

GEORGE HALLMARK'S LIFE IN ART



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Tumbleweed Smith

George Hallmark of Meridian is one of the most accomplished and awarded artists in America. "As an artist you first try to do something that you like and that you hope appeals to people," he says. "I think a painting should be something that stops you, something you'd like to step into. You just make every painting the best you can "

Tumbleweed Smith best you can."

George grew up in Joshua, a small town near Cleburne. "We had no art in school. I was the class artist. Every class had one. There were only fifty of us that graduated together. For busy work, teachers let me draw. By the time I got into Junior High, the teachers would give me their tests. One side of the paper had questions; the other side had drawings. I did maps, parts of a flower or skeleton or whatever was going to be on the test. Well I'm no fool I looked at the questions, so I knew pretty well what the questions were going to be when the test was handed out the next day."

His first formal training as an artist was when he enrolled in Tarrant County College. He took design courses that led him to do some architectural work. Even though he was poorly prepared, an architect asked George if he could do some delineation. "And of course the delineation shows what a building will look like when it's finished. I asked the architect if I could take this home and work on it over the weekend. He said fine. So I went straight to the TCU bookstore and bought two books on architectural delineation, worked on it all weekend and taught myself how to do it. I took it to him and he told me that was exactly what he was looking for."

George got a job with an architectural firm but did some art on the side. A collector saw some of George's work and took him to a gallery in Dallas. After about an hour looking at the samples George prepared, the owner said he would like to handle George's work. "I swallowed the hook. From then on that was what I wanted to do be: a fulltime artist. "I asked around and found out who was the best oil painter and teacher. It was a man at a University in Utah. I spent three weeks watching him paint. When I asked him what was the cost he told me just to do some good work. Later, he was a judge in some events where my work was in competition with other artists. We remained friends a long time and when he passed away I got to say a few words at his funeral."

George has always had encouragement in his quest to be an artist. A café owner in Cleburne knew George was a struggling artist and told him to just sign the check for his meals. The café owner never asked George to settle up. He has some of George's paintings. So do several n otable people.

George has spent a good amount of time in Mexico and that is reflected in his paintings. He is considering moving there and perhaps opening a shop in a hotel to sell his prints. His latest work is a painting of chili queens in San Antonio in the late 1800s. He calls it The Queens Court and it's on display in San Antonio's Briscoe Museum.



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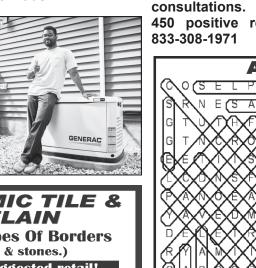


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James Murray "Jimmie" Dodd

Funeral Service for James Murray "Jimmie" Dodd, will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 22, 2024 at Murray Orwosky Funeral Home, Sulphur Springs, TX with Bro. C.R. Chapman officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Sterling Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Friday from 10:00-11:00 a.m. just prior to the service at Murray Orwosky Funeral Home. Serving as Pallbearers will be Joe Hooten, Caleb Leija, Randy Hopper, Brandon Hopper, Jerry Chapman, and Gene Mattison. Honorary Pallbearers will include Claude Chapman, Eugene Clark, and John Hoskins.

500 Hillcrest Dr., Sulphur Springs, Tx. 75482

James Murray "Jimmie" Dodd passed away Saturday evening, March 16, 2024 at Carriage House Manor Nursing Home in Sulphur Springs, TX. He was born in Hopkins County on March 23, 1932 the son of Oliver and Helen (Holmes) Dodd. He married Venera Ann (Hopper) Dodd in Dallas, TX on April 4, 1958. He was a Cabinet Maker/Carpenter and ran his own business Jimmie's Cabinets and Things. He was a member of the First Baptist Church.

Jimmie is survived by his sons, David Dodd and wife Dee Ann, Mike Dodd Leija and husband Larry; father-in-law, Claude Chapman; sisters, Pat Clark and husband Eugene, Wanda Hoskins and husband John; sister-in-law, Helen Dodd; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Venera Ann Dodd; brothers, Kenneth Dodd, Joe Dodd and wife Barbara; sister, Nell Hooten and husband Delbert.



Caitlin Baxley

Memorial Service for Caitlin Baxley, age 33, of Sulphur Springs, TX will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 22, 2024 at Murray Orwosky Funeral Home, Sulphur Springs, TX. Caitlin passed away on Sunday, March 17, 2024 in Tyler, TX. Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. The online register can be signed at www.murrayorwosky.com



Cindy Hill

A funeral Service for Cindy Hill, age 75, of Winnsboro, TX was held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 15, 2024 at Greenpond Baptist Church, Como, TX with Rev. Terry Bolton officiating. Interment followed at Como Cemetery. Visitation was held from 1:00-2:00 p.m. before the service. Serving as pallbearers were Bo Baxter, Logan Caddell, Brodie Ogle, Colton Falls, Mac Hankins, and Randy White.

