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#### Tumbleweed Smith

Kenneth Tidwell of Andrews grew up in the nearby town of Wink.

"I was raised over there and started to school over there and graduated over there," he says. "I started working in a barber shop shining shoes when I was fifteen. A shine was a dime. I had lots of customers. Back then all the men wore leather shoes and kept them shined.

One of his school mates was Roy Orbison who sang and played his guitar in front of a drug store. "He'd sit out there on the sidewalk and perform. People would come by and buy him ice cream and cokes. He formed a little band called the Wink Westerners and they played around Wink and in nearby towns. He was something else. He knew what he wanted and went after it. Just before he went off to Nashville, he told a local grocer that the next time he would see him he'd be driving a Cadillac. The grocer said 'Roy, you'd be lucky to even see the inside of a Cadillac.'

"Roy was gone for a long time and became famous. He came back to Wink with two Cadillacs. He went to the grocer and asked him 'would you like to see the inside of my Cadillac?' The grocer replied with a laugh 'vou got me.'"

After high school Kenneth went to Hardin Simmons for three semesters then joined the Army and went to Korea where he served on the front lines.

"We'd go up front and stay so long then come back and another company would go up there. It was bad over there. I saw some terrible sights. I felt real lucky that I wasn't wounded. When I came back home, I went to work in the oil field. I worked on drilling rigs a long time, then worked on pulling rigs."

When things got slow in the oil patch he got a job as

"When they interviewed me, they asked me if I could run a sandblaster. I had never even seen a sandblaster I told them sure. I needed a job."

Later he had his own sandblasting business. Then he met a girl who lived in Kermit, forty-eight miles from

"I dated her for three weeks driving back and forth every day. One weekend I told her I'm not driving over here anymore. Let's go to Andrews Monday and get married. Her mother asked me if I was crazy. I said no, that we were in love and wanted to be together."

They became husband and wife and had two children, a boy and a girl. They both live nearby. Kenneth is ninety-two years old.

"I'm still contract pumping some oil wells out here," he says. "I go pumping every morning seven days a week. I'll probably still be pumping when I'm a hundred and two."

#### Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous

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**Answers On Page 3** 

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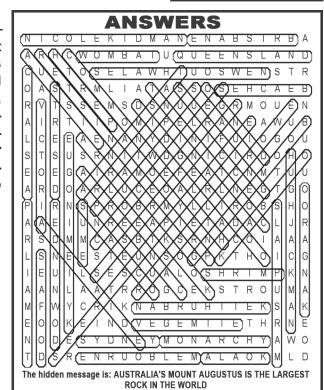
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### Let us not forget

# The Reason for the Season!

Christmas, Christian festival celebrating the birth of Jesus. Since the early 20th century, Christmas has also been a secular family holiday, observed by Christians and non-Christians alike, devoid of Christian elements, and marked by an increasingly elaborate exchange of gifts. In this secular Christmas celebration, a mythical figure named Santa Claus plays the pivotal role. Christmastime, running from Advent (or earlier) through Epiphany, is a season rich with countless religious and secular traditions that bring together family, faith, and culture while emphasizing themes of hope, joy, generosity, and goodwill.

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500 Hillcrest Dr., Sulphur Springs, Tx. 75482



**Byrd Hawkins** April 4, 1926 — December 17, 2025

Funeral service for Byrd Hawkins, age 99 of Sulphur Springs, Texas will be held at 12:00 P.M. on Monday, December 29, 2025 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home with Bro. Terry Bolton officiating. Interment will follow at 2:30 P.M. at Oakwood Cemetery in Honey Grove, Texas with Ken Rawls Jr., Kennon Rawls III, Kris Hawkins, Steve Hawkins, Mark Hawkins, and Jake Hawkins serving as pallbearers. J.J. Janek and Scott Reed will serve as honorary pallbearers. Reception will be held one hour prior to the service in the community room at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Mr. Hawkins passed away on December 17, 2025 surrounded by his family at his daughter's house in Sachse.

Byrd was born on April 4, 1926 in Parks, Arkansas to Omar and Beuliah (Nelson) Hawkins. He was a veteran of the United States Army and serviced in the Korean Conflict. Bryd married Dorothy Nell Lynn on December 8, 1952.

He worked for Lone Star Gas Co. for 30 years as a service technician. Bryd was a member of the National Rifle Association. He was a part of the First Baptist Church in Sulphur Springs as well as Greenpond Baptist Church in Como.

He is survived by his daughter, Diane Rawls and husband, Ken Rawls Jr.; grandchildren, Kris Hawkins, Mistie Watson and Kennon Rawls III and wife, Tasha; great grandchildren, Tawnie Hawkins, Jake Hawkins, Maranda Watson, Mason Watson, Kylie Prather, Askel Rawls, and Slade Rawls; great-great grandchildren, Athena Hawkins and Waylon Ngyen; numerous nieces and nephews.

Byrd was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Dorothy; son, Jack Hawkins; brothers, Quinton Hawkins and Buford Hawkins; and sister, Ved Cox.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Quail Forever at https://quailforever.org/ - 1783 Buerkle Circle St. Paul, MN 55110 or to Oakwood Cemetery Association at P.O. Box 96 Honey Grove, Texas 75446.



