



Wilma Swallows Overstreet

October 2, 1924 - March 15, 2018

Wilma Swallows Overstreet

Wilma was born to John and Lora Swallows in Muncie, Indiana on October 2, 1924. She went to the Lord, her creator, on March 15, 2018. Between these two dates of almost 93 ½ years, she lived a remarkable life. Her Legacy? A group of related, interconnected by birth and marriage, people who loved her and will miss her.

Her husband of 41 years, Joe Overstreet, died in 1987 after a long illness and is interred in Rose Hill Cemetery, Kissimmee where Wilma will also lay in rest beside him.

Joe had two young daughters at the time of their marriage – Mary Jo and Betty Caroline and they later had a son Rawl. Wilma helped raise the daughters just as if they were her own.

Mary Jo married Babe Ashton who has since passed on they had two children, Quinn and Mike. Mary Jo later married Joe Jackson. Quinn married and has two children, Dax, and Aldyn. Mike has a son, Miles. Betty Carolyn married Bill Langston.

Wilma's son Raul grew up and married Sharon (the daughter of the late Ben and Jewel Crawford) and they have a son Waylon, and a daughter Jody. Waylon is married to Brittany and they have a son Reagan. Jody is married to Billy Kidd with no children, yet.

Wilma has a brother, Levi Swallows (Mary Lois, deceased). Levi's children are Steve (Lynn) and Jim (Beth) and three sons of Mary Lois, whose names are James (Debbie), John and Steve (Kim) McKillop. Wilma has a sister, Alma Drummond (Glenn) whose children are Dan (Janie) and Keith (deceased).

But her legacy is more than this. She was well known in the cattle industry and it didn't hurt that she married into a family, descendants of Osceola County Pioneers, the Overstreets. She was the first woman selected to be Honorary Wagon Master of the tenth Osceola County Wagon Train and Trail Ride. She was, also, the first woman rancher

named Cattle Person of the Year of the Florida Cattleman's Association. And, as a little aside, Wilma was a runner up of the title of "Miss Dixie" at New Smyrna Beach in 1944. She will always be remembered as kind, generous and loved by her family and all who knew her.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Wilma's memory to the Cornerstone Hospice, 3283 South John Young Parkway, Suite J, Kissimmee, FL 34746

Cemetery

Events

Rose Hill Cemetery

MAR

Visitation

02:00PM - 03:00PM

20

Kissimmee, FL,

Fisk Funeral Home

1107 Massachusetts Avenue, Saint Cloud, FL, US, 34769

MAR

Service

03:00PM

20

Fisk Funeral Home

1107 Massachusetts Avenue, Saint Cloud, FL, US, 34769

Comments



“ Sweetest woman I will ever meet the ultimate southern lady if there ever was one. I do miss that

lee - May 19, 2018 at 05:16 PM



“ Rawl and Family- Our deepest sympathies go to all of your family. Wilma was a special person who left her mark on a lot of hearts!

Carl & Sylvia Teel

Sylvia Teel - March 26, 2018 at 06:38 AM



“ Red Poinsettia (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of Wilma Swallows Overstreet.



March 21, 2018 at 11:41 PM



“ Wilma was an old friend and a wonderful lady and mother. I send my thoughts and prayers to her family.

Nina Sue Crowell - March 21, 2018 at 04:25 PM



“ Jerry, Teresa, Hanley and Orange Hammock Hunt Club purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Wilma Swallows Overstreet.



