

Obituaries

Leona Bland

June 24, 1919 - October 20, 2009

Leona Bland was born June 24, 1919 in the Bushdale Community of Milam County one of eight children born to Fritz W. and Leona Selma Flisch Gest.

She was a life long resident of Rockdale, was a homemaker who loved flowers and gardening and was a longtime member of First Christian Church in Rockdale.

On March 7, 1942, she and Nolan J. Bland were married in Rockdale. To this union two sons were born.

Leona passed away Tuesday evening, October 20, 2009 in the Renaissance Villa in Rockdale, reaching the age of 90. She was preceded in death by her husband on October 12, 2008; her parents, a sister, Ruby Eiland and two brothers, Alfred and Antone Gest.

Surviving are; sons, Nolan J. Bland, Jr. and wife Carrie of Brazoria, James S. Bland and wife Katrina of Knoxville, Tennessee.

Brother, Walter Gest and wife Delores of Rockdale; sisters, Hilda McVoy of Rockdale, Katie Jackson and husband Robert of Rockdale, Thelma Scruggs and husband Bobby of Hare; sister-in-law, Beth Gest of Rockdale. 8 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren.

Funeral services were on Friday, October 23, 2009 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home, burial was in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Rockdale with Rev. Margaret Clemmings officiating.

Serving as pallbearers, Terry Jackson, Bill Bland, Shannon Strickland, Randy Thomas, Cory Thomas, Mike Jackson.



Eula Dean Elmore

March 10, 1927 - October 23, 2009

Eula Elmore peacefully slipped into the presence of her Savior on October 23, 2009.

Born March 10, 1927 in Lovely, Kentucky, she met and married the love of her life, Lenard Doyle Elmore, on February 7, 1945 in Jacksonville, Florida. To this union were born three sons – Gary of Kodiak, Alaska, Archie of Lexington, Texas, and Scott of Temple, Texas.

Following World War II, she and her new husband moved to Haskell, Texas and began a life-long love affair with each other and their new home. Her ambition was to provide a home and stability for her family that she had not known herself. She succeeded!

Known by various names – Honey, Mom, Aunt Eula, sister, and friend she was a special woman who will be deeply missed.

She is survived by her beloved sons Gary and wife Candy, Archie and wife Geryl, and Scott, along with ten adored grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren that were a special delight for her, and sister Lydia Muncy of Jacksonville, Florida.

She was preceded in death by her dearest Doyle, father, mother, and eight of nine siblings.

Also holding a special place in her heart were lifetime friends in Ozona, Dublin, and Ira Texas, Grove Hill, Alabama, and Martin County, Kentucky.

Graveside services were held at the Willow Cemetery in Haskell, Texas on Tuesday, October 27 and a memorial service will be held at the First Baptist Church in Ozona, Texas on Wednesday, October 28 also at 2:00 P.M.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Scott & White Hospice - 2401 S. 31st St. Temple, TX 76508 Phone: 254-724-4090 Toll free: 800-299-2033, or the charity of your choice.

“Those who live in the Lord never see each other for the last time.” - German Proverb



Donna Bearden

August 10, 1945 - October 23, 2009

Donna Bearden was born August 10, 1945 in Houston, she was the daughter of Bryan William and Maxine Beatrice (McIlroy) Stahl.

She was a resident of Buffalo and Rockdale. she and Rusty Bearden were married in Houston, she was a LVN. Donna passed away on Friday, October 23, 2009 at her residence in Rockdale reaching the age of 64.

She was preceded in death by her parents and Grandparents. Donna is survived by her husband Rusty Bearden of Buffalo; Sons, Bryan Wooten of Appesprings, Tx, Rodney Wooten of Rockdale, Tx and Virgil Brown of DeKalb, Tx; Daughter, Kim Wooten of Florida; Brothers Lance and Billy Stahl; Sister Cecilia Parrot; Grandchildren, Samantha Wooten, Sage Brown, Kaley Campbell, Courtney Campbell and Desirae Drumm

Serving as pallbearers were Mathew Jenkins, Mike Duke, Robert Mansfield, Mike Smith, Steve McDaniels and Jimmy Vest. Honorary pallbearers were Kevin Wheatly, Rodney Wooten, Virgil Brown and Mark Bearden.

Funeral service was held Sunday, October 25, 2009 at 3:00 P.M. at the Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Rockdale.

Burial was on Monday October 26, 2009 at the Jones Prairie Cemetery in Leggett, Texas.

Mary E. Fox

October 2, 1907 - October 21, 2009

Graveside services for Mary Emma Schmoyer Fox, 102, of Giddings and formerly of Heame, Texas were on Sunday, October 25, 2009 at the Granger City Cemetery in Granger, Texas with Rev. Dr. Tim Edwards officiating.

