



## Mrs. Julia Beth "Judy" Watkins

September 30, 1936 - September 17, 2023

Funeral services for Mrs. Julia (Judy) Watkins, 86, of New Salem, will be at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023 at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home chapel with Brother Chris Proctor officiating. Interment will follow at New Salem Cemetery under the direction of Crawford - A. Crim Funeral Home of Henderson.

Visitation will be from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023 at the funeral home.

Mrs. Watkins passed away Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023, in a Tyler hospital. She was born Sept. 30, 1936 to the late Oscar and Grace (Sharp) Cassity. Julia answered to many names: "Sister Judy," "Mother," "Judy" by her friends, "Grannie" by her grandchildren, and "Miss Judy" by the many children in the community whom she picked up for church each Sunday morning for Sunday School. She was a pillar of the New Salem community as well as in the New Salem Missionary Baptist Church. Judy graduated from Henderson High School, and married Jack Paul Watkins in 1954. Judy was a seamstress at Fitchene Manufacturing; worked as an assistant at Louise Jacks Insurance; was a Manager of Main Street Gallery; and a clerk at The Curious Wren. She was a volunteer at the Hospice of East Texas Thrift Shop.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her

infant daughter Paula Beth Watkins; brothers, John and Joe Cassity; sisters, Virginia Bassett and Mary Mauritzen; brothers-in-law, Kenneth Mauritzen and Danny Pope.

Survivors include: daughter Julianna Brightwell and husband Charles of Henderson, sons, Jerry Watkins and wife Debbie of Longview, and Joel Watkins and wife Denise of Reklaw; sister Dian Pope of Waxahachie; brother-in-law Mack Bassett of Henderson; sisters-in-law, Danny Sue Cassity of Henderson, and Judy Cassity of Longview; 12 grandchildren and numerous great and great-great-grandchildren; surrogate granddaughter Kaycie Grams, and special friends, Eddie Arnold and wife Cindy, and Betty Gibson.

Pallbearers are Brandon Welch, Curtis Brightwell, Jason Brightwell, Victor Ortiz, Jerrod Watkins, Brian Jones, Chase May, Judson Watkins, Ryan McCoy, Grant Jones, Cortland Jones, and Shane Stone.

Memorial contributions may be made to the New Salem Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 2284, Henderson, TX 75653, or to the New Salem Cemetery, c/o Linda Simmons, 15788, CR 4253, Henderson, TX 75654.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at [www.crawfordacrim.com](http://www.crawfordacrim.com).

# Cemetery Details

## New Salem Cemetery

CR 4258 D  
New Salem, TX 75652

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **20**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home  
1414 South Main Street  
Henderson, TX 75654

## Service

SEP **21**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home  
1414 South Main Street  
Henderson, TX 75654

# Tribute Wall



“ *Crawford A.Crim Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Julia Beth "Judy" Watkins*



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**Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home** - September 20, 2023 at 11:52 AM



“ *Donna saffell lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



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**Donna saffell** - October 03, 2023 at 02:59 PM



“ *sandy mcmurray lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



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**sandy mcmurray** - October 01, 2023 at 11:39 AM

CF

“ *Cliff Krista Furtick lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



Cliff and Krista Furtick - September 24, 2023 at 11:29 PM

DG

“ *Denise Gault lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



Denise Gault - September 22, 2023 at 11:00 PM

DC

“ *David Jan Crow lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



David and Jan Crow - September 22, 2023 at 07:46 PM

SR

“ *I was truly blessed to have met Ms. Judy at New Salem Baptist Church. I will always remember her singing and the smell of her famous rolls baking. I recently got to see her at my mother-in-laws celebration of life (Judy Rivers) and she waved and had the biggest smile that I'll never forget. Rest In Peace sweet lady. Sending love and prayers to the family. ❤️🙏*

Sharon Rivers - September 21, 2023 at 04:13 PM

PP

“ Pud Patterson lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins



Pud Patterson - September 21, 2023 at 02:45 PM

CO

“ I enjoyed getting to know Judy while she worked next door to me at the Curious Wren. She always had a smile on her face. She was a treasure!