Jerry, Teresa, Hanley and Orange Hammock Hunt Club - March 20, 2018 at 05:35 PM



“ So sad to hear of Wilma's passing she was a very special lady, anytime you met up with her she made you feel like you were special! She left behind a legacy and will always be remembered! Shirley Thompkins



Shirley Thompkins - March 20, 2018 at 10:15 AM



“ \n My deepest thoughts to all of you all that will be lost for awhile. I looked upon Wilma as one of my truest friends and we shared a lot of conversation over the years. One of my biggest regrets will always be I didn't visit her the last time I was at the ranch, and if I had only known she had been in a nursing home, I would have found the time to be with her. A very gracious lady with the same interests I always had with horses, cattle and especially dogs. Goodbye my forever friend until we meet again. Bezy

Bezy - March 19, 2018 at 03:15 PM



“ A great deal of my childhood was spent at camp hammock and I can honestly say that some of the fondest memories of my childhood include Wilma Overstreet. she was an amazing woman I could see that even as a child. I will miss my friend. Dennis Crawford

bennis - March 19, 2018 at 01:11 PM



“ Avie, David and Ted Bulick purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Wilma Swallows Overstreet.



Avie, David and Ted Bulick - March 19, 2018 at 11:24 AM



“ Carla B. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Wilma Swallows Overstreet.



Carla B. - March 19, 2018 at 10:19 AM



“ Rawl and family - my mother Virginia Harland Osteen Stalvey (Ginny) would like to pass on her prayers. She and Wilma were best friends and she loved her dearly. She will be missed. Judy Nichols

Judy Nichols - March 19, 2018 at 08:55 AM



“ Ms Wilma you we're an amazing woman, your strength cloaked in love, graciousness and a warm loving smile.

Touching the hearts and lives of those who were fortunate enough to know you or share a portion of their life in your presence.

You were also a great story teller, and how often on those rides "to town" (you disliked going to town) you would remind me that Canoe Creek was a dirt road, no fences , no light poles, the wooden bridge that crossed the creek had no guard rails One of my favorites was after Rawl was born and you were driving the cattle from Kissimmee to Camp Hammock. You said Rawl was in a basket (he was a baby) in the back seat and his big sisters Mary Jo and Caroline were taking care of him while you were on horseback pushing the cattle until you couldn't see the car, you'd ride your horse back to the car, and holding the horses reigns out the window you'd drive the car up to the herd and do it again. Amazing

Or how you sat on the hood of the car on the way to church helping keep Joe out of the puddles on Overstreet Road. Dressed up for church stockings and all. What a picture you painted

Or the time you took the girls to a Orlando for school clothes(?) and got stuck in the washout on Canoe Creek and Joe didn't come looking for you till after midnight and towed you out.

I loved to one about the horse who was struggling up the road and you got in the pickup to find him whinnying at the slough and saw all the other horse gather around and touch noses with him before he died.

Thank you for sharing so many moments of your life with me as we rode to town or around Camp Hammock in your ATV or rocked on the front porch.

Ms Wilma it was an honor and privilege to help you and serve you in any capacity. Your life, your family and your love touched my heart deeply and in ways I will never forget

Thank you for The Blessing of being a part of your magnificent and historical life My heartfelt prayers and deepest sympathy go out to all of your family. Your were and always will be in my heart



Janet Rae Donnelly - March 19, 2018 at 12:23 AM



“ Craig Woodlief and Julie Wooten purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Wilma Swallows Overstreet.



Craig Woodlief and Julie Wooten - March 18, 2018 at 09:27 PM



“ A truly amazing lady that I was lucky enough to have in my life. With her guidance, I grew into strong, independent woman. Some of my very best childhood memories included times at camp Hammock with her and pawpaw. She will be missed not only by her family but by all whose lives she touched. Her warm smile and gracious manner always made everyone feel welcome. Rest In peace, you will be missed.

Rhonda Ashton Brown - March 18, 2018 at 08:06 PM



“ Rancher Has Left Her Mark On Way Of Life She Loves

Osceola reminiscing

March 8, 1998.....March 8, 1998

Wilma Overstreet Fletcher grew up on a ranch in Melbourne. When her father gave her the first cow to start her herd, she also got her own mark and brand.

