

# NORTH TEXAS ANTROUE TRACTOR & ENGINE CLUB'S SHOW

Ben Gill Park (Hwy 80) in Terrell

# Saturday, June 14 9AM-5PM Sunday, June 15 9AM-2PM

Daily Admission: 8 & Under FREE | 9 & Up \$5



SHOW EVENTS

Small Engine Displays Tractor Parade Tractor Display Kiddie Pedal Tractor Course Antique Tractor Pulls Blacksmith Demonstration (Sat) Stationery Hay Baling (Sat)

Stationery Hay Baling (Sat) For more information, call Lyle 214.497.1611 www.North-Texas-Antique-Tractor-and-Engine-Club.net







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# A STEAM TRAIN IN THE PINEY WOODS

## **Tumbleweed Smith**



Ben Campbell is a Palestine historian. His father and grandfather both worked for the railroad.

"We lived fairly close to downtown," he says. "The railroad came through here and I loved to hear the steam engines coming through."

Apparently those early memories had a big influence on him. He maintained his

**Tumbleweed Smith** interest in trains and wrote a book titled TWO RAILROADS TWO TOWNS about the train coming to Palestine.

Ben is president of the railroad authority that operates the steam train between Palestine and Rusk. It is a popular destination for train lovers and it has been featured in several movies and tv shows. The TV show YELLOWSTONE recently spent a few weeks filming the train.I have ridden the train a few times and every time it has been filled with fun people ready to tell stories of their railroading experiences. It is a relaxing time.

"We have various and sundry special trains for different purposes that have been very popular," says Ben. "We have a wine tasting train, a beer train, several lunch and dinner trains, Mother's Day and Father's Day trains; we even have a prom train. We invite people who may have missed going to a prom in high school. They ride on the train, listen to big band music and dance in the aisles." Of course, October has a spook train full of goblins and witches. The big event is the Polar Express around Christmas time. Kids wear pajamas and get hot chocolate.

"The little kids have stars in their eyes when they ride the Polar Express. We give each child a bell like the reindeer wear. The joy and the sparkle in those kids' eyes is just impossible to explain. Santa is on the train. One year I dressed up as Santa and I'll never forget the experience."

There were several railroad failures in both Palestine and Rusk. Finally, Palestine got a train that went south and Rusk got a train that went north. In 1909, the 28 miles between the two cities were joined by railroad tracks.

"Passengers could get on at night and have a sleeping car that would take them to Rusk. Then it would go north to the Texas and Pacific railroad. The next morning you would be in Dallas. I think it cost a dollar to go from Palestine to Dallas at that time. In about 1972, after the line was dormant, the Texas legislature decided they would turn it over to Parks and Wildlife and have a tourist railroad. It started off in 1976 and named it THE TEXAS STATE RAILROAD."

The rail line actually started in the 1880s to replace the mules and wagons prisoners were using to haul iron ore and timber from mines and woods near Rusk. The train ran from the countryside to the prison at Rusk where prisoners made cast iron.

## Miscellaneous

#### Miscellaneous

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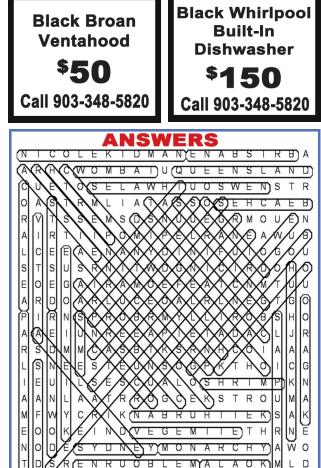
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## Walter "Keith" St Clair

Memorial Service for Walter Keith St. Clair will be at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, June 13, 2025, at West Oaks Funeral Home. Keith passed away on June 3, 2025, at his home in Sulphur Springs, Texas.

500 Hillcrest Dr., Sulphur Springs, Tx. 75482

Walter Keith St. Clair-known to most as Keith, Steve Mann and to a lucky few as "Pop"- has officially clocked out of this wild ride we call life, leaving behind a legacy of laughter, love, and more Hot Wheels than a small toy store.

He is survived by his loving wife and best friend of 10 years, Melinda St. Clair, who somehow managed to laugh at all his inappropriate jokes (and probably rolled her eyes more than she'll admit). He also leaves behind three daughters who inherited his sharp wit and sharp side-eye: Tosha Utt (Chris), Heather Myers (it's complicated), and Marissa Boyte (Jay). They will miss their dad's off-key serenades, spontaneous gift-giving, and the way he could turn even the most boring Tuesday into a comedy show.

He was the proud and playful Pop to five grandchildren: Aidyn, Rylan, and Easton Utt, Wednesday and Regan Myers-each of whom inherited a little spark of his mischief and a big piece of his heart.

Also mourning his loss (and possibly left in charge of his extensive collection of over 3,000 Hot Wheels and 200+ bobbleheads) are a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and his faithful dog Penny, who always knew who to go to for snacks and secrets.

Keith was preceded in death by his parents, Morris Dean and Lynda Sue (Green) St. Clair, as well as his brothers, Gregory Lloyd and Robert Dean, and his sister Debra Sue. No doubt they greeted him with a hug and a "What took you so long?"-followed by a round of laughter.

A devoted employee at Grocery Supply Company for 30 years, Keith's coworkers could always count on him for hard work, good stories, and probably a few jokes that pushed the limits of the company handbook.

