

Theresa Ann Hall-Hosey

Theresa was born on November 8, 1950 to Willard C. & Leola B. Hall of Port Lavaca, TX in Calhoun County. Theresa was the third of five children and the first of the five to be born at the Port Lavaca Hospital.



Alice O. Wilkins Elementary School is where Theresa's mind was opened to a world of new challenges and life experiences. Wilkins School was segregated and because the community was so small, the teachers knew every student and their families. There was no getting around the hard work that was given to each child and that included Theresa. At an early age Theresa joined Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church which was also segregated with her Grandmother, Mrs. Earlene Barefield. When Wesley Chapel U.M.C. was condemned, she and the rest of the members were invited to join the First United Methodist Church and there she held membership until she completed her education and moved away.

Theresa then attended Travis Junior High School where she faced challenges in the sports world. Whatever the sport was, Theresa was good at it. She especially loved basketball and track. She received special attention from her coaches, Ms. Shreck and Ms. Barlow, because they saw her athletic abilities very early on.

As Theresa moved forward excelling in education, she continued to be active in sports at Calhoun High School. When she wasn't competing; she was cheering her teams to victory. Yes, Theresa became a cheerleader in her freshman year of high school. She was one of Calhoun's first black cheerleaders.

Between the ages of 8 and 18 Theresa was an active member of the Sunlight Girls Club that was started by one of her elementary school teachers, Mrs. Naomi Chase. Theresa served as secretary, vice-president, president, and then reigned as "Ms. Sweetheart" in her final years in that organization. Each member of the Sunlight Girls Club was awarded with luggage and a small scholarship as an incentive to further their education and Theresa took on the challenge.

Theresa chose Howard Payne University in Brownwood, TX to further her education. She attended Howard Payne in the Fall of 1969. She was escorted by her parents to a place she did not know, and was left with a group of people like herself that she had never laid eyes on. Who would have known that Theresa would never meet a stranger? Everyone that knew Theresa, loved Theresa; she was just that kind of person. Her warm smile could melt any heart. She joined Mt. Zion Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. D.C. McNeil and there she also became a member of the choir. While attending Howard Payne, Theresa became the first black ("Lasso Beauty Queen".) Her beauty was not only skin deep; her beautiful personality and willingness to help others is what made her a "queen" in the eyes of others. With diligence,

patience, intelligence, and last but not least, with Jesus Christ who carried her through, Theresa received her Bachelors' Degree in Physical Education in 1973, which is where it all started.

Theresa left Howard Payne University on a mission to pass on the torch she had been given. Her priorities in life were to give her students encouragement, drive, motivation, self esteem, and the determination to further their education and better their health with active physical education. Theresa taught high school health and physical education for several years. It was her joy to teach what she lived and loved for so many years of her own life. She began her teaching career in San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Sealy and then back to San Antonio.

Theresa moved back to Port Lavaca to be with her family. A few years later she met and married Ernest I. Hosey, Jr. of Victoria, TX. Theresa and her husband Ernest joined Mt. Sinai Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. B.C. Brown. She served as Financial Secretary and was a member of the Junior Mission Society and HPU Reunion Choir. She served as a committee member on the Calhoun County Library Board. Theresa went to work at Brown & Root Union Carbide as a secretary in the Environmental Protection Department.

On March 21, 1989, Theresa, her mother, Leola, and two of her nieces were traveling home from Victoria, TX when a car swerved into her lane, striking their car head on at approximately 60 miles per hour. Theresa suffered severe head and chest injuries and later died. She was survived by her husband Ernest Hosey, her parents Willard and Leola Hall, her brothers Willard, Jr. and Barry, her sisters Linda and Jeanne. Theresa's life was short lived, but she lived a full life of love, sharing and doing for others.

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Travis Jr. High
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