



Allen W. Sylvester

September 23, 1923 - April 9, 2009

ALLEN WHITFIELD SYLVESTER 1923-2009 Allen W. Sylvester was born in Huntsville, Texas September 23, 1923 and passed away on April 6, 2009. He was a Baptist in faith. Allen was preceded in death by his father and mother Henry Nathaniel Sylvester and Chessie Mc Whorter Sylvester Holder, father and mother-in-law John William Pegoda, and Viola Thigpen Pegoda; a brother William "Bill" Sylvester, sister Barbara "Pedie" Andersen; two sister-in-laws Ernie Pegoda Herbst, and Opal Pegoda and a brother-in-law Murl Northcutt. He is survived by his wife (of 63 years) Reba P Sylvester, (son) Allen W. Sylvester Sr. and wife Noma, (daughter) Susan L Mitchell and husband Paul "Mitch". Grandchildren Allen W. and Janie M. Sylvester Jr., Kristi G. and Timothy "Tim" C. Rushing, and Karen M. and Michael "Mike" Mericle. Seven great-grand- children Johnathon Sylvester, Brennen Rushing, Jordan McDaniel, Duncan Mericle, Alexandria "Alex" Sylvester, Chance Rushing, and Andrew Sylvester. He is also survived by two sisters Sue and Kenneth Bounds and Dorothy Northcutt; sister-in-laws Sue and Jack Skidmore, Mary Ann and James "Jim" B. Cummings, Catherine and Hershale Sanders, and Molly Sylvester; two brother-in-laws John and Ruth Pegoda and Peter "Pete" and Peggy Pegoda. In addition to many nephews, nieces and great nephews and nieces. Allen attended Huntsville schools until joining the US Army Air Corps on October 3, 1941. He served in Italy, France and Germany during WWII. Returning to Huntsville after his discharge in September of 1945, he married his childhood sweetheart on November 3, 1945 at Calvary Baptist Church. Deciding that civilian life was not for him, he joined the Air Force in 1946. Serving continuously in various capacities and locations until retirement in 1964 as a Master Sergeant. Returning to Huntsville once more, he went to work for the Texas Department of Corrections in 1964. He rose through the ranks to Assistant Chief of Food Service, Southern Units; retiring in December, 1986. After retirement he spent his time working in his yard and gardening. He enjoyed putting up the vegetables he grew. He loved being with his extended family and cooking many special meals for all of them. Christmas was one of his most favorite times. You may remember the "Christmas House" on highway 19/30 east. Starting in the late 1960's until he just was not physically up to the task, in the early 2000's; he would start as early as July putting up thousands of lights and in late November many yard decorations. Funeral services will be 10 AM Thursday, April

9, 2009 at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville, Texas. Hershel Sanders and Reagan Cooksey, Pastor of Northside Baptist Church, will officiate. Burial will follow at Pine Prairie Cemetery. Visitation will be held at Sam Houston Funeral Home on April 8, 2009 from 4 PM to 7 PM. Pallbearers will be grandsons, great-grandsons and other family members. Honorary pallbearers are Paul "Mitch" Mitchell, James "Jim" Cummings, Peter "Pete" Pegoda, John Pegoda and Jack Skidmore. The family desires that attendees to Allen's Celebration of Life and Remembrance dress casually (to include blue jeans) if they so desire. In lieu of flowers, donations in Allen's name may be made to the charity, health or church of your choice. Memorial condolences may be made to the family online at www.shmfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Allen W. Sylvester*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM

TF

“ *We are sorry for your loss. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Terrence& Stacey Nunn Family - April 10, 2009 at 03:32 PM

PC

“ *Reba, Allen and family. Mr. Sylvester was one of the great guys to work with. I had the pleasure of working with him from 1968 until he retired. He loved his family and he loved to brag about each of you - especially his grandchildren. I pray that God will give you peace and comfort during this time.*
Woody & Patricia Coleman

Patricia Coleman - April 09, 2009 at 09:37 AM

KT

“ *Reba, Allen, Noma, Susan & Karen: Having known Mr. Allen since 1965, I know he will be greatly missed. I pray that God will give all of you the strength to get thru this sorrowful time. If I can do anything for any of you, please let me know.*

Katrina Thomson - April 08, 2009 at 11:53 AM

DM

“ *Allen & Noma,*
I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. "The Will of God will never take you where the Grace of God will not protect you".