“He called me sister, and the first time he gave me a heifer he asked, ‘Sister, what brand do you want?’ I told him the Diamond Bar. The next year he asked ‘Sister what's your mark and brand?’ I couldn't remember, so he didn't give me a cow that year.

That was a lesson she never forgot. “I was 16 then and I am still using that brand today.”

Wilma was in her teens when she started riding a horse. Her favorite was a gray that was half Arabian and half quarter horse.

“I used to race him when we had cow pony races along the dirt streets of St. Cloud,” she said. She owned him until he died at the ripe old age of 28.

Wilma had to help her mother with housework but she would rather have worked with her dad, she said.

She worked side by side with her father and other ranch hands both on the ranch and when they helped their neighbors work their cattle. She also was the only female on cattle drives, which sometimes took several days. She was a teenager when she made her first cattle drive.

“My father bought a herd of cattle at Holopaw and Yeehaw and we drove them all the way to Melbourne. It took us three days and nights. We slept under the stars.”

Wilma will be on the trail again later this year after becoming the first woman to be selected Honorary Wagon Master for the 10th annual Osceola County Wagon Train and Trail Ride. Originally scheduled for March 14-20, the ride was postponed till May 2-8 because of recent storms that have saturated the ground.

Wilma was born in Muncie, Ind., in 1925, the daughter of John and Lora Swallows. Her grandparents on her father's side, Steve and Martha Swallows, lived in St. Cloud when her family moved to the area, and Wilma started first grade in St. Cloud.

After a short stay in Pahokee, the family moved back to St. Cloud and lived at 1017 Missouri Ave. Wilma went to West Side School. During World War II her father started delivering the Tampa Tribune in St. Cloud and she eventually took over the route.

“He moved to Melbourne to start a ranch and my mother and I stayed in St. Cloud and I delivered the Tribune almost two years. I had around 800 customers and collected 25 cents a week if the customer got the Sunday paper and 20 cents a week if they didn't.”

She was 16 when she moved to Melbourne and she graduated from Melbourne High School 51 years ago.

Wilma met and married the late Joe Overstreet in 1946. His parents, Raul and Florrie Overstreet, were descended from some of Osceola County's pioneer families.

The newlyweds lived at Camp Hammock on Lake Kissimmee. The camp was the Overstreet homestead.

“When Joe was young and just started school, his mother taught school in Kenansville. They lived in Kenansville during the week and came home on the weekends. Joe was 15 when his father died and he helped his mother run the ranch,” she said.

Wilma said she continued to do ranch work with her husband. “Joe and I cow herded side by side all the years that he rode. Joe passed away 11 years ago.”

When their daughters started school, they moved into town. They lived in Kissimmee for a few months and then bought some land on Shingle Creek on U.S. Highway 17-92.

“We had 110 acres that bordered the creek and the old Tampa Highway and Pleasant Hill Road,” she said.

Wilma and Joe Overstreet moved back to Camp Hammock Ranch in 1964. She is still involved in ranching. She and her son have about 6,000 acres and are also in the sod business. Her son, Raul, and his family live next to Wilma.

“They have their own place and own land next to us. He helps me with mine and he also advises me. His wife Sharon is the daughter of the late Ben and Jewel Crawford, who owned a fish market in Kissimmee for many years. Raul and Sha



“ Back in the fall of 86 I was moven the keeper hefers on and off the r ye grass.Miss Wilma had 3 cow dogs Jesse,Clide,and a sneekin sumbuck named dog,well ole jesse and dog fallord me to the pasture and snuck off they had a blind heffer at just romed about the place free well em damn dogs got after at heffer when i got there ole dog dun slinked off and at dang jesse hard her caught and went green eyed i tried everstuff to get him off her finaly i got a oak limb and knoked him lose then he jump and caught me by the leg i tride choken and stompen him to get him off my leg but no good then i grabed at limb and hit at sumbuck with both hands and he started quiverin and got plumb stiff i thought o hell dun kilt him scared bout what Miss Wilma was guna say when i told bout what happend i figured i just buy him then tellum what went on,got back to the big house and there was Miss Wilma and Mr Joe situn under the car port got up there blood dripun out my boot they ask me what was goin on i just blurtd out what you want fer jesse Miss Wilma said dont ritley want to get rid of him he's a purty good dog i told her i need to buy him how much, she ask me why i said couse i had kilt him, her and Mr Joe laughed and said but he's rite there behind ur horse!! there will never be another WILMA. she treated me like family.God knows I will miss her all my days. Mike Lawrence.

