



Lawanda Sue Grimes

October 20, 1947 - April 30, 2026

Lawanda Sue Grimes (nee Helms)

We are sad to announce the passing of a beloved family member.

Lawanda “Susie” Grimes passed away peacefully in her sleep on the morning of Thursday April 30, 2026. She was being cared for in her daughter’s home, where she was surrounded by loved ones everyday.

Life began for her in Joplin, Missouri, as the daughter of Mylas “Bus” Helms and Nellie Ann Letsinger. She grew up alongside her ten beloved siblings and lifelong friends; Betty, Jacky, Tommy, Sonny, Donny, Clara, Peggy Ann, Dorla, Sandy, and Mary.

They were a very close-knit group and understood the importance of family above all else.

While living in Baster Springs, Kansas Susie was blessed with two beautiful daughters, Veronica “Ronni” Sue Hayes and Charity Kurbis. She later married her longtime companion Elmer “Walter” Grimes, who brought four children into their union. Together they built a loving family home in Channahon, Illinois.

Susie was adored by her grandchildren Shandra Phillips, Bre’Ann Giltner, Sarah Hayse-Overbeck, AJ Hayse, Jacob Hayse-Morgan, and Keylee Kurbis. She was also the proud great grandmother of Morgan Snuckle, Marshall Giltneer, and Bran Overbeck.

In heaven she was lovingly reunited with her daughter Ronni Sue, husband Walter, her parents, and 7 of her beloved siblings.

Susie was a woman of few words, which often included - "Yes" and "I'm Fine". On most days, you would find her exactly where she was happiest- settled in with a good book. Beyond reading, she loved the simple things in life- fishing off a riverbank, crocheting, gardening, cooking meals that brought everyone together and playing dice and card games filled with laughter. She often found she could say more by saying less, offering her loved ones comfort with a listening ear and a warm presence.

Above all she cherished her family and instilled the importance of family in her descendants. She welcomed everyone with open arms and loved hosting family gatherings at her farmhouse. A family favorite for all holidays, birthdays, and more. There were many memories of sharing meals, cooking together, playing cards, and sharing laughter there.

She will be remembered for her gentle spirit, her steady presence, and the love that filled every room she was in. Her memory will live on in our hearts with stories we share, the traditions we continue, and the simple moments that remind us of her.

-Even if it's just a cup of coffee or a can of Pepsi.

Susie will be deeply missed and forever loved.

A graveside service will be held Wednesday May 13, 2026 at 1pm at Willard Grove Cemetery 24301 S Ford Rd, Channahon, IL 60410

Cemetery Details

Willard Grove Cemetery

Channahon , IL

Upcoming Events

Graveside Service

MAY **13**. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM.

Willard Grove Cemetery
Channahon , IL