Casey Orr - September 20, 2023 at 09:28 PM



“ Shirley Christie lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins



Shirley Christie - September 20, 2023 at 08:30 PM



“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Judy. I saw her recently while in town always enjoyed visiting with Judy. Prayers for the family.  
Donna Dorsey Aaron  
Judy's paper lady for many years.



Donna Aaron - September 20, 2023 at 07:11 PM

JW

“ We send our deepest condolences to all the family. I have many good memories.



John & Terri Worley - September 20, 2023 at 06:46 PM

TS

“ My heart goes out to all that knew Mrs. Judy and my deepest sympathy to her family...If you met her, you had a friend who was always there when you needed one. She showed so much love to so many. She is deeply missed.

Tisha Swink-Seider - September 20, 2023 at 06:02 PM

JH

“ Jerry Carol Phillips Harris lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins



Jerry and Carol Phillips Harris - September 20, 2023 at 05:28 PM

CW

“ Chris Dana Wright lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins



Chris and Dana Wright - September 20, 2023 at 03:43 PM

JP

“ *Sending prayers to Judy’s family!  
She was a very sweet Lady who will be  
missed by so many people.* ”



Janice Allen Pirkey - September 20, 2023 at 02:21 PM

KD

“ *Kathy Deason lit a candle in memory of Julia  
Watkins* ”



Kathy Deason - September 20, 2023 at 02:16 PM

HG

“ *Julia was a lifetime friend and a member of my HHS graduation  
class of 1954. Always willing to help and always with a smile on her  
face. She lived her Christianity and was a shining example of what a  
Christian should be. "God, bless the family and help them during  
their grief. Help us all remember her and her zeal for life. AMEN."* ”

Haskell Gossett - September 20, 2023 at 10:56 AM

FB

“ *Florence Bundrick lit a candle in memory of  
Julia Watkins* ”



Florence Bundrick - September 20, 2023 at 10:39 AM

ED

“ *Elaine Davis lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



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**Elaine Davis** - September 20, 2023 at 07:54 AM

DM

“ *Debbie McDonald lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



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**Debbie “Medford” McDonald** - September 20, 2023 at 06:54 AM

KS

“ *Kenneth Starling lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



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**Kenneth Starling** - September 20, 2023 at 06:24 AM

CC

“ *It’s unimaginable to think of our beloved New Salem without Mrs. Judy. She was a special lady and longtime family friend. - She touched so many lives in our community. Chris and I send our condolences and love to the family—most especially to Julianna, Jerry, and Joel.*



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**Chris and Liz Buckner Cross** - September 20, 2023 at 12:28 AM

SC

“ *What a Wonderful lady to all that knew this talented lady! My Mom Grace worked with Judy at Curious Wren and loved time spent with her. She lived life to the fullest.... We should all admire her energy and love for the Lord!*

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**Sherri Clague** - September 19, 2023 at 10:27 PM



“ *I loved Judy Watkins! She never met a stranger, was willing to help anyone and everyone, gave good advice whether you wanted it or not, and was unfailingly gracious, kind, and thoughtful. She will be missed by all who knew her.*

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**Cathy Hooper** - September 19, 2023 at 10:06 PM



“ *Such a sweet and precious lady and an amazing example of a servant of her Lord. Judy will be missed by so many.*



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**Linda Smith** - September 19, 2023 at 10:03 PM

CS

“ *Charlotte Snodgrass lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



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**Charlotte Snodgrass** - September 19, 2023 at 08:53 PM

SJ

“ *Sandy Jon Johnston lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



Sandy and Jon Johnston - September 19, 2023 at 07:31 PM

VR

“ *Mrs. Judy always sent us bread and rolls. I never went to church that she wasn't there!! She was very faithful to the Lord and always doing His service for others.*



