



## Juanita "Dea" Chism

November 5, 1928 - August 20, 2023

CHISM, Mrs. Juanita "Dea" – age 94, passed away Sunday, August 20, 2023 at her residence. Family hour 10:00 AM Saturday, August 26, 2023 from the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 268 North Perry Street, with Funeral Service commencing immediately at 11:00 AM. Pastor Dustin McClellan, Officiating. Interment Perry Mount Park Cemetery, 878 North Perry Street. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the funeral Home 10:00 AM Saturday. Mrs. Chism will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, and may be viewed from Noon – 6:00 PM Friday.

Mrs. Juanita Chism was born November 5, 1928, in Eva, Louisiana to her parents, the late Ed Whitley and Elizabeth Burns. She departed this life peacefully at her home on August 20, 2023, at the age of 94.

Mrs. Chism, affectionately known by family and friends as "Dea," was raised in Ferriday, Louisiana, and graduated from Ferriday High School. She accepted Christ at an early age, loved attending church and listening to gospel music, and had a very strong faith in God.

On June 26, 1948, Juanita married Leon Chism Sr., her loving husband until his passing in 1985. To their union, eight children were born, and the two also served as surrogate parents to many in the community. Mrs. Chism also volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club, Pontiac Northern High School, and

was involved in many other community activities.

Mrs. Chism was a wonderful caregiver and homemaker, and she cherished hosting loved ones in her home. She saw the good in everyone and was a constant encourager. In turn, she was loved by all who had the pleasure of meeting her. She was an independent, strong-minded, supportive mother, and grandmother, and her legacy will live on in her family.

Mrs. Chism leaves to cherish in her memory: her children, Verna Dean Rand, Bob Chism, David Chism Sr., Ronald Chism Sr., James Chism, and Kenneth Chism; daughter-in-law, Frankie Chism; and son-in-law, Dwight Ledwell Sr. She also leaves in her loving memory, 15 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren, as well as a host of nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Chism was preceded in death by her husband, Leon Chism Sr.; children, Leon Chism Jr. and Lacine Ledwell; son-in-law, Arthur Rand; grandchildren, David Chism Jr. and Corey Rand; as well as her sisters, Eva Whitley, Thelma Whitley, Alberline Whitley, Rosemary Watkins; and her brothers, Jack Green, Napoleon "Bo" Crumb, Ed Green, and Amos "AW" Whitley.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **25**. 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Pontiac  
268 North Perry Street  
Pontiac, MI 48342  
(248) 758-1913

## Family Hour

AUG **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Pontiac  
268 North Perry Street  
Pontiac, MI 48342  
(248) 758-1913

## Funeral Service

AUG **26**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Pontiac  
268 North Perry Street  
Pontiac, MI 48342  
(248) 758-1913

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Juanita "Dea" Chism*



Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home - August 26, 2023 at 09:50 AM

EM

*Wonderful, Amazing and Kind are just a few ways to describe Mrs. Chism my Condolences to the Family on their loss. R.I.H. Mrs. Chism*

Ernest Martin - August 27, 2023 at 05:08 PM

FA

“ *From Chappell, Dennis & April purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Juanita "Dea" Chism.*



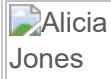
From Chappell, Dennis & April - August 25, 2023 at 06:48 PM

EW

“ *Earlene Wilson lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Dea" Chism*



Earlene Wilson - August 25, 2023 at 09:36 AM



Alicia Jones

*To Bobby and the entire Chism family. I am soo sorry to hear about your mom. She was a jewel. She was soo kind to me back in the day. It's been 30+years since seeing any of you, but you all have my condolences and my continual prayers. Love and blessings. Alicia (Wilkerson) Jones*

Alicia Jones - September 03, 2023 at 03:14 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Juanita "Dea" Chism.*



August 24, 2023 at 10:19 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Juanita "Dea" Chism.

August 24, 2023 at 10:19 PM



“ *Deionne J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Juanita "Dea" Chism.*

Deionne J. - August 24, 2023 at 10:17 PM

PS

“ Pontiac Community Foundation Staff purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Juanita "Dea" Chism.



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**Pontiac Community Foundation Staff** - August 24, 2023 at 04:56 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Juanita "Dea" Chism.



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August 23, 2023 at 07:47 AM

LH

“ Laura Alonso, Quentin & Heather purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Juanita "Dea" Chism.



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**Laura Alonso, Quentin & Heather** - August 22, 2023 at 10:04 PM

LH

“ Laura Alonso, Quentin & Heather planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Juanita "Dea" Chism.

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**Laura Alonso, Quentin & Heather** - August 22, 2023 at 10:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Juanita "Dea" Chism.*



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August 22, 2023 at 07:50 PM



“ *Beverly Walker Rollins lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Dea" Chism*



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**Beverly Walker Rollins** - August 22, 2023 at 06:50 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Juanita "Dea" Chism.*



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August 22, 2023 at 06:11 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Juanita "Dea" Chism.*

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August 22, 2023 at 06:11 PM

LC

“ I thank you for being such an amazing Woman, leader, role model in my life

Love you Dea



Leah Chism - August 22, 2023 at 03:58 PM

FW

“ From Cardell, Marie, and Whit purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Juanita "Dea" Chism.



From Cardell, Marie, and Whit - August 22, 2023 at 03:10 PM

GF

“ Gary Don Whitley and Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Juanita "Dea" Chism.



Gary Don Whitley and Family - August 22, 2023 at 11:10 AM

EF

“ *Eva Whitley King and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Juanita "Dea" Chism.*



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**Eva Whitley King and Family** - August 22, 2023 at 09:54 AM

BA

“ *Brian Albritton lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Dea" Chism*



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**Brian Albritton** - August 21, 2023 at 09:22 PM

EJ

“ *Elizabeth J. purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Juanita "Dea" Chism.*



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**Elizabeth J.** - August 21, 2023 at 07:17 PM

RJ

“ *Rosie Jordan lit a candle in memory of Juanita "Dea" Chism*



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**Rosie Jordan** - August 21, 2023 at 06:28 PM