

Who I really am...

I am the child of a living God and joint heir with my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! The Lord gave me to awesome parents, Kenneth Wendland of Miles, TX and Nancy Friend of Ozona/Rocksprings, TX. They have been faithfully and happily married since 1964! My parents have led us to the Lord throughout our lives in the daily practice of working with a purpose - thanks Mom and Dad! I have the gift of two sisters: Ronya is older and the sweetest person who has been by my side for most all steps of our life! We are only 19 months apart - one year in school and almost opposite in our unique gifts given to us according to grace. Ronya (Ra-Ra) is a great friend, very creative, colorful and kind. She is also driven by the needs of her family and will do whatever it takes to reach her goals! Krista Beth (KB or BB) is our baby sister who has brought such great joy to my life! We continue to grow closer as we have more in common and share a deep passion for horses! KB is very athletic, focused and fun! She raises the bar for everyone around her and surpasses her goals in stride! I love you both more than words can say and am so thankful the Lord gave me 2 sisters to make me better. I admire you as moms, wives, sisters, friends and Christians! I love Chris and Chad - my other brothers, and the precious children so far: mason, kenzie, Caitlyn and morgan. Mom is the vivacious heartbeat of the family! She is beautiful and always presents herself with style, charisma, and enthusiasm! I have learned many things from mom, but I love the song, "Pearls" to capture many of them! Through DAILY interaction - you have had a huge impact on the person, wife and mother I am becoming! Daddy is the quieter, wiser type! He is so handsome and very athletic! Still in great physical condition and so logical! We also share the horse passion and I am so thankful for the many practice pen hours we have shared - the show pen ups and downs - and the also welcoming arms and guidance to dust off, saddle up and try again! Being raised in a cattle ranching family taught is to get up early, work hard, and rest when you can (cat naps on cement porches)! We work well together as a family - like a well oiled machine - in many arenas! Being entrepreneurs (those big words), our parents involved us in business from the time we could answer the phone, reach the copy machine "go" button and type! It has

been fun to learn daily by watching and participating with you - Thanks, mom and day - I love you!

I was born again into the family of God in June of 1987 in the round pen at the McMullan ranch in Iraan, TX. A little boy named Bobby Joe Yeater was almost killed while practicing riding a steer with his older brother, Tommy Joe. When BJ was hurt - everyone ran for Glenda - the biggest "Bible thumper" I knew! Shawn, Tommy, and Jamie had just graduated from high school. Jim Phillips, Mecca and I were going to be Jrs. in high school. Wendy Phillips was a couple years younger and BJ was 10! When BJ quit breathing and turned blue, I watched his older brother pray over him and give him CPR. When Glenda got to him - she began to pray in the SPIRIT claiming things I had not ever heard in church - or anywhere for that matter! The presence of the Holy Spirit was so strong and I was moved watching brothers that were prepared for life in their walk with the Lord and the power of prayer that allowed BJ to restore life in his body with only minor abrasions! I wanted some of that power!

Shawn McMullan went to be with the Lord in August of 1997. This has been a pivotal point in our family as we openly let the Lord work in our lives more from that day! So many things came from that incident - but most powerfully - my husband and brother-in-law gave their life to the Lord at his funeral along with hundreds more! Thank you, Shawn, for being like a brother, for all the fun, all the miles, and all the dreams! I love you and you ride with me often!!

We were raised in the Methodist church and Lutheran church, where my grandmother served as pianist, organist, and music leader for 75 years (from age 11 to 86). Granny went to Heaven on Thanksgiving day 2001 (the same day as Mary Kay Ash) and was a huge impact on my life - learning something new everyday to keep her young! Whoopee!! I was able to celebrate her life at her funeral through a closer walk with the Lord after being devastated at the loss of my maternal grandparents - Papaw and Nana in the early 80s. The ranches in Rocksprings and Miles hold most of my childhood memories - I am so thankful to be raised a West TX ranch kid! We did not know our paternal grandfather on this

earth, but I suspect see much of him in my father. I look forward to time with him in Heaven!

