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Tumbleweed Smith

Geoff Holladay lives on a farm near Lamesa. He has always been interested in engines.

“Whether it’s airplanes or cars or tractors or trucks, or anything like that, it’s just been part of my life forever. I got my first 4-wheeler when I was three.”

Tumbleweed Smith

Geoff found out he had a knack for writing in his junior year in high school when the teacher had the class write research papers. He chose the history of the Chevrolet Corvette.

“His dad traded a horse drawn wagon for a double barrel shotgun and that wagon was one of the first vehicles they had. We’ve been cotton farmers ever since.”

“She was reluctant to write about that, but I told her if she would let me write about it, it would be one of the best papers she ever got. Sure enough, I ended up getting the second or third highest score in the class. After she graded it, she handed it back to me and said, ‘I want you to know, you already have a fine art of BS.’”

One day he saw his 11-year-old daughter and his 10-year-old son watching television and thought the program material was kind of sappy.

“I thought it was an insult to my kid’s intelligence and I could do better than that. So I decided I wanted to write some books about cars ‘cause that’s what I knew best.”

In recent years, Geoff has written three children’s books, aimed at young readers.

“These stories are all special to me because there’s a lot of my real life tied up in them.”

He likes to write good stories with a message. Some mention mentoring.

“How older people take the younger people under their wing and let ‘em use their tools or whatever it is. It doesn’t have to be cars, any hobby. This is our tradition, how they get passed down from generation to generation and I realized how many people in my life had shown me how to do things and had gotten me to the point that I am now.”

He has a fourth book coming out soon. It was composed while driving his smart tractor. He has two novels in the works. Geoff has sold some of his books.

“I’ve given away more than I’ve sold, but yeah, I’ve sold a few. I like to go to car shows and carry some books with me. When I see kids, I just hand ‘em out. The books are all titled BUMPERS GARAGE, one, two & three. My website is bumpersgarage.com.”

Miscellaneous

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WORD SEARCH (4th of July)

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell an Abraham Lincoln quotation.

L	B	C	E	L	G	A	E	D	L	A	B	N	T	H	L	O	D	S
A	E	S	E	F	E	W	P	A	T	R	I	O	T	I	C	E	N	T
V	N	H	O	L	D	E	S	N	E	A	Y	G	B	I	C	O	H	R
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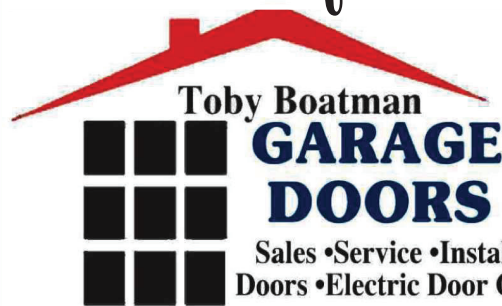
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Obits



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Sandra L. Martin

April 11, 1942 — June 23, 2024

Sandra L. Martin of Alba, Tx. Sandra was born April 11, 1942 and was daughter of Lee Middleton Fitzgerald and Audrey Mae Potts Fitzgerald. She married William R. Weatherford on March 17, 1962. They shared a loving marriage for 38 years until his passing. Later, she found love again and married R.V. Martin in May 2002. Sandra was a devoted member of Lake Fork Baptist Church. She served on several church committees and found great joy in worshipping the Lord. Sandra was a dedicated homemaker, wife, and mother for many years. In 1985, she began working at Sunbelt Savings Bank in Emory, Texas. She concluded her banking career in 2000 as a branch manager at Bank of America in McKinney, Texas.

Mrs. Martin is survived by two sons William R. Weatherford III, of Cleveland, OK and Robert C. Weatherford, of Greenville, TX. Two daughters Rebecca L. Morris, of Winnsboro, TX and Brandi A. Peel, of Reno, TX. Two brothers, Dennis Fitzgerald, Athens, TX and Dean Fitzgerald of Alpine, TX. Sandra was preceded in death by her two beloved sisters, Peggy Acosta and Linda Knight. Five grandchildren William R. Weatherford IV, Carli Jill Winckler, Cemi Jade Weatherford, Wesley Regan Morris and Amanda Kay Morris. Nine great grandchildren Rowan, Wesley, Lillian, Logan, Lincoln, Bradley, Jesse, Eden and Lucas.

