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At The Corral Gate



Well, Easter has come and gone and though I enjoyed it, I still feel like there was a piece of something missing I couldn't quite put my finger on. I guess it's my Mom, missing from my life now for just a year and a half, so that's not long. This time of year, from Easter to Mother's Day, when the earth wakes up and puts forth flowers, was always big for our family. I think now she made it so, largely in devotion to her own Mother, my grandmother Olena Mae Hughes Brown. 'Granny Brown's' birthday was in May, like Mother's Day, and my mom always tried to go 'home' to Odessa, usually on the train, to see Granny either at Easter or during May. In celebration of her mom, my mother made us individual Easter baskets and maybe a new dress. In turn, out of tribute to my Mother, I did the same for my girls in my younger life. Now, in honor of me and our shared traditions, my girls do it with their families in the states where they live. Thinking of that makes me feel good, now five generations of tradition in early Spring celebrations of life and love. And good cooking! Mom's Easter table had certain components that were also necessary, like chicken and dressing, English pea salad and homemade pies, and possibly a 3- or 4-layer coconut cake. Were your family traditions a little bit similar?

Over the Easter weekend, I watched the great-grandkids hunt their Easter eggs. I made two coconut cream pies and browned the meringue on top, just like Mother did. I got out one of the Easter baskets I have kept and one of her crocheted doilies and put them on the table. As I sorted through some of her colorful quilt scraps, I noticed her favorite flower blooming in my yard in five or six different colors. Those resilient iris bulbs had come from her yard in Longview and now they're mine, same as her quilts, her crocheted tablecloth and here Revere-ware pots and pans. In the mental inventory I have made over the past 18 months, I have realized that I come up way short of my Mom. The body of work that she left behind in needlework and recipes alone are astounding! Can I ever make the kind of positive impact on my daughters and granddaughters that my mother made on me? Well, I don't know, yet, anyway. A whisper of the breeze just told me there's still time, so I'd better get busy! Thanks, MOM!



Sammi, 13 months old at Easter 2000. Now she is a new mom.



Great-grandsons Dak with twins Beau and Cypress, Easter 2020



Iris and wisteria at the Cottage Garden



Grandchildren Remington and Ava, Easter 2020



Easter basket my mom decorated.



Easter tradition Coconut Meringue Pie

As humans, Easter time can be bittersweet even as we celebrate the joy of knowing our Savior, Jesus Christ. May our memories move us to recognize our blessings as we find them, brightly scattered all about us! Til next week, lets watch for further signs of Spring!

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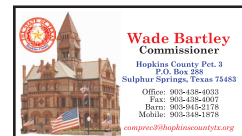
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Juanita Patterson

August 3, 1920 - April 10, 2020 (age 99)

A private graveside service for Juanita Patterson, age 99, of Sulphur Springs, will be held and directed by Chaplain Charles Kimble at Ridgeway Cemetery. Mrs. Patterson passed away Friday April 10, 2020 at Mother Frances Hospital of Sulphur Springs, TX.

Juanita was born on August 3, 1920 in Childress, TX to Samuel H. and Mae Richesin. She married Bertram "Pat" Spivy Patterson in Rockwall, TX on July 12, 1941. Juanita was a loving mother and wife, that loved her children and husband. She was a member of the League Street Church of Christ in Sulphur Springs, TX.

She is survived by her daughter, Jo Renee Myrick; granddaughter, Audrey Daniele Struwe and husband, Jim; grandson, Mark Kyle Guthrie; great granddaughter, Amanda Falcon Looney; great grandson, Alan Michael Broughton; great great granddaughter, Marissa Page Looney; and great great grandson, Maeson Perry.

Juanita was preceded in death by her husband, parents, 3 brothers, 4 sisters, and one grandson, Jason Ty LeVasseur.



Paul Ray Burkett

Private graveside services for Paul Ray Burkett, age 77, of Saltillo will be held Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at Weaver Cemetery with Rev. Shannon Gammill officiating. Pallbearers will be Jeff Wilson, Willie Dean, Ronnie Paris, Allan Chester, Asa Joslin and Rick Garmon.

A visitation was held during business hours on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at West Oaks Funeral Home. Paul passed away on Friday, April 10, 2020 at his residence. Paul was born on December 27, 1942 in Weaver, TX, the son Ben Virgil Burkett and Floy Davis Burkett. He married Edwinna Chester on August 26, 1961 in Weaver, TX and she survives. Paul and Edwinna owned and operated a Dairy Farm along with stocker cows. Paul loved to hunt and fish in his younger days and in his later years he became an avid reader

and expert in American history. In addition to his wife Edwinna he is survived by one son, Brent Burkett and wife Denise, one daughter, Paula "Polly" Sulsar and husband Jerry, grandchildren, Candace Sulsar, Justin Burkett and wife Amanda, Cara Sitton and husband Brian, Jordan Sulsar and husband Daniel, Alexa Baylus and Mack Sankoe and wife Becca, great-grandchildren, Hunter Burkett, Caycen Burkett, Bailey Baylus, Brodee Baylus, step great-grandchildren, Makayla Sitton and Madelynn Sitton. Paul was preceded in death by his parents and son, Jeff Burkett. Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. www.westoaksfuneralhome.com