On June 17, 1990, the Lord introduced me to the man he designed as my mate at a hot rodeo arena in Sabinal, TX. John Patrick Dodson is more than I ever dreamed! He loves me!! He is the son of my blessed parents-in-law, W. Pat Dodson of Concan, TX and Mary Grizzaffi of Corsicana, TX, and brother of my other sister, Jody and little bro Will (plus Casey and baby Upham to come and Keri!). Pat and Mary have been married since May 25, 1971, and love me like a daughter!! We share many things in common - most importantly the unconditional love of their oldest son! John - So handsome, athletic, intelligent, kind, disciplined, helping, and loving! John and I were 18 when we met and have grown up together and continue to grow closer everyday! We married with the love of Christ binding us on June 18, 1994, and walk closer together each day as we each walk closer to the Lord according to His purpose for our lives! January 15, 2006, we followed Jesus in believer's baptism by emersion side-by-side! We are currently members of Central Christian Church of Sabinal.

On Dec. 29, 1999, our Heavenly Father made us parents with the first gift of Wendland Reece Dodson - a big boy of 10 and a half pounds!! Reece has been active, running, passionate and enthusiastic since birth and is very spiritual! Reece accepted the Lord at a very young age and was baptized by his choice on April 16, 2006 (papa's birthday).

February 10, 2003, God made our little girl dreams come true with Rylee Kathryn Dodson! She is so sweet, caring, excited, and beautiful! Like her brother, she is full of passion, enthusiasm and action all the time!! What joy and responsibility children bring as our greatest gifts from God! Thank you, Lord, for having faith in me to send us such awesome children to raise up in your purpose!

All of my experiences have value now as I realize that the Lord planned each day of my life - every second - every detail - before I was born (Jeremiah 1:4-9). I love horses! WOW - the great people I have met and shared life with through horses - especially the children! Rodeo, 4-H,

judging, reining, and horsemanship clinics are all paths that led to so many fun victories! Daily practice, discipline, responsibility, goal setting, planning, and passion are many things that I developed through horses! I still have many more goals for me and my family! His timing and glory is what I seek!

Mary Kay has been the vehicle that has helped launch my faith in action daily more than ever before! The environment of God first, family second, and career third - constantly practiced in that order by my "girlfriends" has led me much closer to Godly living! The Lord has used me in this arena to lead others to him - which is our purpose! Our Williams Area retreat at Mo Ranch has been monumental in my faith walk - sharing from the microphone my faith and calling to the business, then being used to lead others by the Holy Spirit moving them (Katy Young and Sue Havener)! Relationships were healed at Mo Ranch through the saving grace and common ground found in every situation in the Bible (Krista Shepard). My body, tongue and heart were overtaken in April of 2005 as my planned training time turned into an altar call where I first led the sinner's pray (Jen Turner) with many and helped break the bondage of unforgiveness with others (Clara Dey). October 10, 2006, Katy Young went to Heaven and I was called to share the gospel at her funeral - WOW - in the Catholic Church. I was now understanding that the Lord truly equips the called, not calls the equipped! 3 days later, I led my first worship service at our Mo Ranch Retreat and shared my testimony - other friends dedicated their lives to the Lord at a higher level (Adela Urrutia, Marian Manning). Thanks, mom and dad, for being their again!

So many MK women have been spiritual mentors to me: Cindy Williams, Mary Stogsdill, Lisa Hawkins, Mary Pat Raynor, Susan Moore, Tracey Chavez, Natalie Cervantes, Carmen Felix, Lori Tassin, Taradee Williams, Heidi Goelzer, Nena Anderson, Jodee McClendon, Stacy James, Pam Shaw, Jill Moore, Kim McClure, Leah Nelson, Cindy Machado, Krista Shepard, Ellie Kyle, Kristi Bannowsky and so many more!

Thank you to many of my spiritual mentors as well: Glenda and Kenny McMullan, Corey and Jamie Ross, the Actons, Cowboy Churches

everywhere, glenn smith, jeff and lisa petska, Johnny and anna smith, warren hornung, Beverly bowen, Tameka king, michael and kim, andy evans, matthew martin, Julia and honey mundy and so many more through their daily actions and open conversations!

Above all, I serve the Lord! I am fearfully and wonderfully made in His perfect image, with my own unique gifts according to grace and designed for His purpose! I will walk close with Him to know the true joy of living that only comes from serving Him according to His will! I will run and not grow weary, doing good all the days of my life! I will dwell on positive thoughts, praying continually and in all things give thanks! I will trust him beyond my understanding, surrender all, and let my light shine for Him! Thank you, Jesus, for choosing me! May my actions be blessed and pleasing to you! To Him be the Glory of the fruits of my labor and when I rest - may we celebrate the work He did through me! Party on forever - to heaven we shall go!!

This is who I am! ky