



## Thelma Evelyn Welch

September 5, 1941 - March 28, 2026

Thelma Welch passed away after a lengthy illness on March 28, 2026. She was born in Vallejo on September 5, 1941. A fourth generation Californian, Thelma was raised by her great aunt, Elizabeth Bradley, after the sudden death of her father when she was 7 months old. She attended Vallejo schools and worked in various administrative positions until her retirement in 1996. After retirement, Thelma embarked on two passion projects: supporting foster children, and being a champion for autistic children and others with learning disabilities navigating the school system. She started a not-for-profit organization (Kids Helping Kids Education Network), worked in two special needs schools, and served as a foster mom or grand mom to a number of children.

She is survived by her husband of 46 years, Kenneth Welch; her children, Elizabeth Grassi and Jerry Grassi; her stepdaughters, Deana Welch and Denene Welch; and her foster daughter, Joanna Gonzales. She was the proud grandma of twelve grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her stepdaughter and good friend, Donna Tenbusch.

A Celebration of Life service will be held for Thelma at First Baptist Church on Wednesday, April 15th at 11 am. The church is located at 2025 Sonoma Blvd. in Vallejo.



# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

APR **15**. 11:00 AM (PT)

First Baptist Church  
2025 Sonoma Blvd.  
Vallejo, CA 94590