Dawn Tatsch Moore - April 08, 2009 at 11:18 AM

SR

“ *Karen and Mike,*

You are in my thoughts and prayers if you need anything I will be there. If you need me to watch Jordan or Duncan I can. I love you both

Sabrina Thornton Rowley - April 08, 2009 at 09:20 AM

TS

“ Aunt Reba

We are so sorry for your loss of Uncle Sonny. We will never forget him. He cooked many meals for everyone, always had a big, wonderful garden, and maintained the most beautiful yard. You both are very special to all of us. You are in our prayers. We all will miss him but we have to remember, he is no longer in pain and will be in such a better place. He will be the "Cook" and great "Gardener" in Heaven and always will be watching over everyone. We love you very much. Take care.

Jay, Thressa, Brandon and Ashley

Thressa Skidmore - April 07, 2009 at 11:57 PM

JG

“ Reba,

My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I was fortunate to have Allen as my assistant Chief of Food Services, and a great one he was. I have many thoughts of the roads we traveled together.

James D. "Griff" Griffith

james griffith - April 07, 2009 at 09:18 PM

RM

“ Allen and Noma, I'm so very sorry for your loss. Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Rhonda Mauldin

Rhonda Mauldin - April 07, 2009 at 05:49 PM

DS

“ Dearest Reba and Family,

*We are saddened by the loss of your wonderful husband and father Allen. We will keep you close to our heart and in our prayers. May God bless and keep you!
Love, Diane and Mike Spitz (NY)*

Diane & Mike Spitz - April 07, 2009 at 03:10 PM

PC

“ We enjoyed you as our neighbor. You always had the best garden around. We miss being at home, Reba. Our sympathies are with you.

Phyllis and Alvin Cummings - April 07, 2009 at 02:57 PM

SD

“ SUSAN; REBA; NOMA AND ALLEN, I WAS SO SORRY TO HEAR OF YOUR LOSS; BUT HAPPY FOR MR. ALLEN'S GAIN! I CAN FEEL YOUR HURT AND MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU ALL. STAY CLOSE TO GOD, ONLY HE CAN EASE YOUR PAIN. MAY GOD BLESS YOU.
NORMAN AND SUE BARTEE DIEHL.

SUE BARTEE DIEHL - April 07, 2009 at 02:30 PM

KM

“ Reba, Susan, allen and Noma,
So sorry to hear of your loss, I know what it means to lose a spouse and also my parent. You are in ym thoughts and prayers.
Kathryn (Katrina Thomson's mom)

Kathryn Thomson McNabb - April 07, 2009 at 02:16 PM

BB

“ I worked with "Captain" Sylvester in the mid 70's. I recall him with coffee cup in hand, smiling, and working, long, long hours in the Stewards Dept @ the Walls. I was saddened to hear of your familys loss. Byron Bush

Byron Bush - April 07, 2009 at 12:18 PM

HO

“ I was so sorry to hear about your loss. Know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family in your time of sorrow. Know also that your father-in-law is at peace and in heaven.

Hannah O'Donnell - April 07, 2009 at 10:52 AM

BW

“ We are sorry to hear of your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Bob, Mellicent, Bobby II, Heather, Heath & Justin Wiley - April 07, 2009 at 10:16 AM

LB

“ Ms Reba and Susan, you know that my thoughts and love are with you and that I am here if there is anything that I can do.

LSB 'Granny'

Linda Byrd - April 06, 2009 at 11:03 PM

BE

“ Dear Aunt Reba

My heart is with you as Uncle Sonny goes home. The sting of departure of someone you have spent so much of your life with is the hardest one we face here on earth. Take comfort in the Word of God. Rest assured, uncle Sonny is walking streets of Gold.

Love you

Bonnie

Bonnie Estes - April 06, 2009 at 06:29 PM

LL

“ *We understand the loss felt when a loved one passes on. Our prayers are with you and your family.*

lee and melia lane - April 06, 2009 at 06:25 PM

AF

“ *Aunt Reba and all of my family,*

I am so sorry for you loss. Even though Uncle Sonny has had a full and long life, it is still extremely hard to lose a loved one. He was a good man and he will be missed by us all. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. I love you all.

Amie, Carl, Shelby , Makenna, and Madeline

Amie, Carl and Family - April 06, 2009 at 04:03 PM

JC

“ *Allen, I was sorry to hear of your grandfather's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Jennifer Charanza - April 06, 2009 at 02:38 PM