Stanley Wesley Dickey

July 24, 1941 - April 13, 2020 (age 78)

Private family graveside services for Stanley Wesley Dickey, age 78, of Sulphur Springs will be held at Restlawn Memorial Park on Thursday, April 16, 2020. Visitation will be held during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at West Oaks Funeral Home. Stan passed away on Monday, April 13, 2020 at his residence. He was born on July 24, 1941 in Klondike, TX, the son of Emery Dowling Dickey and Lucy Golden Hooten Dickey. He served in the United States Army National Guard for many years and later worked as a truck driver. He married Gloria June Dodd on March 5, 1966 in Sulphur Springs, TX. She survives. Stan enjoyed wood working and spending time with his family. In addition to his wife, June Dickey, he is survived by daughters, Cathy Duffey and husband CJ of Sulphur Springs, Jeannie Duffey and husband Marcus of Sulphur Springs, brothers, Irvin Dickey of North Richland Hills, Charley Dickey and wife Paula Sue of Longview, grandchildren, Amanda Diaz, Heather Stogner, Leah Helms, Cody Mize, Lane Phillips, seven great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews, and a host of friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers, LD Dickey and wife Polly, JR Dickey and wife Dorothy, and sister in law, Artha Mae Dickey.

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Miscellaneous

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Tumbleweed Smith

Dennis Ivey of Crockett is one of those people who seem to be everywhere. He has been a preacher at the same church for 30 years, has been active in the arts community in Crockett and has a band that performs all over East Texas. He is also gifted with an imaginative sense of humor that he puts to use in all kinds of situations. Sometimes his humor backfires.

Dennis grew up in the small community of Midway. "One day my wife and I were traveling through Midway," says Tumbleweed Smith. "She had already gone through there a few days before. The city of Midway had bought this old police car and put it on the side of the road as you were coming into town. When you're a good ways off it looks like someone is sitting in the police car. So when I topped the hill going into Midway I was clipping pretty good because I'm kind of always running late to wherever I've got to be. When I saw that old police car I just slammed on my brakes and my wife burst out laughing. I asked her why she was laughing and she told me 'just wait until you get closer to that police car.' When I got there, there was this dummy that was sitting in the vehicle."

The police car wouldn't run, didn't even have an engine. The city put it in different parts of town in an effort to slow down the traffic passing through.

Dennis contacted some of his friends in Midway and found out about that police car. "They'd hook that old police car up to a tractor and move it from one place to another." Apparently the folks at the Midway City Hall have a sense of humor, too. Dennis received an official letter from the city of Midway telling him he owed the city \$120 for speeding through their city. Now Dennis knew that Midway didn't have any radar and he hadn't been stopped so he tried to ignore the letter. Still he worried about it until he found out the letter had been a joke.

A few days later, Dennis was in the city of Caldwell making an appearance with his band. While addressing the audience he told a joke about his hometown police car. "I had to add to it, you know. I told them about the police car with no motor in it and they pulled it around with a tractor. Then I said they struck a big gas well right there in the city of Midway and the city got a lot of money from that new gas well. And I said you know what they did? They bought a new tractor to pull that car from one end of town to the other."

After telling the story, a man approached Dennis and asked him if he knew the mayor of Midway. Dennis said yes, that he has known him all his life. The man said he would see the Midway Mayor tomorrow in Austin at the mayor's conference and he would relate the story. Dennis has quit telling jokes about his little hometown.

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325 Cannon HOB - Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-6675

Texas Sen. Bob Hall
P.O. Box 12068 - Austin, Texas 78711
512-463-0102

Texas Rep. Dan Flynn
P.O. Box 2910 - Austin, Texas 78768
512-463-0880

Gov. Gregg Abbott
P.O. Box 12428 - Austin, Texas 78711
512-463-2000

Atty. Gen. Ken Paxton
300 W. 15th St. - Austin, Texas 78701
512-463-2100

Hopkins Co. Judge Robert Newsom
P.O. Box 288 - Sulphur Springs, Tx. 75483
903-438-4006

SULPHUR SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL

City Hall
201 Davis St. North
Sulphur Springs, Tx. 75482
903-885-7541

City Manager - **Marc Maxwell**
Mayor - **John Sellers**
Mayor Pro Tem - **Freddie Taylor**
City Council - **Doug Moore**
City Council - **Harold Nash**

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mickey Barker
Precinct 1 - Ph: 903-438-4031
Barn: 903-485-2040
P.O. Box 288 - Sul. Spgs. Tx. 75483
Email: comprecone@hopkinscountytx.org

Greg Anglin
Precinct 2 - Ph: 903-438-4032
Barn: 903-488-3514
P.O. Box 288 - Sul. Spgs., Tx. 75483

Wade Bartley
Precinct 3 - Ph: 903-438-4033
Barn: 903-945-2178
P.O. Box 288 - Sul. Spgs., Tx. 75483

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