Mike Lawrence - March 18, 2018 at 05:06 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Wilma Swallows Overstreet.



March 18, 2018 at 04:47 PM



“ We are so sorry for you loss. Wilma, you will be greatly missed by all who knew you. She was welcoming to me from the first time we met (all of you were) on December 23rd, 2000. She was always warm and thoughtful and a good good friend to me. I hope I was to her as well. I love the picture, it captures who I knew her to be. I even ironed that particular blouse...she always liked freshly ironed clothing, and always looked her best. We spent a lot of time together and she would tell me stories of her and her Dad. Her and Mike would tell story after story about different times....and dogs...Wilma always loved her dogs. She always could make lunch out of what seemed to be nothing, and it would taste wonderful. It was a pleasure...last time I was able to spend time with her was at the catfish place...I made her a butter pecan cake...The last time I saw her she had Callie on a leash on the bed with her. Callie was a stray that Wilma took in and taught to walk all around the complex when she lived in town...without a leash. It was something to see....and Wilma....you were someone to know...I will miss you..Our Prayers and thoughts are with you all

Sharon Lawrence - March 18, 2018 at 04:15 PM



“ Wilma was a wonderful neighbor, a friend & one of the kindest people I have known. When I think of her they will be wonderful memories.
Jackie Stowers - St. Cloud, Fl.

Jaelyn Stowers - March 18, 2018 at 02:44 PM



“ My thoughts & prayers are with the Overstreet Family during this difficult time.

Tracy Newman Babin - March 18, 2018 at 11:38 AM



“ We extend our most sincere condolences. Aunt Wilma was a lovely and gracious person.

Danny & Judy McCormick Bowling

Judy McCormick Bowling - March 18, 2018 at 09:12 AM



“ Prayers for the Overstreet Family, so very sorry for your loss. She was a very beautiful and elegant lady.

Paula Bass - March 18, 2018 at 09:01 AM



“ Thoughts and prayers to you and the family, Rawl. I always thought your Mom was a beautiful and classy lady

Judy Tyner Sanders and the Tyner family.

Judy Tyner Sanders - March 17, 2018 at 11:11 PM



“ My heartfelt condolences to the family. I was honored to know Miss Wilma. She showed me kindness and respect. She helped me get through the loss of my husband with encouragement 21 years ago. She let me continue to run her hunting lease that my late husband had even when everyone kept trying to get it. I raised my 2 kids on that lease continuing with teaching them to respect the land and to hunt respectfully. Rest In Peace Great Lady.



Leah Comati-Sammons - March 17, 2018 at 09:44 PM



“ To all the Overstreet family I am so very sorry for the loss of Wilma, She was one very special lady. My thoughts and prayers are with all the family. My heart goes out to you Rawl. hugs and love to all

Marlene Henderson - March 17, 2018 at 07:48 PM



“ I am so sad to hear about Wilma. Such a sweetie and I have so many fond memories. Love to all of you! Natalie Young

Natalie Young - March 17, 2018 at 06:55 PM



“ I'm so very sorry to hear of maas passing, so many wonderful childhood memories of her an pawpaw at camp hammock. Such a magical time for me, I can't ever imagine having a better set of grandparents to help mold me into the strong woman I am today...she will be missed, especially by me, rest in peace precious grandmother, I love you!!

Rhonda Ashton Brown - March 17, 2018 at 06:54 PM