#### Sandra Jane Watson

October 5, 1939 — December 14, 2025

Sandra Jane Watson, age 86 of Austin, Texas passed away on December 14, 2025 at Arbor Terrace Lakeway Memory Care in Austin.

Sandra was born on October 5, 1939 in Greenpond, Texas to Bob and Hazel (Gambling) Springer. She graduated from Como-Pickton High School in 1957 as valedictorian. Sandra married Billy Watson on February 22, 1963. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her daughter, Kelly Christianson and husband, Bruce Stuckman; grandchildren, Bear and Layth Christianson.

Sandra was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Billy; son, Tony Watson and sister, Nell Harrington.



Maribel Olmedo Garcia de Ugalde April 4, 1972 - December 15, 2025 (age 53)

Funeral Mass for Maribel Olmedo Garcia de Ugalde, age 53 was held at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 19, 2025 at St. James Catholic Church with Father Victor Hernandez officiating. Visitation was held from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, December 19, 2025, at West Oaks Funeral Home with a Rosary at 7:00 p.m. Maribel passed away on Monday, December 15, 2025, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Maribel was born on April 4, 1972, to Cipriano Olmedo Gonzalez and Gaspara Garcia Benitez in Tecolutla, Veracruz, Mexico. She married the love of her life, Angel Ugalde on November 18, 2017, in Greenville, Texas. Maribel was an amazing cook and homemaker, an avid soccer fan of Aguillas de America and loved spending time with her family.

She leaves behind her loving husband, Angle Ugalde, her son, Kevin Ugalde of Greenville; her brother's, Francisco Olmedo Garcia of Veracruz, Alfredo Olmedo Garcia also of Veracruz, and Ernesto Olmedo Garcia of Greenville; her

sisters, Jovita Olmedo Garcia of Veracruz, Maria Isabel Garcia of Sonora, Virginia Olmedo Garcia of Veracruz, and Sandra Olmedo Garcia of Ridgeway, as well as nieces, nephews, and friends.

Maribel was preceded in death by her parents, Cipriano Olmedo Gonzalez, and Gaspara Garcia Benitez.

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

El velatorio de Maribel Olmedo Garcha de Ugalde, de 53 acos, serб de 18:00 a 21:00 el viernes 19 de diciembre de 2025 en la funeraria West Oaks con un rosario a las 19:00. Maribel falleciy el lunes 15 de diciembre de 2025, en su casa rodeada de su amorosa familia.

Los arreglos estón bajo la dirección de West Oaks Funeral Home, www.westoaksfuneralhome.com

## Wellness During the Holiday Season . . . . . . . . . .

The holiday season is meant to be a time of joy, connection, and reflection. Yet for many people, it can also feel overwhelming. Full calendars, family obligations, travel, rich foods, and financial pressure can quietly push wellness to the side. True holiday wellness is not about perfection or strict routines. It is about creating balance and giving yourself permission to care for your body and mind during a busy time.

One of the most important aspects of wellness during the holidays is stress management. Stress often shows up quietly through poor sleep, tension, irritability, or fatigue. Taking even a few minutes each day to slow down can make a meaningful difference. Gentle breathing, a short walk outside, or moments of stillness help regulate the nervous system and bring the body out of constant fight or flight. Wellness does not require long sessions or complicated practices. Consistency and intention matter most.



Gabriela Camacho

Nutrition also plays a central role during the holiday season. Celebrations often revolve around food, and enjoyment should never be replaced by guilt. Instead of restriction, focus on balance. Staying hydrated, prioritizing protein and fiber, and adding nutrient rich foods alongside holiday favorites helps stabilize energy levels and blood sugar. Mindful eating encourages presence and appreciation rather than excess. When the body feels nourished, it responds with better mood, digestion, and resilience.

Sleep is another cornerstone of seasonal wellness. Late nights, travel, and disruptions to routine can easily interfere with rest. Quality sleep supports immunity, hormone balance, and emotional regulation. Creating small rituals before bed such as dimming lights, limiting screen time, or enjoying a calming beverage can signal the body to unwind. Protecting sleep is one of the most powerful wellness choices during the holidays. Movement does not have to look like intense workouts or rigid schedules. Gentle movement such as stretching, walking, or light strength training supports circulation, joint health, and mental clarity. Movement can also become a way to connect with others through shared walks or activities. The goal is to keep the body engaged and supported, not exhausted.

Emotional wellness deserves equal attention. The holidays can bring joy but also grief, loneliness, or unresolved family dynamics. Acknowledging emotions without judgment is part of holistic wellness. Setting boundaries, allowing rest, and seeking support when needed helps protect emotional health. Connection should feel nourishing rather than draining.

The holiday season offers a powerful reminder that wellness is not a destination but a practice. It is found in small, intentional choices that honor your body and mind. By approaching the holidays with compassion and balance, wellness becomes something that enhances the season rather than competing with it. When you care for yourself, you show up more fully for the moments that truly matter.



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The New Year is the time or day at which a new calendar year begins and the calendar's year count increments by one. Many cultures celebrate the event in some manner. In the Gregorian calendar, the most widely used calendar system today, New Year occurs on January 1 (New Year's Day, preceded by New Year's Eve). This was also the first day of the year in the original Julian calendar and the Roman calendar (after 153 BC).



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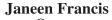
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### Happy New Year!



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