Vickie Lynn Bundrick Rogers - September 19, 2023 at 07:08 PM

LR

“ *Linda Rogers lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



Linda Rogers - September 19, 2023 at 06:46 PM

SM

“ *sandy mcmurray lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



sandy mcmurray - September 19, 2023 at 06:31 PM

BC

“ Miss Judy was a special lady for sure. Her smile and voice it my first memory of New Salem Baptist Chirch. She was a great friend to my family. My thoughts are with you all.  
*Brenda Bunn Childress*

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**Brenda Bunn Childress** - September 19, 2023 at 05:13 PM

EA

“ Ms Judy, what can we say about her!!! We loved her like a mother. Our favorite memory will always bring a smile to our face. "y'all going to the dollar store today." Rest well Ms Judy, no more leaves to take or limbs to pick up!! We will miss you always

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**Eddy and Cindy Arnold** - September 19, 2023 at 05:01 PM

DR

“ David Ross lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins



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**David Ross** - September 19, 2023 at 04:26 PM



“ Barbara J Jolley lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins



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**Barbara J Jolley** - September 19, 2023 at 03:12 PM

LW

“ *Lacy Weaver lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



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**Lacy Weaver** - September 19, 2023 at 02:05 PM

CT

“ *Chuck Towe lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



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**Chuck Towe** - September 19, 2023 at 01:42 PM


RT

“ *richard tandy lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



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**richard tandy** - September 19, 2023 at 01:28 PM

 Cindy  
May-  
Yarboroug

“ *Julianna, Jerry and Joel... My thoughts and prayers are with each one of you and your families! Judy was a special "Lady" and I thought the world of her!*

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**Cindy May-Yarborough** - September 19, 2023 at 01:09 PM

CY

“ *Cindy Yarborough lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



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**Cindy Yarborough** - September 19, 2023 at 12:58 PM

MA

“ *Merlene Ainsworth lit a candle in memory of Julia Watkins*



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**Merlene Ainsworth** - September 19, 2023 at 12:27 PM

SD

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. May God's Grace be with you all.*



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**Sherri Davis** - September 19, 2023 at 09:56 AM

JH

“ *So sorry for your loss. Judy was such a special lady and will be greatly missed by all. I know I surely will.*

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**Jo Harshaw** - September 19, 2023 at 09:46 AM

TR

“ *Ted Cheryl Reed lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins*



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**Ted and Cheryl Reed** - September 19, 2023 at 09:44 AM

CW

“ *I loved visiting with Judy! She was a friend to everyone and will be greatly missed in our community. God's comfort to you all.*

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**Cyndi Walker** - September 19, 2023 at 09:17 AM

MS

“ *Monica Bob Sanders lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins*



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**Monica and Bob Sanders** - September 19, 2023 at 09:13 AM

DN

“ *Debra Nichols lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins*



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**Debra Nichols** - September 19, 2023 at 08:09 AM



“ *Julianna, so sorry to hear this. Your mother was a very special lady and will be missed.* ”



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**Pam Brown** - September 19, 2023 at 07:52 AM



“ *We're so sorry for your loss, Judy was such a sweet Lady. Rick & Liz Thrasher* ”

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**Rick & Liz Thrasher** - September 19, 2023 at 07:38 AM



“ *Aubry Sharon Favors lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins* ”



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**Aubry and Sharon Favors** - September 19, 2023 at 02:31 AM



“ *Suzanne Cross lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins* ”



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**Suzanne Cross** - September 18, 2023 at 11:48 PM

AM

“ *Amy Miley-Payne lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins*



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**Amy Miley-Payne** - September 18, 2023 at 10:57 PM

CW

“ *Cathy Ward lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins*



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**Cathy Ward** - September 18, 2023 at 10:42 PM

CN

“ *Clay & Frances Newcomb lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins*



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**Clay Newcomb & Frances Newcomb** - September 18, 2023 at 10:34 PM

BP

“ *Prayers for family. Judy always had a smile*

*Beth Hale Pope*

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**Beth Pope** - September 18, 2023 at 09:34 PM

