



Chester Duke

February 14, 1924 - October 17, 2017

Chester E. Duke Jr. of Mildred, Texas passed away at the Twilight Home on Tuesday evening, October 17, 2017 with his family surrounding him at the age of 93. He was born in Dawson, Texas on February 14, 1924 to Chester E. Duke Sr. and Julia Coffey Duke. He attended elementary school in Navarro and graduated from Mildred High School in 1942. In October of 1942 he enlisted in the United States Army Air Corp and was stationed at Hickman Field in Hawaii. While in the military he was a mechanic and earned the rank of sergeant and led a crew maintaining aircraft. In February of 1946 he was discharged and enrolled in Navarro College where he was a member of the "Barracks Bunch". He received an Associate's Degree from Navarro College and worked as an accountant for a Gulf Oil Distributor and later as Purchasing Director for Hable Construction. Chester enjoyed woodworking and restored old wagons and buggies. He and his wife Joyce would collect American antiques and enjoyed the time it took to locate them.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his wife Joyce Summerall Duke in 2013 and great grandchildren; Jacob Harrison Pritchett and Haleigh Necole Cassada. Chester is survived by his children; Barbara Baker, Judith Pritchett and husband Larry and Jack Duke and wife Kathy. Grandchildren; Ben Baker and wife Kim, Alan Baker and wife Michelle, Mark Pritchett, Shelly Cassada and husband David, Chester Duke and wife Jana and Jennifer Slovak and

husband Justin. Great grandchildren; Melanie Flugel and husband Nick, Megan Henderson and husband Casey, Katelynn Kidwell and husband Joe, Alan Baker Jr., Brett Baker, Skylar Pritchett, Shannon Pritchett, Briar Cassada and wife Crystal, Ruth Slovak, Kristy Warren and husband Bree, Katie Cisneros and husband Alvaro and Klinner Chavez and husband Rafael. Great great grandchildren; Henry, Ava, Kaylee, Erika, Paislee, Levi, Garrett, Brayden, Sophie, Ava, Carter, Ryland and Lincoln.

Visitation will be Saturday, October 21, 2017 from 12 – 1pm at Griffin – Roughton Funeral Home. Graveside services with Military Honors will follow at 2pm at Hamilton – Beeman Cemetery with family serving as pallbearers.

Cemetery Details

Hamilton - Beeman Cemetery

700 Farm to Market 2555
Corsicana, TX 75110

Previous Events

Family Visitation

OCT **21**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Corsicana
1530 N. 45th Street
Corsicana, TX 75110
(903) 874-4774
info@griffin-roughton.com

Graveside Funeral Service

OCT **21**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Hamilton - Beeman Cemetery
700 Farm to Market 2555
Corsicana, TX 75110

Tribute Wall



“ *Chester Duke*

October 08, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ *Randyghughes lit a candle in memory of Chester Duke*



randyghughes - October 21, 2017 at 07:56 AM



my prayers are for the Duke Family sorry for your loss

randyghughes - October 21, 2017 at 07:58 AM



Thank you.

Jack Duke - October 21, 2017 at 08:13 PM



“ I will always remember the wonderful times we had together. Pa and Memaw took such good care of me when we were expecting their 1st great-grandchild, Melanie. She was late, of course, and we shared the most wonderful weeks talking and sharing stories, eating Memaws wonderful meals and enjoying each others' company. Pa has brought so many wonderful memories into my life through the years we spent together. I am so thankful and honored that he was my children's great-grandfather and I will always consider him my honorary grandfather. He will be greatly missed.

Love always,
Stephanie Turner

Stephanie Turner - October 19, 2017 at 10:17 PM

JD

Well said. Glad we got to see you today.

Jack Duke - October 21, 2017 at 08:14 PM

MD

“ We sent out deepest condolences and our prayers are with our family.
Mike and Darlene (Davis) Dailey

Mike Dailey - October 19, 2017 at 05:49 PM

JD

Thank you.

Jack Duke - October 21, 2017 at 08:15 PM

PK

“ Jack, we are sorry for your loss. Prayers of comfort for you and your family.

-Ron and Peggy King

Peggy King - October 19, 2017 at 09:39 AM

JD

Thanks to you both for the kind words.

Jack Duke - October 20, 2017 at 09:58 AM

JS

“ Before I met you, I was warned that you were a scary old man. But what I was met with were wonderful history stories and beautiful blue eyes. One of the stories that can be found in my heart is the one between you and Memaw and the day you two met.

It is a honor to have you as my Pa and I know you and Memaw are dancing amongst the stars.

We love you.

Jennifer, Justin, and Ruth Slovak



Jennifer Slovak - October 18, 2017 at 05:24 PM

JD

He loved all his kids. Yes, they are together again.

Jack Duke - October 20, 2017 at 09:59 AM

MT

“ *MARSHA A TAYLOR lit a candle in memory of Chester Duke*



MARSHA A TAYLOR - October 18, 2017 at 05:07 PM

MT

Mr. Duke was one of a kind. I knew him way before we worked together for Hable and Co. He always was so pleasant and fun to be around. Could tell a great story about lots of things. I have a scoop he made, it is something I always displayed in my home. Hung it on the wall and used it as a candleholder. Now he is a bright shining star along with his sweet better half..

Marsha Taylor - October 18, 2017 at 09:18 PM

JD

Thanks for the kind words.

Jack Duke - October 20, 2017 at 10:00 AM

MT

“ *Jack, Shelly & Chester, my thoughts & prayers are with you all.*

Morgana Terry - October 18, 2017 at 04:28 PM

JD

Thank you

Jack Duke - October 20, 2017 at 10:01 AM