Keith loved music-all things rock, and all things loud-and he could carry a tune better than most karaoke stars. He was also a sucker for a good underdog story, a firm believer in the paranormal (you know, just in case), and a devout fan of The Andy Griffith Show. He was hilariously funny, famously generous, and oddly obsessed with bobbleheads, Hot Wheels, and buying gifts that made people laugh-or raise an eyebrow. Whether he was building a soapbox derby car with Aidyn or sneaking candy to the grandkids, Keith gave his family memories wrapped in laughter and unconditional love.

## Linda Joyce (Wise) Maeker



Memorial service for Linda Joyce (Wise) Maeker, age 80 of Sulphur Springs, Texas will be held at 2:00P.M. on Friday, June 20, 2025 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home with Pastor Kyle Ray officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Honorary pallbearers will be Seth Maeker, Mason Maeker, Jared Maeker, Matthew Maeker, Brian Kubacak, Brandon Kubacak, and Clifton Wise. Ms. Maeker passed away peacefully on Sunday, June 8, 2025 at Wesley House in Sulphur Springs.

Linda was born March 1,1945 in Sulphur Springs to Joy Wanda Wise and CF Wise. She married Larry Maeker on June 8, 1963. They had two sons, Jeff and David. She was a school secretary then, after finishing college, taught High School English at Mt. Vernon for several years. She then finished her Master of Counseling and served as a Junior High Counselor at Mt. Vernon. She retired May 31, 2011, after over 30 years in the school system. She was a member of Central Baptist Church. Linda loved her family!

She is survived by her two sons and daughters-in-law, Jeff and Melissa Maeker and David and Renee Maeker of Sulphur Springs: grandchildren and spouses: Seth and Mikaela Maeker, Mason and Bailey Maeker, Jared Maeker and Mali Kate Maeker; and her great-grandchildren: Rozlynn, Logan, Montgomery and Harper. She is also survived by her brother, Cletus Wise and his wife Naomi of Texarkana and her sister, Rosemary and her husband, Ernest Kubacak of Argyle as well as many beloved nieces and nephews.

Linda is preceded in death by her parents, C.F. and Wanda, and her grandson, Matthew Maeker, and Larry Maeker.



## Bill C. Hunsucker

A funeral service for Bill C. Hunsucker, age 82, of Lone Oak, Texas was held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 5, 2025 at Lone Oak United Methodist Church with Rev. Beth Ensor officiating. Visitation was held from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at Lone Oak United Methodist Church. Mr. Hunsucker passed away at his home on Sunday, June 1, 2025.

Billy Clyde Hunsucker was born on October 4, 1942 in Corpus Christi, Texas to Clyde Richard and Annie Lucille (Mixon) Hunsucker. He married Tina Carol Abbott in Greenville, Texas on January 7, 1983. Bill worked as the advertising director of the Herald Banner in Greenville, Texas beginning in the mid 70's. He was responsible for bringing the first computers to be used at the paper. In the late 80's he was promoted to publisher of The Commerce Journal where he took the paper composition from offset printing to desktop publishing. After leaving the newspaper business he went to work for E-Systems/Raytheon/L-3 where he completed 25 years of service and retired at the age of 74. He then spent his retirement years enjoying the company of his wife, all his children, and all his animals.

Bill is survived by his wife of forty-two years, Tina Hunsucker; sons, David Hunsucker and wife, Marnie of Georgetown, Texas, Michael Hunsucker and wife, Heather of San Antonio, Texas; daughters, Dana Cooper and husband, Tim of Livermore, California, Leigh Ann Trapp and husband, Don of Greenville, Texas, and Katherine Hunsucker of Lone Oak, Texas; grandchildren, Alden Hunsucker, Olivia Cooper, Elijah Hunsucker, Hayden Cooper, Jackson Hunsucker, and Brody Hunsucker; brothers, John Hunsucker and wife, Joy of Georgetown, Texas, Jack Hunsucker and wife, Cindy of Canyon Lake, Texas; step-mother, Anita "Annie" Hunsucker of Anchorage, Alaska; brother, Richard "Dell" Hunsucker and wife, and their children of Anchorage, Alaska; sister, Ashley Zimin and her husband, and their children of Anchorage, Alaska; niece, Rita Hunsucker and husband, Cody Kain and their children, Brayden and Ashlynn Hunsucker-Kain of Douglas, Wyoming; nephew, Wes Abbott of Royce City, Texas; and several cousins who he loved dearly. He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard and Lucille Hunsucker.



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The business services industry is a very broad industry encompassing many different categories of business operations; all of them provide some sort of nonfinancial service to other companies. These services include advertising, marketing, consultation, logistics (including travel and facilities services), waste handling, staffing services, shipping, administration, and security services to name a few. Nearly every business in operation has need for at least one of the different kinds of service offered by the industry. Marketing companies are responsible for increasing the sales of a client company by helping the company gain new customers as well as keep current ones. Legal services are needed to deal with business transactions, as well as for litigation purposes Logistics and shipping companies are responsible for connecting businesses to other businesses or consumers by collecting, storing, transporting, and delivering products. Staffing companies match people in need of jobs, temporary or permanent, with companies in need of qualified employees. Leasing companies fill a client's need for certain items without requiring full purchase. Security companies are responsible for keeping a company's assets secure.Consulting companies are in the business of fulfilling needs for expertise that clients cannot fulfill themselves. These companies may offer professional, scientific, or technical consulting, management or strategy consulting, or human resources consulting.



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#### **THE MILLENNIUM SHOPPER June 11, 2025**

