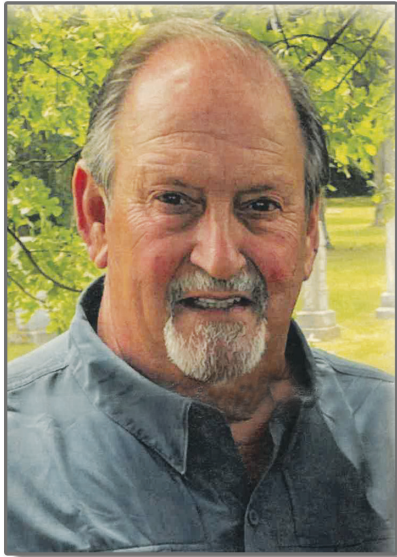


*So long to a dear friend  
and associate.*



Floyd  
Alan  
Black

July 22, 1952 -  
July 5, 2022

Floyd Alan Black, 69, of Commerce, passed away on July 5, 2022 at the Hunt Regional Medical Center in Greenville, Texas. He was born in Wichita Falls, Texas on July 22, 1952, the son of Paul Taylor Black and Ouida Ruth Taylor Black. Floyd graduated Commerce High School in 1971. Floyd started his journey of hard work for Bob Williams and Harold Wayne Burt while attending school during harvest season. He also worked on Robert Lee Speight's dairy. He married Kathy Speight on June 26, 1971 at England Grove Baptist Church, a union that would span 51 years. Floyd then attended welding school and became a certified welder which resulted in a relocation for he and Kathy to Lone Star, Texas where he would work at Lone Star Steel for 12 years and soon became a foreman. In 1983, he made another move when he went to work with his dad at Personalized Printing in Carrollton, Texas. He eventually moved the business to Commerce, Texas and continued to work there with his son Chris, daughter Ginger, and his son-in-law Randy, until his passing. Floyd was also a cattle rancher and an avid horseman, raising and racing registered quarter horses. He enjoyed attending playdays, rodeos and horse races. Floyd was also the number one fan of his kids and grandkids, whether it meant coaching little league baseball, sitting in the stands and cheering them on or watching intently as he pulled them behind the ski boat. It was in his heart to see them all enjoy all that life has to offer. Floyd was also a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason with his membership beginning in the Ore City Lodge #1364.

He is survived by his loving wife: Kathy Speight Black, son: Chris Black and wife, Anna, of Commerce, daughter: Ginger Atchley and husband, Randy, of Commerce, grandsons: Cody Black, Jacob Atchley, Eli Black, Lucas Black and granddaughter: LynLee Atchley. Other survivors include his brothers: Kenneth Black of Farmers Branch, Tx., David Black and wife, Andrea, of Krum, Tx., and Gary Harrill and wife, Sheila, of Quinlan, Tx., along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Floyd was preceded in death by his parents and a niece, Kathleen Black and a nephew, Seth Black.

A gathering of friends and family was held on Sunday, July 10, 2022 from 2 P.M. until 3: P.M. at the Fairlie Home Place. A Celebration of Life followed at 3:00 P.M.



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## TCU HAS A COURSE IN WHISKEY

**Tumbleweed Smith**

"I teach a course at TCU that focuses on whiskey in general."

Dr. Ed Simonek chairs the chemistry and biochemistry departments at TCU. Since a science course is required to graduate, some students take his course in whiskey.

"Historically the course has been very popular. It started at a modest number and then went to a very large class of 50 to 60 students. Now I've retreated back down and typically I have about a dozen students. That way we can sit around a conference table and have thoughtful discussions. It's also the right number of people to squeeze into a van to go visit local distilleries." The word whiskey comes from a Gaelic word meaning the water of life.

"Whiskey clearly is popular and captures a lot of big ideas in science and it's a great lens to look at history. It's also something that brings us all together." Just about every country has a whiskey.

"Antarctica has to my knowledge no distillery yet." Texas is becoming a whiskey making state.

"Texas is rich in distilleries. It's due to the momentum of the craft beer movement, the idea that whiskey is gaining in popularity and changes in legislation to make the permitting and cost associated with starting a distillery much more reasonable. We've got some of the best whiskeys in the country if not the world."

The course spends a lot of time on prohibition during which time in the 1920s and 30s the Walgreen chain of drug stores grew from 20 stores to more than 400 because it sold whiskey for medicinal purposes.

"The prohibition amendment said you can't sell it, you can't manufacture it, you can't transport it, you can't import or export it but drinking it is completely legal. The rule of the law was the Volstead Act that gave specific exceptions. One was for scientific use, one was for medicinal use and one was for sacramental use. The number of clergy also blossomed in that period as well."

One of the reasons Roosevelt won the presidential election in 1933 was that he vowed to end prohibition. Dr. Simonek says prohibition was the foundation for the women's rights movement.