A graveside service was held on July 2, 2024 at Greenview Cemetery at 10 a.m.

Barbara Hopper

Funeral service for Barbara Hopper, age 67, of Sulphur Springs will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 3, 2024 at Davis Street Baptist Church with Bro. Mark Thompson officiating. Interment will follow at Peerless Cemetery with Byran Scott, David James, Michael James, Jeremy Cunningham, Colton Wheeler, and John Hopper serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Mrs. Hopper passed away at Christus Mother Frances Hospital in Sulphur Springs on Saturday, June 29, 2024.

Barbara Ann Hopper was born on December 24, 1956 in Cooper, Texas to Avon and Opal (Bain) Scott. She married Donald Frank Hopper, Sr. in Sulphur Springs on March 16, 1973. Barbara was a member of the Davis Street Baptist Church.

Barbara is survived by her husband of 51 years, Donald Hopper, Sr.; daughters, Tammy Hopper, Kelly Deaton (Darrin), Karen Estrada (J.R.); son, Donald Hopper Jr. (Lora) all of Sulphur Springs; grandchildren, Hannah Stewart (Zach), Morgan Deaton, Madison Deaton, Carson Deaton, Kaden Evans, Makayla Evans, Isabella Chamness, Salem Estrada, Javin Estrada, Aniken Estrada, Hanna Estrada; great-grandchild, Braxton Stewart; and brother, Billy Gene Scott.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Avon and Opal Scott; and brother, Wayne Scott. Arrangements are under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. The online register can be signed at www.murrayorwosky.com



Roy Crawford

Roy Crawford passed away suddenly and unexpectedly in the late afternoon of June 28, 2024. He was 73 years old. Born November 10, 1950, in Marshall, Texas to Sam William Crawford and Mary "Louise" Crawford.

As a child, his family lived in many places and Roy attended over a dozen different schools. This lifestyle gave Roy the ability to make friends quickly and have the gift of conversation. After high school, Roy joined the Army and spent 10 years in service. He was stationed at Fort Hood Tx and continued his travels with many TDY stations. His favorite was Germany.

After leaving the Army, Roy met and soon married Hilda D. Pearce, on November 25, 1980. After eleven years of a loving, newlywed life, they were blessed with their son, Grady. Roy began one of his favorite times in life, a stay-at-home dad. His caring for others reached out to the entire neighborhood, and he became the "Neighborhood dad" during Grady's elementary years. This love of nurturing others was one of Roy's greatest assets. It was always present with his wife as well as caring for his mother, Louise, for the last twelve years of her life. This caring, giving man will be greatly missed by all that knew him.

Roy is preceded in death by his parents Sam Crawford and Louise Crawford.

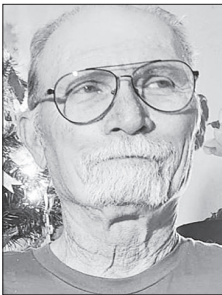
Roy is survived by his wife Hilda Pearce Crawford, Son Grady (Jessica) Crawford, Grandson Cayden Crawford, sister Kay (Jack) Foster-Cotner, many nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, great-great nieces and nephews and 1 great great-great nephew. In-laws and beloved friends.

Ann Harris

Funeral service for Ann Harris, age 73, of Shreveport, Louisiana will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 3, 2024 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home in Sulphur Springs, Texas with BJ Teer officiating. Interment will follow at Forest Academy Cemetery with Dylan Fory, Garrett Fory, Ry Fory, Laine Fory, Emily Fory, and Daniel Harris serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Mrs. Harris passed away at her home in Shreveport surrounded by loved ones on Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

Alice Ann Harris was born on September 5, 1950 in Sulphur Springs, Texas to Leroy and Lorene (Carpenter) Gullledge. She married James C. "Jimmy" Harris in Sulphur Springs, Texas on September 16, 1966. They were married for over 54 years until his passing in 2021. Ann loved her family more than anything. She enjoyed spending time with her family. She was a member of the Baptist Church.

Ann is survived by her son, Danny Harris; daughter, Susy Fory; grandchildren, Dylan Fory, Garrett Fory, Emily Fory, Ry Fory, Daniel Harris, Mack Pryor, Ginna McFeely, Jaxon Harris; great-grandchildren, Laine Fory, Jaxon Crowe, Blakelee Pryor, Alexi'o Fory; brother, Jimmy Gullledge; sisters, Jane Hooper (Hoyt), Sue Crawford (Leon), and Bobbie Lofland (Joe).



