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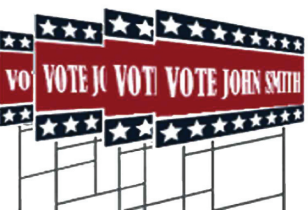
VOL. 24 ISSUE 1218, September 27, 2023

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KELLY'S COLLECTION OF MARBLES

Tumbleweed Smith

Kelly Draper of Llano is a retired professor of puppetry at Lamar University in Beaumont. He performed with his puppets at symphony orchestra concerts all over the country, illustrating the music to children. He did a puppet show several years at Dickens on the Strand in Galveston. Now he collects marbles.



Tumbleweed Smith "They're like little works of art," says Kelly.

"And they're all different."

He knows about marbles.

"There are two types of marbles: handmade and machine made. Machine made marbles were made after world war two. Most of the handmade marbles were made before that time and came to the United States by the doughboys from World War One. Marbles made by machine are just as collectible as those made by hand. There are people now who make handmade marbles so they're like the new contemporary things to invest in. Some go for thousands of dollars. I don't get those. Handmade are the more expensive ones."

He says marbles have been made from stone, clay, glass and steel, even paper mache. They've been around for a long time. "They've even found them in the pyramids. The things that make marbles expensive are the colors, the design and the clarity, kind of like what you look for in jewelry. Some are really shiny. And those are the ones you really look for."

Kelly explains the game of marbles:

"There are several different games. Perhaps this one is the most well known. You put a group of marbles in the center of a circle and you have a larger marble called a shooter or taw and you try to hit the marbles out of the circle. There is a national marbles competition that draws entrants from all over the world."

Some players carry their marbles in little bags. Kelly says even the bags are collectible and some people pay more attention to the bags than the marbles. Sometimes he goes to a gathering of the Texas Marble Collectors Association.

"They have two shows a year in April and October. It's a nice organization."

Kelly started collecting marbles when a friend of his started collecting and told Kelly he should check it out.

"I didn't realize what a hornet's nest he was opening up. Now I have like a wall in the house full of marbles. Sometimes I'll buy a tubful at a garage or estate sale and it's fun to see what's there. Put a black light to them and it's surprising what you see."

Kelly doesn't carry marbles in his pocket.

"You might put a scratch on them and that lowers the value."

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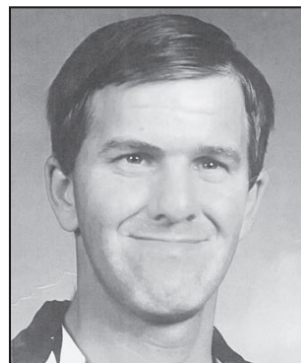
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Debra Jeannette McGary July 10, 1960 - September 21, 2023

Graveside services for Debra Jeannette McGary, age 63, of Monett, MO, will be conducted at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, September 28, 2023 at Richland Cemetery in the Brinker Community with Patsy McGary officiating. Pallbearers will be Kolten McGary, Brenden Clark, Koree Clark, Ty Giles, Max Williamson, Logan Williamson and Ethan McGary. Honorary pallbearers will be Sidney Boles, Aubrey Giles, Emma McGary, Addie McGary, Khloe McGary and Anthony McGary. Visitation will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at West Oaks Funeral Home. Debra passed away on Thursday, September 21, 2023. Debra was born on July 10, 1960 in Sulphur Springs the daughter of Floyd Joslin and Mary Lunsford Joslin. She married Donny McGary on March 31, 1978 in Sulphur Springs. Debra was a homemaker who loved to garden and take care of the farm animals. She loved playing cards with her partner "Louise". In addition to her husband Donny, she is survived by one son, Jacob McGary and wife Jessica, daughters, Stephanie Williamson and Tony Gonzalez, Brandy Fouse and husband Billy, Doni Giles and Kordell Hamilton all of Sulphur Springs, brothers, Malcolm Joslin and wife Melinda of Princeton,

Roger Joslin of Pickton, sisters, Joan Booth of Sulphur Springs and Roxanne Ennis of Pickton, 14 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren, honorary daughter, Misty Antill and husband Jeremy, along with numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents. Arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. www.westoaksfuneralhome.com



Bobby Lynn Jackson July 4, 1960 - September 21, 2023

A family led celebration of life for Bobby Lynn Jackson, age 63, of Sulphur Springs will be conducted at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, October 7, 2023 at Oaklawn Cemetery with Bro. Neal Cochran officiating. Bobby passed away Thursday, September 21, 2023 at Christus Mother Frances Hospital in Sulphur Springs. Bobby was born on July 4, 1960 in Sulphur Springs the son of James Sidney Jackson and Freda Mae Lee Jackson. Bobby was from a big family and was treasured by all of them. He is survived by seven brothers, James Jackson, Jerry Jackson and wife Mattie, William Jackson and wife Judy, Billy Jackson and wife Edith, Charles Jackson and wife Susie, Donald Jackson and wife Karen and Delbert Jackson and wife Mary, one sister, Mae Brantley and numerous nieces and nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Glenn Wayne Jackson and Johnny Jackson. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. www.westoaksfuneralhome.com



Sonja Kay Baker April 4, 1938 - September 16, 2023

A funeral service for Sonja Kay Hinton Baker, age 85, was conducted at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, September 23, 2023 at First Baptist Church of Yantis with Bro. Robert Kinsey officiating. Visitation was from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friday, September 22, 2023 at West Oaks Funeral Home. Interment followed the service with Layne Nelson, Nolen Baker, Kendall Glenn, Logan Glenn, Justin Glenn and Don Glenn serving as pallbearers.

Sonja was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and friend. She passed away into our Lord's kingdom on Saturday, September 16, 2023 at Advanced Rehabilitation in Bowie, Texas.