"It allowed women to do something that was completely unreasonable. That's to get out of the house and pray in front of saloons."

Whiskey is the only alcohol he covers in his course. "Maybe when we're done exploring that we'll move to tequila. That seems to be pretty popular as well."



**Tumbleweed Smith**

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# Obits



## WEST OAKS FUNERAL HOME

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### **Christine McCorkle**

A family graveside service for Christine McCorkle was held at City Cemetery, Sunday, July 10, 2022.

She was born September 18, 1924, in Brashear, to Inez Stewart and Dan Dupree Holder, and died July 9, 2022. The family moved to Sulphur Springs in 1932.

She graduated in 1941 from Sulphur Springs High School, then, from 1941 to 1943 attended Baylor University, where she was a member of Delta Alpha Pi, later affiliated with Kappa Alpha Theta. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Texas Christian University in June 1945.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church and past member of Junior and Senior Waverly Clubs.

She is survived by her daughters, Shannon McCorkle, and Amy McCorkle Smith, of Sulphur Springs; her grandson, Jordan Smith; and her great-grandchildren, Weber Smith and Maisie Laine Smith of Heath, Texas.

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.



### **Ed Thornton Jr.**

Visitation for Ed Thornton Jr., age 76, of Sulphur Springs, Texas, will be held from 6 to 8 pm. Friday, July 22, 2022, at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel. A private family inurnment will be held at Sulphur Springs City Cemetery at a later date. Mr. Thornton passed away on Friday, July 8, at his home.

Ed was born on December 4, 1945, in Plainview, Texas to Ed Sr and Leota (Joplin) Thornton. Ed married Karen George on June 15, 1968, in Plainview, Texas. He worked in road construction and raised his family in Plainview. In 1991, he and Karen moved to Sulphur Springs Texas, and with his son in 1992, started Thornton Contractors. In 2010, he retired and enjoyed traveling with his wife and "dog", building birdhouses and spending time with his grandchildren. He was later known as the "Sheriff of Pampa Street," by all his neighbors.

He is survived by his wife, Karen; daughters, Tammy McWhorter (Eddie) of Hohenwald, TN (Eddie), and Buffie Michelle Yates (Mack) of Plainview, Texas; son, Jody Thornton (Jill) of Sulphur Springs, Texas; grandchildren, Marcus Ryan Helton, Devon

Martinez (Kaley), Braxton Martinez,

Jarrett Thornton (Hanna), Debra Thornton, Landon Thornton; nine great-grandchildren; brother, Travis Thornton (Amy) of Plainview, Texas; sister, Linda Morris (Jack) of Plainview, Texas; in-laws, Wayne Newton (Jean), Donnie George (Rae), Linda George and Charlene George; and numerous nieces and nephews. Ed was preceded in death by his parents and one brother-in-law, Michael George.

Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. The online register can be signed at [www.murrayorwosky.com](http://www.murrayorwosky.com)



### **Wyvonne Ford**

Beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and outstanding woman of God, Wyvonne Ford passed away June 29, 2022, in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Wyvonne was born November 26, 1938, in Sulphur Springs, the only daughter of Lillian Irene Jones Harrison and Benjamin F. Harrison.

Wyvonne excelled in academics, athletics and the arts, graduating 3rd in her class from Douglas High School in Sulphur Springs, where she played basketball and the clarinet in the school band. After high school, Wyvonne attended Paul Quinn College in Waco, Texas, leaving before graduation to marry her high school sweetheart, Eldon Ford, on December 23, 1956. Shortly after their marriage, Wyvonne and Eldon moved to Odessa, Texas, where they had two children, Tony and Renee. Her daughter Renee preceded her in death. She and her family were faithful members of St. James Baptist Church in Odessa, where Wyvonne served on the usher board.

Professionally, she was the Area Director for Planned Parenthood and also very active in the city's civic and social life. Organizations where she served as an officer and member included The Castanettes, the City Federation of Colored Women's Club, Stokes Parker District of Colored Women's Clubs and the Texas Association of Colored Women's Clubs. In 1980, she was honored by the City of

Odessa for her many contributions.

In 1980, Wyvonne and Eldon moved from Odessa back to their hometown, Sulphur Springs. They joined Morning Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, where Wyvonne continued her tradition of service as an usher, assistant Sunday School teacher, as well as a member of the Seasoned Saints and the Mission department. Wyvonne was the manager of the JC Penney catalog store for many years. After retirement, she kept busy working for White's and West Oaks Funeral Homes, using her eye for decoration and personal touch to support and comfort families. She was also a substitute teacher for Como-Pickton Independent School District.

