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## HUNTING FOR THE TEXAS SLAM

### **Tumbleweed Smith**



During hunting season in Texas, hunters compete for the Texas Slam Award that goes to those who bag some trophy native deer and antelope. Hunting is good around Memphis, Texas, located on the southeastern edge of the panhadle.

"I've had customers from all fifty states and about seven different countries," says Oren Molloy, who operates a hunting business just outside Memphis. "I've got repeat customers; some have been with

Tumbleweed Smith

me twenty-six years and never missed a year.

Some come three times a year. It's funny because they started out as customers and ended up being really good friends that I get to see at least once a year."

Oren turned an old general store north of the Red River into a hunting lodge. The sign on the building reads the Plaska General Store. Plaska was a community that reached its population peak in 1948 when a few dozen people lived there. The only thing there now is the hunting lodge. The original name of the settlement when it was founded around 1905 was Lodge. It had a post office by that name. "People come here for a three or four night stay. We take care of everything; it's just a turnkey deal. We do meals, lodging, guide, game care, cold storage, transportation on the ranch, the whole bit."

I asked how Oren decided to start a hunting business.

"I was sitting on a tractor trying to figure out how I could get off of it. I love to hunt and never did get to much because I was always busy farming. I thought if I could figure out a way to make hunting a living I could both hunt and have a fun business. I went to a hunting show in Dallas-Fort Worth and had a booth there, not having any idea what I was dong. I was just talking to people about hunting and ended up booking my first season. This was before I turned this old general store building into a lodge. I had down payments and deposits on hunts so I came back and got busy. From June to November we got it finished."

His place is twelve miles from Memphis in a rural area.

"Some people had never seen the milky way before. I see it all the time. They kind of like the quiet, you know. People get out and walk or sit on the porch. Some people just want to hunt all day. If that's what they want to do we'll accommodate them. They hunt for white tail, mule deer, varmints, hogs, turkey, quail, and dove. In the last fifteen years we've added exotics including aoudad, oryx, scimitar, elk and seven different species of rams."

Hunters like the rustic atmosphere.

"It's pretty much like it was except the store's storage area is now bedrooms, the old post office is now a kitchen. This is the original old wooden floor that's got paint stains and scotches on it. Rather than sand them off I left them. The old butcher counter is still in place. You can see where the old potbellied stove was and where people crushed out their cigarettes sitting around the stove."



### Miscellaneous

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	<b>WORD SEARCH</b> (Thankful) Find and circle all of the people and things to be thankful for. The remaining letters spell a secret message.																				
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Answers On Page 3



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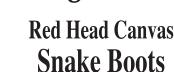
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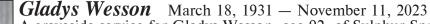


THE MILLENNIUM SHOPPER November 15, 2023









A graveside service for Gladys Wesson, age 92, of Sulphur Springs, was held on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. at Brashear Cemetery with Bro. Damon Wilks officiating. Pallbearers were Jerry Petty, Troy Seitz, Damon Wilks, Colton Wilks, Rodney Caudle, Nick Mead, Kevin Swain and Jason Goodwin. Mrs. Wesson passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 11, 2023 at Sunny Springs Nursing Home in Sulphur Springs.

Gladys was born on March 18, 1931, in Childress, TX to Raymond and Katie Owen Duffer. After high school, she worked at the house, lovingly taking care of her family. Gladys attended League St. Church of Christ, where she was a devout follower. She enjoyed being able to crotchet for her family, crossword puzzles and reading, especially her bible. Gladys is survived by her daughters, Judy Lawrence, Janet Mabry; ten grandchildren; fifteen great grandchildren; six great great grandchildren; daughters-in-law, Carole Wilks and Melanie Wilks.

She is preceded in death by her parents. Raymond and Katie Duffer; husband, Buford Wesson; sons, Kenneth Wayne Wilks, Jackie Ray Wilks, Ricky Dean Wilks; brothers, James Duffer, Delbert Duffer, R.L. Duffer; sisters, Marie Chapman, Glenna Duffer and Mary Wall.