Sonja was born on April 4, 1938 in Arbala, Texas, the daughter of William McKinley Hinton and Reber May Nolen Hinton. She married Dayton Wayne Baker on June 3, 1956 and they had six children, Dayton Wayne Baker, Jr., Lori Layne Fields and husband Mike, William Brent Baker and wife Deana, Robin Kendall Baker and Robyn, Kay Kathleen Glenn and husband Justin and Dawnne Leigh Malone and husband Mike. Sonja has eleven grandchildren, Lindsay Fraser and husband Casey, Layne Nelson and wife Jaclyn, Nolen Baker, Jordan Dews and husband Adam, Sydney Bricker and husband Jared, Brittany Lohse and husband Kyle, Madison Solomon, Kendall Glenn and wife Jena, Logan Glenn, Kennedy Solomon and Faith Glenn, great-grandchildren, Brendan Dudley, Casyn and Bransyn Fraser, Reese Nelson, Aubrey Dews, Bentley, Bellamy and Boston Lohse. Sonja has two brothers, Ken Nolen Hinton and Terry Layne Hinton. She was preceded in death by her parents, son, Dayton Wayne, husband, brother Ken and Neal Norton.

Sonja leaves behind a tremendous legacy of beauty, grace, strength, love, humor, goodness and faith. She touched many lives, raised a strong family and had many wonderful friends through her years of employment in Houston, San Antonio and Sulphur Springs. As a receptionist, she valued relationships with friends and loved ones sending cards and remembering birthdays. She loved to sing and crochet and enjoyed watching birds and cats outside. She is now rejoicing in heaven with her loved ones. May she rest in peace in our Lord's loving arms.

We love you mom!!

Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. www.westoaksfuneralhome.com

Obits *continued*



Micheal Jay "Mike" Stubblefield

Michael Jay "Mike" Stubblefield, age 70, of Sulphur Bluff, Texas passed away Tuesday, August 22, 2023, in Tyler, Texas surrounded by his family.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, September 23, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. at Lake Chapel House of Prayer with Rev. Gerald Hood officiating.

Mike was born July 20, 1953 to Jimmie Charles "JC" and Mattie Mae "Watts" Stubblefield in Sulphur Springs, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother; Stephen Lee Stubblefield, a sister; Mona Stubblefield Hotard.

Mike loved hunting and fishing and had worked in Florida at one time at Disney World. He was a welder by trade and a union pile driver. He worked for several different ones as a carpenter and worked on his own house including the electrical and plumbing. He worked with his brother, Charlie hanging gutters. He attended college at East Texas State for a couple of years.

Mike is survived by his brother; Charlie Stubblefield; aunt, Winnie Black an uncle, Jack Watts; nephew, Jason Stubblefield; cousins, Michelle (Buster) Bennefield, Cliff (Jenny) Watts, Richard (Sheila) Hankins, and Cindy Black, numerous extended family and friends.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Kidney Foundation



Alfonzo Mendez June 6, 1929 - September 18, 2023

Visitation for Alfonzo Mendez, age 94 of Sulphur Springs, Texas was held from 6:00-8:00 P.M. on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Mr. Mendez passed away on September 18, 2023 at Sunny Springs Nursing Home.

Alfonzo was born on June 6, 1929 in Ecuador to Rosa Miranda. He married MaLu Nunez in 2008 in Dallas, Texas. Alfonzo worked for a telephone company and as a crossing guard. He loved watching over and protecting the children and their families. Alfonzo also loved to read. He was a man of the Catholic faith.

He is survived by his wife, MaLu; daughters, Zandra Xiomara Johnson and her three children, Sabina, Spencer and Johnny, and one great grandchild. Piedad Verdiguél and husband, Michael and their two children, Michelle and Eric and nine great grandchildren; son, Luis Mendez and his two children; step-daughter, Marga Tubb and husband, Steve and their two children, Nizia Horton and Kai Tubb.

Alfonzo was preceded in death by his mother



Lawrence H Fathke Jr. February 2, 1943 — September 17, 2023

Funeral service for Lawrence Henry Fathke Jr. (L. H. (aka Jr.)), age 80 of Yantis, Texas will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Friday, October 6, 2023 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home with Bro. Perry Crisp officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Jr. passed away peacefully on September 17, 2023 at his residence with his loving wife by his side.

Jr. was born on February 2, 1943 in Temple, Texas and was raised in McGregor, Texas by his parents Lawrence Henry Fathke Sr. and Alvis (Honeycutt) Fathke. He graduated from McGregor High school in 1961 and proudly served in the United States Air Force. He married Patricia (Greenhill) Arledge on September 23, 1999 in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. He retired from E-Systems in Greenville, Texas, after 35 years where he was in facilities management specializing in HVAC and Refrigeration systems. Jr. was an all-around athlete in high school excelling at baseball, basketball, football, where he was a 1000-yard rusher, and track and field, where he set regional records. Jr. was an avid fisherman, competing in tournaments

as a member of the Greenville Bassmaster's. He loved all aspects of hunting especially dove and pheasant, where he could spend time with his family in South Dakota. After retirement, if you did not find him on the lake, he was golfing with friends. Jr. was a member of Lake Fork Baptist Church. He loved the Lord and had a servant's heart.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia; son, Robert Dwayne Fathke and wife, Amanda; step-daughter, Carla Poynor and husband, Robert; step-son, Scott Arledge; grandchildren, Summer Fathke, Dakota Fathke, Sierra Fathke, Drew Moody, John Michael Moody, Thomas Moody, Jayden Arledge, and Jaycie Arledge; great grandchild, Kayden Moody, nephews David Fathke and Michael Fathke, as well as numerous cousins in Texas and South Dakota.

Jr. was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Billy John Fathke.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Alzheimer's Association.

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