Mrs. Fox passed away Wednesday evening in Giddings.

She was born near Rosebud on October 2, 1907 to Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Schmoyer. She graduated from Marlin High School in Marlin, Texas and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

She retired from teaching in May of 1971 after a teaching career of twenty-two years, seventeen of them in the Heame schools.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Howard Fox; her daughters, Betty Fox and Susan Fox and her sister, Jesse B. Green.

Survivors include daughter, Helen Fox Smith and son-in-law, John Dodd Smith of Giddings, Texas; sister, Mrs. Albert Derden of Austin, Texas; grandchildren, Bryan Fox Smith and wife, Laura of Canyon, Texas, Catherine Smith Ingram of Houston, Texas and Horace Donald Smith III and wife, Felicity of San Angelo, Texas; great-grandchildren, Garrett & Rachel Smith of Canyon, Texas and Alexis, Morgan, Noah and Gage Smith of San Angelo, Texas and a great-great grandson, Landon Colvert of San Angelo, Texas.



Eldor R. Proske

October 7, 1924 - October 21, 2009

Eldor Roy Proske, 85, passed away Wednesday, October 21, 2009 with his family by his side. A long time resident of Houston, Eldor or Roy as he was also known, was born on October 7, 1924 in Lexington, Texas to Rudolph and Emma Proske. He served his country in the United States Navy from November 8, 1943 to April 15, 1946. He married Mary Frances Miller in 1948 with whom he had 2 children. Employed by Oilfield Machine and Supply Company in Houston, Texas for over 40 years, he spent his retirement enjoying the company of his grandchildren and family and quiet time in the country around Lexington where he grew up.

He is survived by his 2 children, Charles Proske and Debra Davis and her husband John Davis; 2 grandchildren, Kelly and Stephen Davis; 2 sisters, Glorine Eiland and Geneva Proske; 1 brother, Aaron Proske and his wife Estelle Proske; his close friend Betty Crawford; and many nieces and nephews. He enjoyed music, dancing, good food and most of all being with his family.

Funeral Services were held Saturday, October 24 in the chapel at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home with Maxine Roby officiating. Burial will followed in Germania Cemetery in Lexington.



Dr. H.R. "Doc" Willard

March 16, 1914 - October 21, 2009

Funeral services for Dr. H.R. "Doc" Willard, 95 of Giddings, Texas, at the First United Methodist Church in Giddings with Rev. Dr. Tim Edwards officiating. Burial followed in Giddings Memorial Park in Giddings.

Dr. Willard passed away Wednesday evening at his home in Giddings.

Horace Randolph Willard was born March 16, 1914 in Giddings, Texas, the youngest son of Blanche Crawford Willard and Shelley Stephen Willard. He lived in Giddings all his childhood and until 1933 when he entered Texas A & M College. He graduated from A & M with a degree in Veterinary Medicine in 1937.

He married Mildred Hallmark in Fort Worth on April 9, 1938. They lived in Fort Worth, San Antonio, El Paso and New Orleans before moving back to Giddings in August of 1947 where he practiced veterinary medicine until 1959. He was the first licensed Veterinarian in Lee County.

Dr. Willard served with the U.S. Army from 1937 to 1947 with an honorable discharge. He served with the C.C.C. from September 1937 until June 1940, was Regimental Veterinarian of the 7th Cavalry with the Army during World War II and overseas in the South Pacific-Philippines and Japan. He was discharged in 1947 with the rank of Major. He was with the Federal Government in poultry and beef inspection work for more than 16 years. He retired from service with the U.S.D.A. in August 1974. Since that time, he has been busy with his cattle at his ranch in Lee County.

He was a member of the Methodist Church in Giddings, a life member of the J.D. Giddings Lodge AF & AM #280, District Deputy in 1964, Worshipful Master, Scottish Rite Bodies and Ben Hur Shrine of Austin, a member and Past President of Tri-Counties Shrine, American Veterinary Medical Association, served as President of Bexar County Veterinary Medical Association in 1939. He was also a member of the Texas A & M Association of Former Students and the 12th Man Foundation. He was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion and the U.S. Cavalry Association.

Dr. Willard served for 16 years on the school board of the Giddings ISD and as President of that board for 10 years. He was an Honorary Member of FFA and a former Director of the Lee County Wildlife Association. He had been a member of the Board of Lee Memorial Hospital and the Education Service Center Region XIII of Austin for 18 years and a chairman of the Education Service Center for 8 years.