### Gordon Lavon Brodie May 13, 1941 - November 7, 2023

Memorial services for Gordon LaVon Brodie, age 82, of Sulphur Springs will be conducted at 3:00 p.m., Sunday, November 19, 2023 at Cross Spur Cowboy Church with Bro. Mike Eason officiating. There will be no formal visitation. Honorary pallbearers will be Walt Mannon, Frank Prouck, Terry Jones, Ronnie Doss, Michael Hrabal and Ronald "Squirrel" Wills.

Gordon passed away on Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at Christus Mother Frances Hospital in Sulphur Springs. Gordon was born on May 13, 1941 in Huttig, AR., the son of Gordon A. Brodie and Opal McCary Brodie. He married Nancy Walker on October 17, 1975 in Kilgore, TX and she survives. Gordon proudly served in the United States Air Force. He worked for Tyler Pipe in regional sales until his retirement. He was an avid golfer and was a pro rodeo enthusiast. Gordon loved the Lord, he was a loyal servant and an Elder of Cross Spur Cowboy Church for 14 years. He was also a member of the Shriners Club of Tyler.

In addition to his wife Nancy, he is survived by sons, Lee Layman and wife Debbie and Randy Brodie, sister Mary Morris, grandchildren, Maranda and Skylar, nieces and nephews, Shelly Anderson, Melissa Richards, Joe, Jones, Ken Carla Largen and Chin Williams

Jones, Mark Melton, Carla Hopson and Chip Williams. He was preceded in death by his parents, daughter, Ginger Brodie, sisters, Charlene Meadows and Edna McKenzie.



### *L.D. "Dave" Adams, Jr.* October 14, 1937 - November 6, 2023

L. D. (Dave) Adams, Jr., was born on October 14, 1937, in Dallas, Texas. He passed away at his home in Sulphur Springs on November 6, 2023, at the age of 86. Dave attended Crozier Tech High School in Dallas until he left to join the Army. He served from 1954 until 1957, at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Fort Lewis in Tacoma, Washington, and in Fairbanks, Alaska. After his discharge, he returned home to Texas, where he lived until his death.

As a child, Dave learned fishing and hunting skills with his great-grandfather Daddy Buck. The love of fishing stayed with him throughout his life and was shared with his kids. Dave also loved boating, from his dad's wooden ski boat, to runabouts, and even a houseboat that he had for many years.

Dave was a salesman for Coats & Clark in San Angelo, managed Western Auto stores in El Paso and Ft. Worth, and sold American National Insurance after returning to Dallas. He later worked for Montgomery Ward at Big Town Mall, then opened his own fence company in Garland.

In the early 80s, Dave bought land in Pickton and built a house there on his farm where he raised cows. He then got the opportunity to buy A-1 Custom Trailers near Sulphur Springs, which he owned and operated for over 30 years. He enjoyed working with his employees—who were like family—and all his dealers and customers.

Dave was preceded in death by his parents, L. D. Adams, Sr., and Lillian Adams.

He is survived by his wife Ann Adams of Sulphur Springs, brother H. Richard Adams of College Station, sister Karen Adams of Buffalo. Children Sheryl Millar and husband Ronnie of Cumby, Ken Adams and wife Teresa of Sulphur Springs, Lori Gatlin and husband Mark Werbner of Dallas, Chris Bouland of Wills Point, Keith Bouland and wife Melanie of Fate, and Kevin Bouland and wife Renee of Pickton. Nine grandchildren, Pamela Shigeoka and husband Iain of Corvallis, Oregon, Rachael Adams of Sulphur Springs, Melissa Walters and husband Steve of Sulphur Springs, Hannah Hernandez and husband Eli of Emory, Evan Gatlin and wife Ashlyn of Frisco, John Brisendine, Kevin Lynn Bouland, Emily Bouland, and Loren Sixx of Wills Point.

Dave had thirteen great-grandchildren, four nieces, one nephew, and many cousins and friends.

A funeral services was held on Saturday, November 11, at 2:30pm. at West Oaks Funeral Home in Sulphur Springs. Visitation was Friday evening, November 10, from 6 until 8pm. at West Oaks.





