



## Henry R. Ponder

September 24, 1928 - August 24, 2017

Henry R. (H.R.) Ponder joined his Savior, Jesus Christ, August 24, 2017. He suffered complications following a hip break. Henry was born September 24, 1928, to Henry R. and Mary Willie (Buckalew) Ponder.

He married Genell Rhodes and made Corsicana their home. They enjoyed a 64 year marriage and loved and reared two daughters, Cynthia and Cathy. Henry was a long-time member of First Baptist Church of Corsicana. He served in various ways until his health would not allow. As newlyweds, Henry and Genell joined Memorial Baptist Church. Henry served 35 years as a Deacon and in teaching positions.

H.R. graduated Emhouse High School and, as a 16 year old, began classes at Hill County College. The next year, he enrolled at the newly established Navarro College. He was a member of the "Barracks Bunch" and enjoyed their annual reunions. Baylor University was next before he joined the U.S. Army. Ultimately, he was sent to Korea during the Korean Conflict. He experienced God's hand of protection and delivery many times.

Following his Korean tour of duty, he returned home and found work in Corsicana. As he had previously been employed with Safeway, he returned to their employ again for a short stint until he began his U.S. Postal Service career. He retired and launched a Woodman of the World career. After retiring a second time, he focused on spending time with his family, traveling, painting, and baking pies for others.

Henry is survived by his devoted wife, Genell, daughters, Cynthia Pope of

Corsicana and Cathy Brooks and husband Steve of Westerville, Ohio. Grandchildren, Chad Pope and family Jessica, Ashlyn and Haley, Brent Pope and daughters Dalila and Chloe, Kyle Pope and his wife, Celeste, children, Maddax and Caitlin, and Lee Brooks and Madeline Brooks. He is also survived by his sister, Ruth Neeper and her husband Leland of Longview. The family would like to Thank those who have visited and cared for Henry during his declining years. What a blessing his family and friends have been. Special thanks to Janquilyn D. Merida, DNP, APRN, BC FNP for the years of excellent care and Dr. Kent Rogers for the superb care during Henry's most difficult period. Cody Herod, Laura Talbert Jones and Jeff Jones, and Robert Horvath have given wonderful care and support. The kind and diligent staff at Twilight Home is greatly appreciated. Thanks to the Navarro Regional's amazing second floor staff and Family First Hospice. Their superior care blessed our family.

Visitation will be held at Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home from 3:00 - 5:00 pm on Sunday, August 27, 2017. Funeral service will be held at First Baptist Church of Corsicana at 10:00 am Monday, August 28, 2017 with Dr. Danny Reeves officiating. Burial will follow at Rose Hill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please feel free to make donations to the FBC Corsicana Building Fund.

# Cemetery Details

## Rose Hill Cemetery

300 Rose Hill Road  
Blooming Grove, TX 76626

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**AUG 27.** 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Service

**AUG 28.** 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
510 West Collin  
Corsicana, TX 75110

# Tribute Wall



“ *Henry R. Ponder*

October 08, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ *What a Godly man- he was like a father to me. Such wonderful memories of spending time with this family. Jann London*

**Jann London** - September 22, 2017 at 08:02 PM



“ *I was so sad today when I saw H.R.'s obituary. I am sorry I wasn't there for you the way you were for me when I lost my parents. That meant so much to me. I have such fond memories of spending time with all of you - even accompanying you on some family vacations! I know this is a very difficult time. Please know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers. Much love - Kim Matthews Mear*

**Kim Mear** - September 08, 2017 at 09:44 PM



“ *“May the Peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, ...guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” \_\_Philippians 4:7  
Remembering you in thoughts and prayers,  
Ailsa (Flynn) Anderson*

**AA** - September 07, 2017 at 03:19 PM

JM

“ *Genell and Family,  
My thoughts and prayers are with each of you during this time. So sorry to hear about Henry. Such a wonderful and kind man. May God Bless each of you.*

*Janet K Magee*

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**Janet K Magee** - August 28, 2017 at 07:33 AM

SR

“ *Genell, when I see Henry in my mind, he's bringing you the perfect rose that he found in the garden & couldn't wait to give it to you. He came in straight out of working in the garden, dirty, wearing his "sexy" red socks all drooped around his ankles, but bringing the perfect rose for his perfect wife. I think every single woman in the bank that morning fell just a little bit in love with him on the spot. Also, vivid in my mind is seeing him come in with a sack of bananas & handing them out to anybody that wants one. He could never quite wrap his head around the fact that I didn't eat bananas. I'll bet he showed up in Heaven with a sack of bananas & banana pudding to share with Jesus! How incredibly sweet he was. And, oh how he loved you!*

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**Sherri Richardson** - August 27, 2017 at 09:58 AM