She is survived by Eldon Ford, her husband of 65 years; her brother, Paul Harrison (Delores) of Dallas Texas; half-sister, Bobbie Reese of Sulphur Springs, Texas; son, Tony Ford (Pamela) of Chicago; son-in-law, Darrell Shepard Sr. of Grand Prairie, Texas; grandchildren, Takeyha Stewart (Marlon) of Grand Prairie, Texas, Darrell Shepard Jr. (Danya) of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Michael Ford (Sarah) of Chicago, Christina Ford of Chicago, David Ford (Shonnie) of Chicago and Olivia Ford-Parr (Christopher) of Reston, Virginia; great-grandchildren, Drake and Tatum Shepard, Logan and Kingston Ford, Paisley Stewart and Aubrey Parr; and a host of family and friends.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 9, 2022, at Morning Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. Interment followed at North Caney Cemetery. Visitation was held from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, July 8, 2022, at West Oaks Funeral Home.

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. [www.westoaksfuneralhome.com](http://www.westoaksfuneralhome.com)

# Tips for Preventing Heat-Related Illness

**Wear Appropriate Clothing:** Choose lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.

**Stay Cool Indoors:** Stay in an air-conditioned place as much as possible. If your home does not have air conditioning, go to the shopping mall or public library—even a few hours spent in air conditioning can help your body stay cooler when you go back into the heat. Call your local health department to see if there are any heat-relief shelters in your area.

**Keep in mind:** Electric fans may provide comfort, but when the temperature is in the high 90s, they will not prevent heat-related illness. Taking a cool shower or bath or moving to an air-conditioned place is a much better way to cool off. Use your stove and oven less to maintain a cooler temperature in your home.

**Schedule Outdoor Activities Carefully:** Try to limit your outdoor activity to when it's coolest, like morning and evening hours. Rest often in shady areas so that your body has a chance to recover.

**Pace Yourself:** Cut down on exercise during the heat. If you're not accustomed to working or exercising in a hot environment, start slowly and pick up the pace gradually. If exertion in the heat makes your heart pound and leaves you gasping for breath, STOP all activity. Get into a cool area or into the shade, and rest, especially if you become lightheaded, confused, weak, or faint.

**Wear Sunscreen:** Sunburn affects your body's ability to cool down and can make you dehydrated. If you must go outdoors, protect yourself from the sun by wearing

Stay Cool



a wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses, and by putting on sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher 30 minutes prior to going out. Continue to reapply it according to the package directions.

**Tip:** Look for sunscreens that say "broad spectrum" or "UVA/UVB protection" on their labels—these products work best.

**Do Not Leave Children in Cars:** Cars can quickly heat up to dangerous temperatures, even with a window cracked open. While anyone left in a parked car is at risk, children are especially at risk of getting a heat stroke or dying. When traveling with children, remember to do the following:

Never leave infants, children or pets in a parked car, even if the windows are cracked open.

To remind yourself that a child is in the car, keep a stuffed animal in the car seat. When the child is buckled in, place the stuffed animal in the front with the driver.

When leaving your car, check to be sure everyone is out of the car. Do not overlook any children who have fallen asleep in the car.

**Avoid Hot and Heavy Meals:** They add heat to your body!

**Stay Hydrated**

Stay Hydrated



**Drink Plenty of Fluids:** Drink more fluids, regardless of how active you are. Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink.

**Warning:** If your doctor limits the amount you drink or has you on water pills, ask how much you should drink while the weather is hot.

Stay away from very sugary or alcoholic drinks—these actually cause you to lose more body fluid. Also avoid very cold drinks, because they can cause stomach cramps.

**Replace Salt and Minerals:** Heavy sweating removes salt and minerals from the body that need to be replaced. A sports drink can replace the salt and minerals you lose in sweat.

If you are on a low-salt diet, have diabetes, high blood pressure, or other chronic conditions, talk with your doctor before drinking a sports beverage or taking salt tablets.

**Keep Your Pets Hydrated:** Provide plenty of fresh water for your pets, and leave the water in a shady area.

**Check for Updates:** Check your local news for extreme heat alerts and safety tips and to learn about any cooling shelters in your area.

**Know the Signs:** Learn the signs and symptoms of heat-related illnesses and how to treat them.

**Use a Buddy System:** When working in the heat, monitor the condition of your co-workers and have someone do the same for you. Heat-induced illness can cause a person to become con-

Stay Informed



fused or lose consciousness. If you are 65 years of age or older, have a friend or relative call to check on you twice a day during a heat wave. If you know someone in this age group, check on them at least twice a day.

**Monitor Those at High Risk:** Although anyone at any time can suffer from heat-related illness, some people are at greater risk than others:

- Infants and young children
- People 65 years of age or older
- People who are overweight
- People who overexert during work or exercise
- People who are physically ill, especially with heart disease or high blood pressure, or who take certain medications, such as for depression, insomnia, or poor circulation

Visit adults at risk at least twice a day and closely watch them for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Infants and young children, of course, need much more frequent watching.



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