DK

“ *Debbie Gene kelsey lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins*



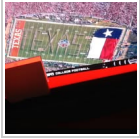
Debbie and Gene kelsey - September 18, 2023 at 09:21 PM

BG

“ *Praying for peace and comfort  
Bonnie Geddie*



Bonnie Geddie - September 18, 2023 at 09:13 PM



“ *Ron Audas lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins*



Ron Audas - September 18, 2023 at 08:01 PM

BH

“ *Brent Hale lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins*



Brent Hale - September 18, 2023 at 07:38 PM

CH

“Wow Mrs Judy has been around all my life. Every birth, every funeral, every sickness, she was there with food, or words of comfort. My mom nominated her as the Mayor of New Salem since she knew everything and everybody. MRS. Judy you will surely be missed but for sure welcomed in Heaven!!!



**CHRISTIE HYMAN** - September 18, 2023 at 07:19 PM

JC

“Prayers for Jerry, Joel and Julianna and their families”



**Judy Cashell** - September 18, 2023 at 06:47 PM

MB

“Margaret Brown lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins



**Margaret G Brown** - September 18, 2023 at 06:43 PM

MG

“Judy will be greatly missed. She touched many lives in her community and our downtown through the years. I will remember her with a smile as an encourager and a giver of her time and compassion to everyone she came in contact with. May all the family be blessed with precious memories of a life well lived.

**Mark and Nancy Gibson** - September 18, 2023 at 06:42 PM

RN

“ Randy Sherry Nichols lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins



Randy & Sherry Nichols - September 18, 2023 at 06:21 PM



“ Barbara J Jolley lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins



Barbara J Jolley - September 18, 2023 at 06:03 PM

GE

“ Gloria Edwards lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins



Gloria Edwards - September 18, 2023 at 05:39 PM

GE

*Jerry, Julianna and Joel so sorry for your loss. Judy was a special person. I have lots of fond memories of her while growing up. She will be missed by so many of us who grew up in New Salem. Prayers for you all.*

golria edwards - September 18, 2023 at 10:02 PM

TW

“ *Our prayers and thoughts are with the family. So sorry for your loss.  
Dennis and Teresa Waldon*

Teresa Waldon - September 18, 2023 at 05:23 PM

BB

“ *I will always remember Judy as being every  
ones Mom at Main St. Gallery.*



Barbara Bowman - September 18, 2023 at 05:19 PM

MC

“ *Milton Angie Christian lit a candle in memory  
of Judy Watkins*



Milton & Angie Christian - September 18, 2023 at 05:09 PM

SM

“ *I have many precious memories with Judy especially in my mother's  
last 3 years of life. Judy always came to visit mother at the nursing  
home and they would share past stories of when my dad was pastor  
at New Salem Baptist church. She was a special friend to our family.  
I know she will be missed by her friends and family ❤️*

Sarah Moake - September 18, 2023 at 05:08 PM

GW

“ Gary Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins



Gary Wilkerson - September 18, 2023 at 04:26 PM

SL

“ So sorry for your loss. Sending prayers of comfort to this family.  
Susan Russo Lingle



Susan Lingle - September 18, 2023 at 03:53 PM

MD

“ Some of my best time's working with Judy.



Mary Davis - September 18, 2023 at 03:03 PM

SO

“ So sorry to hear about Judy. Will always remember her always.



sylvia oliver - September 18, 2023 at 02:45 PM

TC

“ Tony Anita Cavaliere lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins



Tony & Anita Cavaliere - September 18, 2023 at 02:16 PM

BB

“ Brandy Bridges lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins



Brandy Bridges - September 18, 2023 at 12:14 PM

BE

“ Buddy Dianne Everitt lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins



Buddy @ Dianne Everitt - September 18, 2023 at 11:35 AM

LE

“ So sorry for your loss. She was a great, Christian woman and I know you all with miss her greatly!

Lisa Emmons - September 18, 2023 at 10:48 AM

LE

“ *Lisa Emmons lit a candle in memory of Judy Watkins*



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**Lisa Emmons** - September 18, 2023 at 10:45 AM