



*Jo Theresa Morrell Powell*  
September 26, 1929 - August 15, 2021

**Mass of Christian Burial**  
Friday, August 20, 2021 10:00 a.m.  
Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church  
China, Texas

Processional

*“Amazing Grace”*

## **GATHERING RITE**

### **GREETING AND BLESSING OF THE BODY**

As a reminder of Jo’s Baptism, her casket has been sprinkled with Baptismal water. Then, a pall, recalling the white garment of her Baptism, is placed on the casket.

*“If we have died with Christ, we are also to live with Christ in glory.”*

Opening Prayer

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

First Reading

Wisdom 3:1-9

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23

Response: *“Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,  
beyond my fears, from death into life.”*

Second Reading

Romans 6:3-9

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Reading

John 6:37-40

Homily

Prayer of the Faithful

Response: *“Lord, hear our prayer.”*

# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## Preparation of the Gifts

Eucharistic Acclamations      Holy, Holy, Holy  
Mystery of Faith  
Great Amen

Communion Rite                      The Lord's Prayer  
Sign of Peace  
Lamb of God

Communion                              *"The Old Rugged Cross"*

Meditation                              *"Ave Maria"*

Prayer After Communion

## FINAL COMMENDATION

Invitation of Prayer

Song of Farewell:

**PRESIDER:**    Saints of God, come to her aid. Hasten to meet her angels  
of the Lord.

**ASSEMBLY: RECEIVE HER SOUL AND PRESENT HER TO  
GOD THE MOST HIGH.**

**PRESIDER:**    May Christ, who called you, take you to Himself, and may  
the angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

**ASSEMBLY: RECEIVE HER SOUL AND PRESENT HER TO  
GOD THE MOST HIGH.**

**PRESIDER:**    Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light  
shine upon her.

**ASSEMBLY: RECEIVE HER SOUL AND PRESENT HER TO  
GOD THE MOST HIGH.**

Prayer of Commendation

PROCESSION TO PLACE OF COMMITTAL

Recessional                              *"Songs of the Angels"*



*Jo Theresa Morrell Sowell*, 91, of China, died Sunday, August 15, 2021, surrounded by her family at Jefferson Nursing Home in Beaumont, Texas. She was born in Beaumont on September 26, 1929, to Mary Cullotta and Nunzie Morrell.

As the family's matriarch, she would be delighted to see her four children, 12 Grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, and 14 great-great-grandkids, gathered together in these challenging and sad times, remembering her.

Jo's journey began as she attended St. Anthony High School and married James Sowell on December 16, 1948, and the newlywed couple established their life and home in Southeast Texas.

In Jo's young life, she enjoyed working at Morrell Bakery alongside her mother and dad in the family business on Wall Street. She attended St. Anthony High School, where she was a drummer in the band. After high school, she met and married the love of her life, James Earl Sowell, and the following year, their first child, Patricia Ann, was born, followed by Rodney Earl, Mike, and Mary Katherine.

A devout Catholic, Jo's life centered around the family – her family. She was a present mother taking time to attend all her kids' games, sporting events, and school activities while coaching volleyball at St. Anthony's Catholic School. With Jo cheering them on, Rodney, Mary, and Mike played basketball and Patricia played volleyball.

As a mother and sister, she was known to have a great sense of humor, enjoyed a good game of dominos and cards, and was a woman who spoke her mind and stubbornly defended her own opinions.

After her kids graduated, she and James moved to the family farm in Huntington, Texas and Jo enjoyed a new job working for a doctor in Lufkin.

She had a passion for life and enjoyed many hobbies, including planning trips with her sister to visit her brothers in Colorado. Jo loved restaurants, weekly card games, dancing, bowling, crabbing, and lazy summer days at the beach.

Jo returned to Beaumont in 1992, where she could enjoy her favorite hobby and pursue a daily life as a Grandma Jo to 12 grandchildren. Jo was the center of the family and never missed an opportunity to attend their birthdays, sporting events, activities, and attended as many Christmas and Thanksgiving meals as she could pack into one day.

A lifetime sports fan, Jo supported her beloved Astros thru the good and bad years and rarely missed an opportunity to watch baseball.

“Grandma Jo is keeping an eye on all of us and waiting for us to meet in Heaven when our time comes.”

Jo Sowell is preceded in death by her parents, Nunzie and Mary Cullotta Morrell; her husband, James Sowell; brother, Peter Morrell of Greely, Colorado; and sister, Rosemary Luke of Beaumont.

She is survived by four children, Patricia Sowell Schroeder (Bill); Rodney Sowell (Janice); Mary Sowell Hutson; Mike Sowell (Carrie); 12 grandchildren, Patty Schroeder LeBlanc (Darren); Billy Schroeder (Kim); Chad Schroeder (Amy); Lance Schroeder (Amber); Daina Sowell Cook; Rebecca Sowell Anschutz (Don); Shelly Duke (Tilford); James Sowell (Elizabeth); Justin Sowell (Tracey); Jeanie DuBois (John); Jared Sowell; and Danny Hood (Stephanie).















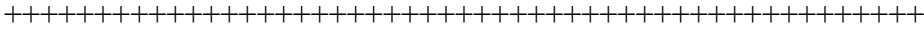




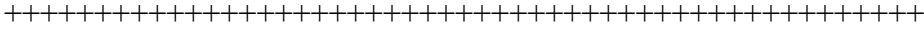








Celebrant	Very Reverend Luong Q. Tran, J.V.
Con-Celebrant	Reverend Monsignor Salvador Culotta
Placing of the Pall	Her Family
Gift Bearers	Breanna Earl, Shelly Duke
Lectors	Kenzie Schroeder, Paige Duke, Roger Bemis
Music Minister	Dr. Scott Feldhausen
Vocalists	Pam and Roger Bemis
Pallbearers	Lance Schroeder, Billy Schroeder Chad Schroeder, James Sowell, Justin Sowell Kent Morrell, Sonny Wegner



**Interment**

Forest Lawn Memorial Park  
Beaumont, Texas

**Memorial Contributions**

Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church  
P.O. Box 38  
China, Texas 77613



Please sign Mrs. Sowell's guest book and share your memories at  
[broussards1889.com](http://broussards1889.com)