



## Deanna L. Dempsey

May 1, 1938 - November 27, 2016

Deanna Lige Russell Grabel Dempsey, 78, of Alto, passed away peacefully November 27, 2016, at East Texas Medical Center in Tyler. She was born on May 1, 1938 to Elijah Valiant Russell and Clara Belle Berry Russell and accepted Christ as her Savior at an early age at Velasco Baptist Church in Freeport.

Deanna married Paul Ruskin Grabel December 30, 1959 in Freeport and to this union two sons were born. She married Marvin Henry "Bill" Dempsey in 1976 and was devoted to him until his death in 2009 following a lengthy illness. Paul and Deanna remained close after their divorce in December 1974 and became a couple once again in 2016. Sometimes love is sweeter the second time around.

Deanna was predeceased by her parents and brother, Marion Russell. She is survived by her first husband, Paul Grabel; brother, Arthur Russell and wife Jean Ellen of West Columbia; sons, Retired Lt. Commander Lawrence Grabel and his wife Christy of Pensacola, Florida, and Anthony Grabel and his wife Toby of Slocum; and niece, Deborah Ewald and her husband Daniel of Austin. She also is survived by her three precious grandchildren: Madeline, Elijah and Nora, who were the lights of her life, and numerous cousins and friends.

Prior to her retirement, Deanna was employed by the State of Texas, owned a laundry and managed several hotels. She enjoyed traveling and spending time with her family and was extremely proud of her sons and grandchildren.

A celebration of Deanna's life will be held Thursday, December 1st at 11 a.m. at Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home in Rusk. Visitation will be at 10:00 a.m. up to service time.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home  
221 5th Street  
Rusk, TX 75785  
(903) 683-2222  
[info@wallacethompson.com](mailto:info@wallacethompson.com)

## Celebration of Life

DEC 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home  
221 5th Street  
Rusk, TX 75785  
(903) 683-2222  
[info@wallacethompson.com](mailto:info@wallacethompson.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Deanna L. Dempsey*

October 04, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *1 file added to the album LifeTributes*



Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home - November 30, 2016 at 01:59 PM



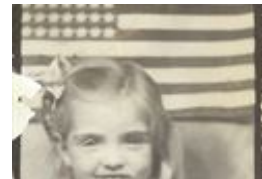
“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Deanna L. Dempsey.*



November 29, 2016 at 09:50 PM



“ *6 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home - November 29, 2016 at 05:57 PM



“ 73 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home** - November 29, 2016 at 03:12 PM

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“ Steve & Kelly Nylén purchased the *Pretty Please* for the family of Deanna L. Dempsey.



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**Steve & Kelly Nylén** - November 28, 2016 at 08:30 PM