Cynthia "Cindy" Lou Hill of Winnsboro, TX, went to her heavenly home while surrounded by her family on March 11, 2024 after a brief illness.

Cindy was born on September 30, 1948 in Sulphur Springs, TX to Vaughn and Nina Faye Garner Deaton. She married Harlan "Bunky" Hill on July 7, 1972 and raised their blended family in Como, TX. Cindy was a loving wife, mother, Granny, sister and friend to all who had the pleasure of knowing her. She was a member of the Greenpond Baptist Church.

Cindy is survived by her husband "Bunky", daughter Missy Caddell and her husband Alan, son Chris Baxter and his wife Julie, and daughter Nina Hankins, and husband Kevin. Grandchildren are Lyndsi White and husband Randy, Logan Caddell and wife Brandi, Bo Baxter and wife Breezy, Kadi Falls and husband Colton, Brodie Ogle and wife Brea, Alli Garcia and husband Cristian, and Mac Hankins. Great Grand-children include: Luke, Jude, Jake and Samantha White, Ky and Jaylee Caddell, Newt and Hyde Baxter, and Abril and Aleyda Garcia, sister, Sarah Cook and husband Jerry, and her brother Kenneth Deaton and wife Brenda.

Cindy was preceded in death by her parents Vaughn and Nina Faye Garner Deaton, and sister Dorothy Chester.

Randy Wayne Potter

Randy Wayne Potter, age 74 of Brashear, TX, passed away peacefully on March 16th 2024 at his home in Brashear. Randy was born in Dallas Co. Tx September 15th, 1949 to Charlie and Billie Jo Potter (Paulk). Randy was a proud Army Veteran. He was also a Teamster of 32 years before he retired. Randy is survived by his wife of 53 years, Jo Ann Potter; son Brian and his wife, Tina Potter; his grandchildren, Spencer and Sicily Potter of Sulphur Springs; his brother Rick Potter of Arlington, TX, nieces and nephews, and many special friends including Chann Wilmon and the Whataburger Coffee Club.

Randy is proceeded in death by his parents Billie and Charlie Potter, brother Michael Potter, sister Sherry Potter and infant daughter Deidra Ann Potter.

Graveside service for Randy Potter, age 74, of Brashear, TX will be held on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 2:00 P.M. at Brashear Cemetery with Bro. David Burns officiating. A visitation will be held from 12:30 P.M. to 1:30 P.M. at Tapp Funeral Home, prior to the service. Mr. Potter passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at his home.



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Eclipses

When the Earth, Moon and Sun line up in space, we can see an eclipse. NASA studies eclipses from the ground, in our atmosphere, and in space, influencing solar, planetary and Earth science.

Solar Eclipse-Sulphur Springs' Spectacular 2024 Event

By Amanda Tredway

What Causes a Solar Eclipse?

Solar eclipses are the result of precise astronomical alignment. The moon orbits the Earth in an elliptical path, while the Earth orbits the sun. For a solar eclipse to occur, the sun, moon and Earth must be in perfect alignment during the new moon phase. This means that the moon is positioned between the Earth and the sun, blocking the sun's rays from reaching certain regions on Earth.

The Path of Totality

During the total solar eclipse, there is a specific region on Earth where the moon's shadow, known as the "path of totality", is fully cast upon the Earth's surface. Within this narrow band, observers experience the astonishing sight of a complete blackout of the sun. For those residing in Sulphur Springs, the anticipation for the 2024 solar eclipse is palpable, as the city falls within the path of totality for this upcoming event. Mark your calendars for April 8, 2024, as Sulphur Springs is gearing up for the celestial spectacle of a lifetime-the total solar eclipse of 2024. This extraordinary event will attract visitors from near and far, all eager to witness the moon's shadow engulfing the sun and plunging the city into an otherworldly darkness. Sulphur Springs, located in the beautiful state of Texas, has been preparing to welcome the influx of enthusiatics eclipse chasers and curious onlookers. Local authorities, businesses and community organizations have been collaborating to ensure a safe and enjoybale experience for everyone. The 2024 solar eclipse promises to be a transformative experience for Sulphur Springs, Texas-a celestial event that will bring together comminities and visitors alike in awe and wonder. As the moon gracefully slices across the sun's radiant face the city will be immersed in a surreal moment of darkness and light, reminding us of the vastness of the universe and the beauty of our cosmos. So, mark your calendars, prepare your eclipse glasses and get ready to witness a rare astronomical spectacle that will leave an indelible mark on your memory. It's an event not to be missed and one that will stay with your forever. Happy eclipse chasing!

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