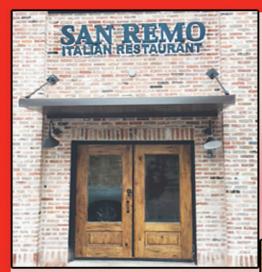




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2021 Wreaths Across America **Observed In Hopkins County at 9 Cemeteries**

The annual Wreaths Across America event was held nation-wide on Saturday December 18, 2021 and Hopkins County joined in with a stronger participation than ever before. In Sulphur Springs City Cemetery and in adjoining Mel Haven Cemetery, gravesites had been cleaned and marked prior to Saturday with small orange flags in preparation for the event. Following an 11am public ceremony in the Myra Wilson Chapel of City Cemetery, volunteers dispersed into the areas of gravesites, placing more than 800 wreaths. The wreaths are of live fir, each adorned with a vivid red bow, provided by sponsorship dollars and wreath and trucking industry volunteer hours. Many families with children were in attendance that day, pitching in to follow the mission statement to "Remember, Honor and Teach" and realizing the importance of the sacrifice made by the fallen soldiers from all wars.



One of our National Cemeteries adorned during the 2021 Wreaths Across America event.

Besides City and Mel Haven, eight other Hopkins County cemeteries held Wreaths Across America observances. They are Pickton, Wnterfield, Union, Weaver, Black Oak, Shooks Chapel and Gafford Chapel. A first observance was also held this year in the Old Saltillo Cemetery. If you know of a county cemetery which should be represented next year, please contact Dena Loyd at dl1156@yahoo.com go to the website or wreathsacrossamerica.org/TX0613. Using the TX0613 in the address is critical, to direct you to the local Wreaths Across America organizers.



One of the veteran graves in Sulphur Springs City Cemetery adorned with the beautiful live fir wreath and red velvet bow. More than 800 were placed in City and Mel Haven Cemetery on December 18.

A volunteer places wreaths in the Old Saltillo Cemetery



A very *Merry Christmas* is wished to all readers of the Millennium Shopper and the At the Corral Gate column and a blessed and bright New Year!!

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Joe B. Ardis

Funeral services for Joe B. Ardis, age 84, of Sulphur Springs was conducted at 10 a.m. Saturday, December 18, 2021, at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Jerry Savage and Jose Martinez officiating. Interment followed at Sulphur Springs City Cemetery with Bill Ardis, Mike Warren, Juan Enriquez, Johnny Enriquez, Mark Hill and Edgar Velasquez serving as pallbearers. Visitation was from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, December 17, 2021, at West Oaks Funeral Home. Joe passed away on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at his home. Joe was born on January 30, 1937, in Sulphur Springs, the

son of A. B Ardis and Marie Harris Ardis.

He married Faye Ann Clinton Ardis on August 30, 1963, and she preceded him in death. He married Nubia Denisse Enriquez on May 22, 2019, in Sulphur Springs, and she survives.

Joe was quite the entrepreneur, he worked as an insurance adjuster, over 50 years in construction and also was in real estate. In addition to his wife, Nubia Ardis, he is survived by a daughter, Ashleey Martinez of Sulphur Springs; brother, Louis

Harris Ardis and wife Patsy of Sulphur Springs; sister, Mary McMillan of Plano; and sister-in-law, Laura Ardis. He was preceded in death by his parents; first wife, Ann; and brother, Robert B. Ardis.



Donna "Meemaw" Hamiter

Memorial service for Donna "Meemaw" Hamiter, age 83, of Sulphur Springs, will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, December 23, 2021, at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel with Bro. Bob Williams officiating. There will be no formal visitation. Mrs. Hamiter passed away Sunday, December 19, 2021, at Carriage House Manor.

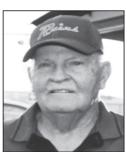
Donna "Meemaw" Hamiter was born December 6, 1938, to Olen Cleo Granger and Ruby Irene (Spears) Granger in Piedmont, MO. She married Dan Hamiter on August 17, 1983, in Duncanville, Texas. Mrs. Hamiter was a homemaker and a member of the Church of the Nazarene.

Our mom was the best. She blended two families into one tight-nit family, and she so loved being Meemaw. She was at the birth of nearly every grandchild and loved having her grandkids come and stay in the summertime. She loved the Lord and she loved to sing! If it was your birthday, you could expect a call from her singing Happy Birthday. She loved sweets and was an amazing baker. She made the best pecan pie in the world. Her sense of humor and wittiness kept us laughing

all of the time. The memories she gave all of us will be cherished forever.

She is survived by her husband, Dan Hamiter; children, April Terrell and husband Tracy of Lake Dallas, Texas, Keith White and wife Tohi of Highlands Ranch, CO, Lara Colby and husband Adam of Cumby, Texas; sister, Janelle Dayhoff of Bartlesville, OK; step-children, Tyke Hamiter and wife Dee of Richardson, Texas, Bill Hamiter and wife Debbie of Oklahoma City, OK, Deann Lee and husband Jimmy of Paris, Texas; grandchildren, Collin White and wife Breanna, Cameron White, Chandler White, Sarah Levings and husband Scott, Matthew Colby, Whitney Harris and husband Paul, Leslie Hastings and husband Alex, Amy Hamiter, Olivia Bennett and husband Les, Avery Hamiter, and Travis Lee; great-grandchildren, Alayna, Layla, and Tyke; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Mrs. Hamiter was preceded in death by her parents; first husband, Thomas Roland White; brother, Kenneth Granger; and sister, Marilyn McBride.