Survivors include his wife, Mildred H. Willard of Giddings; two daughters, Rebekah Willard Barrett and husband, Robert Barrett of Huntsville, AL; Stephanie Willard Lyon and husband, Jerry Lyon of Temple, TX; four grandsons, Stephen Barrett and wife, Tabitha of Phoenix City, AL, Shannon Barrett and wife, Jennifer of Marietta, GA, Justin Lyon and wife, Melissa of El Campo and Mason Lyon of Denton; great-grandchildren, Kirsten Ellis-Lyon of College Station, Katie Barrett, Maggie Barrett and Abby Barrett of Marietta, GA, Sam Barrett and Anna Grace Barrett of Phoenix City, AL, and Bailey and Emma Lyon of El Campo as well as numerous nieces and nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church in Giddings, the Lee County Historical Society, the Giddings Public Library & Cultural Center or the charity of one's choice.



Donna Lynn Norsworthy Ratliff

December 2, 1953 - October 19, 2009

Mrs. Donna Lynn Norsworthy Ratliff, 55, of Leander, Texas passed away peacefully at her residence on Monday, October 19, 2009 after a two and a half year battle with breast cancer.

Donna was born in Austin, Texas on December 2, 1953, the daughter of the late Billie Louise (Williams) and Vernard Andrew (Cowboy) Norsworthy who survives her of La Grange, Texas.

She is survived by her father; Vernard (Cowboy) Norsworthy and step mother Mary, her husband Alan Ratliff, and children:

Daughters Trollie Drosche of Leander, TX; Ronna Tiemann and husband Lon of Houston, TX;

Son Shane Drosche and wife Heather of La Grange, TX;

Sisters Wendy Spear and husband Rick of Oklahoma City, OK; Brenda Rainosek and husband Elvis of Yoakum, TX; Connie Stelter of Brenham, TX; Brothers Marty Norsworthy of La Grange, TX; Les Norsworthy and wife Rose of Brenham, TX; Nathan Norsworthy and wife Brandi of La Grange, TX; and Andrew Norsworthy of La Grange, TX.

She is also survived by three grandchildren Brooke, Brandon, Jordan and one Great Grandchild Kaela.

She was preceded in death by one sister Lisa Norsworthy, two brothers Billy and Virgil Norsworthy.

She was a loving and caring wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She always had a great sense of humor and tons of laughter. She enjoyed her love for softball, her plants, and being a police officer. Her greatest accomplishment and joy in life was her three children Trollie, Ronna, and Shane. She loved her church and had so much faith in the Lord.

Funeral Services were held at Koenig & Strickland Funeral Home in La Grange, TX, on Friday, October 23rd with Rev. Jimmie Goolsby officiating. Burial followed at the La Grange City Cemetery.

The family would like to give special thanks to Believers Fellowship, Lone Star Oncology, Dr. Shimkus "Pretty Boy", and Mary and Jimmy Goolsby.

In lieu of flowers family requests donations be made to Believers Fellowship Church, Leander, TX; Heart to Heart Hospice, Austin, TX; or the American Cancer Society.

Rafaela Flores

October 24, 1918 - October 23, 2009

Rafaela Flores was born Oct. 24, 1918 in Milam County, Texas and was a daughter of Jose Mendoza and Maria Limon Mendoza. She has made her home in Rockdale all of her life and was employed by Richards Memorial Hospital for 27 years as a nurse's assistant. She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Rockdale. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Marcario Flores, Sr. in 1963; a daughter, Virginia Vaca in 1983; Also five brothers and one sister. Survivors include: Four sons: Rudolph Flores & wife, Adela of Coppell; Marcario Flores, Jr. & wife Rosie; Robert Flores & wife, Josie; Randy Flores & wife Kim, all of Rockdale. Four daughters: Mary Ann Masiel & husband, Henry of Fairfield; Delia Galvan & husband, Jimmy; Irene Avila & husband, Robert & Helen Flores, all of Rockdale. One sister, Rufina Ordones of Rockdale. 21 Grandchildren, 38 Great Grandchildren and 2 Great Great Grandchildren. Funeral Mass was Tuesday, October 27, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church with burial in the IOOF Cemetery in Rockdale.

PHILLIPS & LUCKEY FUNERAL HOME

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Giddings
979-542-3113

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Sincere Thanks

Within the last six months, we have lost both of our parents, Jack and Betty Harrison. They were much loved by their girls, their grandchildren, and the extended family. We have been deeply touched by the outpouring of sympathy and support from this community and surrounding areas. We cannot thank you enough for helping us through this year as our parents' health began to decline and through the services in March and September. Cards, kind words, food, calls and warm hugs go a long way to show that people care for the people left behind. It also shows what a wonderful community Lexington is and why it is a wonderful place to live. If you are caring for loved ones, treasure each moment for the moments fly quickly and are quickly gone never to return.

Sincerely,

Katharine Bricker

Dianne Hawley

Rebecca Ellis



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