### *Chapin Ross* November 11, 1933 – November 12, 2023

Continued . . . .

The family of Chapin and Alice Ross, of Sulphur Springs will receive guests on Friday, November 17, 2023, at 3 P.M. at Gafford's Chapel following the private graveside service for their loved ones. Alice passed away on November 2 and Chapin followed her ten days later on November 12. They were 90 years old and had been together almost 70 years.

Chapin was born on September 11, 1933 to Henderson Jr. and Una Chapin Ross in Ridgeway, Texas. That same year on July 13, Alice Ann Duncan was born in Longview, Texas to Thomas Jefferson and Helen Horne Duncan. Chapin and Alice were married in 1955 in Longview, Texas. Alice obtained her BSEd in Biology from Abilene Christian University and Chapin also attended Abilene where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Speech, and a Master's Degree in Bible. He then went on to receive his Doctorate from the University of Southern California. Chapin taught Speech and Bible at ACU. He then moved to become a professor of Communications at the University of TX, Arlington where he also was the head of the Speech and Communication Department, and founded and built labs for the Radio/Television division. Alice supported Chapin in his career and raised two sons. She also had a passion for healing and helping people and so learned graphology, herbology, and iridology. Alice

also co-authored and published four children's books, and two Western novels.

When Chapin retired from teaching, they ran the family ranch in Sulphur Springs for twenty-five years. They both loved nature, animals, and gardening.

They were long standing members of League Street Church of Christ, where they served on committees, and were both known for teaching deep and practical Bible classes.

Chapin and Alice are survived by their sons, Kent Chapin Ross, Britt Duncan Ross and wife Patty; grandchildren Lauren Collins, Michael Ross, and Sarah Clarkson; Chapin's sister Rosemary Wheat; and Alice's brother, David Duncan.

The Ross's were preceded in death by their parents; Chapin's siblings, H.G. Ross, Thelma Stewart, Chloe Spencer and Nelson Ross; and Alice's brother, Jeff Duncan.



### **Nathan Moss** August 14, 1984 — November 10, 2023

James Nathan Moss was born on August 14, 1984, in Sulphur Springs, TX to Larry and Helen Moss. Nathan graduated from Como-Pickton High School in 2005. He loved all superheroes, enjoyed video games, musicals, and had an extensive collection of movies and CDs.

He is survived by his parents; sisters, Amy Scaff and husband, Jay, Megan Moss and Cecil Dale, Amanda Isbell; brother, Mason Moss and wife, Ashley; grandmother, Joyce Odom. He was a proud uncle to Lanie, Riley, Raegan, Piper, Everleigh, and Aria.

Nathan was preceded in death by his grandmother, Beth Beadles; grandfathers, Sonny Moss and Donald Odom and the one most excited to see him in Heaven, Sarah "Pepa" Moss.

Memorials can be made to Hopkins County Blue Santa in care of Hopkins County Sheriff's Office, 208 Rosemont, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482.



### *David Rodriguez* November 28, 2005 – November 8, 2023

A funeral service for David Rodriguez, age 18, of Sulphur Springs, was held at 2:00 P.M on Saturday, November 11, 2023, at The Way Bible Church. Interment followed at Restlawn Memorial Park Cemetery. Visitation was held an hour before service at The Way Bible Church. David passed away on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, in Sulphur Springs.

David Michael was born to Sergio Pablo Rodriguez and Jennifer Ann (Clem) Rodriguez on October 28, 2005 in Sulphur Springs. David attended Sulphur Springs High School and was a member of The Way Bible Church. David loved to spend time in nature, he loved animals, playing video games but most of all he loved his family.

He is survived by his parents, Jennifer Rodriguez, Sergio and Mireya Rodriguez; siblings, Emily Rodriguez, Rocky Rodriguez, Jaxon Alvarez, Valentina Negrete, Luka Aguayo, Mila Aguayo and Enzl Aguayo; grandparents, Mike Clem, Martha Padilla and David Padilla.

David was preceded in death by his grandmother, Debra Clem.

THE MILLENNIUM SHOPPER November 15, 2023