Robert Sisk November 18, 1938 ~ December 16, 2021 (age 83)

Funeral Services for Robert Sisk, age 83, of Emory, was held on Monday, December 20, 2021, at 2 p.m. at Freedom Church of God in Emory with Bro. David Hamm, Bro. Don Dykes and Rev. Virgil Rodriguez officiating. Interment followed at Greenview Cemetery in Miller Grove with Tyler Jones, Nate Harper, Sam House, Rogelio Gallegos, Jason Jarrett, Gary Sisk and Gary Snowden serving as pallbearers. A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Mr. Sisk passed away on Thursday, December 16, 2021, at his home surrounded by his family.

Robert was born on November 18, 1938, in Rains County to Bill and Maud Sisk. He married Dollie Mitchell in Rains County on December 26, 1959, and shared 62 years of marriage together. Robert was a member of Freedom Church of God in Emory.

Survivors include his wife, Dollie Sisk; children, Kimballa Kay Talkington and husband Bo, Heath Allan Sisk and wife Kristi; grandchildren, Kaley Jones and husband Tyler, Kara Harper and husband Nate, Torie Talkington, Kash Sisk, and Kolt Sisk; greatgrandchildren Kade, Kohen, and Kolbie Harper, Jett and Journey Jones; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins; and a multitude of friends.

Robert is preceded in death by his parents and siblings, W.J. Sisk, Christine Ridenour, Betty Pendleton, Lynn Sisk and Nanny Jo McQueen. Robert was a devoted husband, father, and Papa. He enjoyed traveling with his wife, Dollie aka "Mickey," and group of lifelong friends to destinations all around the world. Robert was a devout Rains Wildcat fan, rarely missing a game or track meet over the last 30 years, he was no "fair weather fan." Between his wife's cooking and his grandkids, he had a hard time saying no.

The family would also like to express our thanks and gratitude to caregivers Gayla Sparkman and Marissa Spinks. Donations may be made in honor of Robert to the Freedom Church of God food pantry.

Classified Ads cont.

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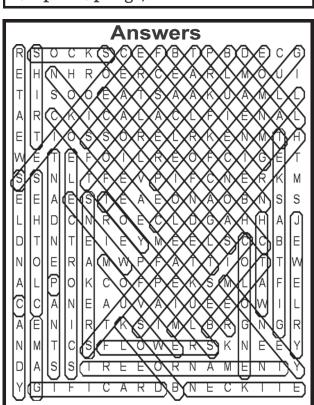
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"In 1937 my dad hitched a team to a wagon and we went down the

road a couple of miles to a neighbor's house for Sunday Tumbleweed Smith dinner," says Dewain Collins, who Weatherford at the time. "I was 11 months old and just learning to walk. Sometime that

My parents decided I needed to go see a doctor because I was paralyzed from the waist down." He was taken to the Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas where he was diagnosed with infantile paralysis, later called polio.

afternoon I began to get sick. We went on back

home and I laid around sick for a couple of days.

"Doctors at the hospital said they were going to keep me and told my parents they could see me from 2 to 4 on Sunday afternoons, but because of my young age they said it would be best if they didn't come to see me at all I was at the hospital off and on for 10 or 12 years,"

Because not much was known about the disease then, his sister, 2 years older than Dewain, was not allowed to attend school. Later both kids were admitted, but Dewain had trouble maneuvering.

"An old janitor met me at the school bus, took me to classes, the rest room and to recess where I could sit on a rock fence and watch the other children play. Then after school he put me back on the school bus. He did that for 6 or 8 weeks." Initially, Dwain was strapped to a board to keep his spine straight. Then he went to braces, casts and crutches.

"I got pretty good on the crutches and could keep up with the other kids. Without them I was limited in what I could do. The doctors had wanted me to get rid of the crutches but I was reluctant to give them up. Finally after 10 or 12 years I gave up the crutches and started walking without them. I did that for 60 plus years. Every once in a while if I was going to be walking for sometime I used the crutches. Most of the time I didn't need them."

After college Dewain wanted 3 things: a job, a car and a girl. So he hitchhiked to the oil patch. "I ended up in Eunice, New Mexico working for Halliburton dispatching trucks and all kinds of drilling rigs. Later I got a job with the Department of Public Safety and was a dispatcher 40 years. I worked at other jobs for another 20 years. In addition to a job I got a car and a girl who has been my wife for 63 years. We have a wonderful family and overall I would say I've had a good life so far."

Dewain, who now lives in Lubbock, credits his happy life to the Masons, who founded the Scottish Rite Hospital 100 years ago. He is a Mason

PAGE 8

Anto As A Child Is Born.



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