



Daniel Lee Payne

March 3, 1947 - January 31, 2026

It is with great sadness that the family of Daniel Lee Payne announce his passing on January 31, 2026 in Houston, TX. Daniel was born on March 3, 1947 in Palestine, TX to parents Daniel Grady and Ruby Lee (Wilbanks) Payne.

From an early age, Daniel had a deep love for the outdoors and could often be found hunting or fishing, depending on the season. He came from a musically talented family and enjoyed singing and playing the harmonica. As a young man, Daniel proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War from 1966 to 1968.

On February 8, 1968, Daniel married the love of his life, Frances Elizabeth Hymel. During their nearly 58 years of marriage, they lived in several states, including Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Kansas before ultimately settling back in their home state of Texas.

Daniel was a master electrician and spent many years dedicated to his trade. In the early 2000s, he went into business with his brother, performing both residential and commercial electrical work.

Daniel was an avid reader, a passion that only grew stronger after his retirement—often reading three or four books a day. He was also a jokester and a prankster. Always plotting to play a prank on somebody or tell a funny joke. Daniel was a man that had a mind of his own and stood firmly on his beliefs. If he made his mind up on something, there was no changing it. Daniel had a knack for making people feel welcome. If he gave you a nickname, you

knew you were a keeper and had a special place in his heart!

Daniel is preceded in death by his parents; brothers Hayden Payne and Kenneth Payne; and son Kevin Daniel Payne. Left to cherish his memory is his loving wife Frances "Bear" Payne; children Renae Thomas (Joel), and Jason Payne (Andrea); seven sisters - Delores Gatewood, Esther Dickens, Rose Wilkerson (Shorty), Amy Shirey, Vickie Perry (Tim), Laura Barefield, and Ados Largent; grandchildren Amber Noble, Bryce Jenkins, Becky Kent, Chance Payne, Jonathon Bradford, Jocey Payne, Davis Payne, Jazzy Payne, Gracie B. Payne, Presley Payne, Hannah Harbour, and Gracie Jo Harbour; great grandchildren Adalynn Noble, Andrew Noble, Aubrey Jenkins, Lyla Jenkins, Amara Bradford, John Bradford, Jr., Ayren and Jay. He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law.

Daniel was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

A Celebration of Life will be held honoring Daniel's life on February 28, 2026, from 11am-4pm at the Martin Senior Center, 400 Walker Street, Trinity TX 75862. A meal will be provided.

Previous Events

CELBERATION OF LIFE

FEB **28**. 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Martin Senior Center
400 Walker St.
Trinity, TX 75862

Tribute Wall

ID

“ Dan, always called me baby, and treated me like a sister and was Uncle Dan to my children. We were friends since 1979 or 1980.. never saw he mad but once in all that time. With good reason. But always a smile and a kiss. He was family. And will greatly be miss by us all
.love you Dan, and glad your walking with no pain with Jesus.

Ivona Davis - February 10 at 03:08 PM

DF

There will never be another like him! He truly was one of a kind.

Donny Free - February 15 at 09:09 PM

LC

“ Dan always called me by my nickname he gave me 34 years ago. He always made me laugh and love to get the best of me any timebhe could.

Lesa Hymel Capehart - February 09 at 08:44 PM

LT

“ Mr. Dan will be missed. I know he and my dad Bobby (Big 'en) spent a lot of time laughing and talking over the last several years.



Laura Taylor - February 05 at 12:51 PM

MF

“ *Lifting up the family and friends of Daniel
Payne for comfort and strength from our Lord
Jesus Christ.*



Marvin Hyvl & Family - February 05 at 12:22 PM