



Jerry Williams

June 4, 1932 - October 5, 2020

Jerry Williams passed away on October 5, 2020. He was born on June 4, 1932 to J.O. Williams and Ella Mae Odom Williams. Jerry was a 1949 graduate of Gladewater High School where he was valedictorian. He earned a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree from Baylor University and served 3 years as an officer in the United States Air Force. Jerry married Polly Aiken Williams in 1959. He worked in his family business J.O. Williams Pontiac Buick for over 20 years. He was one of the founders of Glade Lanes and Glade Tennis & Swim Club and owner of Glade Health Club. Jerry was an avid tennis player and enjoyed weight training throughout his life. He was a real estate investor, was involved in banking as a principal shareholder of First Bankshares of Texas, and was a partner in several Grandy's Restaurants. Jerry also volunteered his time to civic activities as a member of the Gladewater Lions Club and Rotary Club and served on the Gladewater City Council.

Jerry never met a stranger and could easily converse with anyone. He was a man of great accomplishment and was highly intelligent. One of his most endearing qualities was his willingness to share his knowledge with anyone—friends, family, or strangers—to help them have a better life.

Jerry was a lifelong Republican. He was an entrepreneur and was a very strong believer in the free enterprise system and proved what one could accomplish through hard work and determination. He also wholeheartedly supported his children in all their endeavors and instilled in them a belief that they could do whatever they set their mind to.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents and his brothers, J.O. Williams and Neal Williams. He is survived by his children, Ronda, Dana, Steven, and Lori; and his grandchildren, Amber, Leah, Caroline, Heather, Cheyenne, Nick, Milo, Lola, and Savvy.

There will be a memorial service Sunday, October 25th, at 2:00 p.m., at the Longview Arboretum.

Memorials

I was blessed to work for Mr. Williams when he was a City Councilman in Gladewater. He is one of my all time favorites. When he spoke, people listened. I have many, many wonderful memories of time spent with him. Prayers for his family.

JAY STOKES, OCTOBER 12, 2020

Poppa - I am at peace knowing you're at peace now with your Savior. Not only are you with Him, but you're with many that left this world before you. I will never forget the lessons you've instilled in me and my sisters. And all those times we spent together in Gladewater and beyond. You lived an abundant life and I know I will see you again one day. Love your granddaughter, Caroline Mae P.S. Tell Grams hi!

CAROLINE PICKETT, OCTOBER 10, 2020

Dana, Steven, Ronda, and Lori, Jerry was a larger than life person and one of our favorite neighbors. He and Polly made our family a part of your family. He always had a smile and loved seeing Nathan and Caroline run over to talk or play basketball. I am so sorry about his passing but know you all are in our thoughts and prayers. Dana, you are so loved by our family. Hope to see you soon and may you all feel the power of our prayers.

HENRY AND JO SALMON, OCTOBER 9, 2020

Lori, You, your sister and your brothers truly won the parent lottery getting Jerry Williams for your dad! He really was the very best of the best. I always looked forward to seeing your dad, and I will always remember his friendliness and the many smiles and laughs he brought to my face. My parents and brother loved him just as much as I did. I've been thinking about all of you the past few days and will continue to do so. Take care my friend! Sam K.

SAM KHOURY, LONGVIEW TX, OCTOBER 9, 2020

I'm so sorry for your loss. Mr. Jerry recently lived in my neighborhood in Spring Hill. He would see me walking our dogs and would come out to pet the dogs

and visit with me. He was always so upbeat and easy to talk to. I know he will be greatly missed by your family.

YVONNE RICH, OCTOBER 9, 2020

Our loss is heaven's gain. Jerry, we will miss you and are praying for your family at this time. Most of my relationship with Jerry has been business related; however I got to meet the personal side of him and I admired him. He was a smart, kind, and benevolent man. He is missed.

JERRY G. RICHARDSON & PATRICIA RICHARDSON, OCTOBER 9, 2020

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