She was preceded in death by her infant son, Robert Arthur, and her infant daughter, Elizabeth Dawn. She is survived by her husband, Jim; her children, Catherine (Doug) Huyck and Scott Merchant (Carrie Killion); her granddaughter, Susan Zimmerman (Francesco Cocco); and her great-granddaughter, Ginevra Rose Cocco.

A memorial service is scheduled to celebrate her life at Austin Baptist Church on August 28th at 10:00 AM.



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Class Members pictured here will be celebrating their 80th (Plus) Birthdays in the month of August! Be sure to Wish them a Special Happy Birthday!

		1 Bill & Joan Buskirk <u>26 Years</u> Alex Davis Janelle McClain	2 Dick & Nancy Naylor <u>40 Years</u> Dale & Linda Carter <u>54 Years</u>	3 Jim Bourne Fred & Sherry Davis <u>61 Years</u> Tom & Jeannie Weigl <u>61 Years</u>	4 Don & Jill Burnett <u>61 Years</u>	5 Bethany Padgett
6 Stephanie Huntzis	7 	8 Nancy Adkins Kay Newman	9	10 Shannon Justiss	11 Paul & Carol Bellon <u>33 Years</u> Sherry Workman	12  Barbara Eisenbeck
13  Latrell Bellard	14 David & Lecia Caudle <u>52 Years</u> Karen Hill Lisa Leyva	15 Helen Boyd Bill Buskirk	16	17 Vickie Davis	18  Billie Wedlund	19  Lewie Barber
20 Leanne Hernandez Samson Frondorf	21	22 	23 Monica Enriquez	24 James Collins Allen Smiley	25  Marilyn Dawes Jan Bennett Danny Bone Phillip Danks	26  Georgia Day Armen Stephanian
27 Terry Maxwell Shannon Regan John Verheyden	28 Kay Wallingford Galan Manske	29 Wayne King Terry Bromlow	30 Andy & Clara Stockton <u>65 Years</u>			