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Continued

Kelly Rena Joslin Thompson

Funeral Service for Kelly Rena Joslin Thompson age 54, will be at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 3, 2024 with Donnie Powers and Bo Potts officiating. Serving as pallbearers will be Brad Argenbright, Lee Green, Greg Anderson, Brian Dorner, Billy Cummings and Darell Crocker. There will be a visitation on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at West Oaks Funeral Home. Interment will follow the service at the Joslin Family Cemetery. Kelly passed away peacefully at her home on Monday July 1, 2024.

Kelly was born on August 13, 1969 to Robert and Judy Joslin in Paris, Texas. She married Billy Wayne Thompson. Kelly enjoyed spending time with her family and loved her grandchildren and niece with all of her heart and she adored spoiling her dogs.

She is survived by her parents, Robert and Judy Joslin; her husband, Billy Wayne Thompson; two sons, Mason Littrell and his wife, Erika and Dalton Littrell and his wife, Leslie both from Saltillo, Texas; one brother, Ronny Joslin and his wife Cindy of Dike, Texas; grandchildren, Wyatt Littrell, Kennedy Littrell, Jaylee Miller and Lynlee Littrell all from Saltillo, Texas; nephew, Cody Clawson and his wife, Kayla; one niece Riley Rose Joslin which she called Kelly "Aunt KeKe" both of Dike, Texas as well as her great-nieces, Cayleigh Clawson, Cassie Clawson and Kaycee Clawson.

Gerred Gaines

Born January 13, 1981 in Houston, TX, Gerred's life was a legacy that began as one of perseverance and strength. As a young boy he defied medical reports that said that he would never walk and never talk. Gerred ended up not only running but participating and medaling in the Special Olympics. He not only could talk but expressed his joy, love, anger and excitement through his speech. He graduated from Alief Elsie High School and left a lasting impression wherever he ventured in life.

He was a lover of music, movies, and of course food. He loved to dance unapologetically, and his sense of humor and smile could change the atmosphere around you. Gerred loved many things but his love for his mother, a love she reciprocated, tops the list. He cared for family and even friends were considered family to him. He was aware of His creator and honored The God of heaven and Earth through praise and song. His favorite passage of scripture to quote verbatim was Psalm 24.

This overcomer's life and legacy will live on through his loving mother (Cherri Gaines). It will live on through his father (Edroy Gaines) and siblings: Corey Davis, Joy Gaines, Grant Gaines, and Taylor Solinger-Gaines. It will live on through his Aunt Sheila Brown and Uncle Walter Brown, his sister cousins Raena and Kyra Brown. It will live on through his nieces Santi Julian-Gaines and Faith and Hope Gaines. It will live on through all that knew him and saw the one word message that emanated from his life force. Overcome!

Mary Coats

A Graveside service for Mary Coats, age 77 of Sulphur Springs, TX was held Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 11:00 A.M. at Sulphur Springs City Cemetery. A visitation was held one hour prior to the service at Tapp Funeral Home. Mrs. Coats passed away on June 27, 2024 at her residence.

Mary was born on April 18, 1947 in Buckeye, Arizona to Howard Carter and Mary Evelyn Carter. She was a member of Hope Family Fellowship. She is survived by her three sons, Troy G Fouse, Steve S. Fouse, Billy D. Fouse and his wife, Brandy Fouse, three brothers, Morris Alvis Carter, Don R. Carter, Dean Carter, three nieces, Theresa Huston, Velma Newby and Ashley Guy, two

nephews, Shawn Carter, and Floyd Newby and her three best friends, Debra McGay, Mitzie White and Cathy Ford. She also leaves behind eleven beloved grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. She was loved and cared for by Chambers Hospice, a special thanks to Macie, Kayla and Linda for taking care of her.

Mrs. Mary Coats is preceded in death by her parents, Howard and Mary Evelyn Carter, son, James Fouse, brother, Charles Carter and sister, Eva Neil Carter.

Arrangements were under the direction of Tapp Funeral Home

4th of July

The Fourth of July-also known as Independence Day or July 4th-has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence and two days later delegates from the 23 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

Happy Independence Day

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