



Doyle Frederick McAdams, Jr.

October 2, 1925 - February 24, 2012

DOYLE FREDERICK MCADAMS, JR. was born on October 2, 1925 in Madisonville, Texas, to Doyle F. McAdams and Lois Burney McAdams, and died on February 24, 2012 in Huntsville, Texas.

He was a member of a pioneer Texas family. His father's family settled in Walker County in the early 1830's. His mother was a member of an early Texas family from Comfort and Center Point in the Hill Country.

When he was four, he moved to Huntsville, where he lived the rest of his life.

As a child, he worked with his father, and grandfather, James Washington Hiram Walker McAdams, and uncles in the McAdams family businesses. He enjoyed spending as much time as possible with his cousins and grandparents, Papa Wash and Miss Willie, in their home, built in 1929 at the ranch headquarters in northwest Walker County near the old community of McAdams, Texas. It is a home in which his sons have lived, and live, for significant periods of time.

After graduating from Huntsville High in 1942, he attended Texas A&M. Upon turning 18, he joined the United States Army Air Corps, serving as a bomber gunner.

Upon discharge in 1946, he returned to Huntsville to work in the family businesses of ranching, dry goods stores, and other endeavors in Southeast Texas.

He met LaDell Westmoreland in 1948 and they were married on January 29, 1949 at the First (United) Methodist Church of Huntsville. This was the church they were members of for the rest of his life, and where he served on the church's board and numerous church committees.

Doyle McAdams made his career in ranching. McAdams Cattle Company ran steers in Walker, Madison, San Jacinto and Polk counties. They also wintered steers on the salt grass along the Texas Gulf Coast and summered them in the Flint Hills of Oklahoma and Kansas. The cattle were shipped by rail. In 1947, while preparing to ship from Hitchcock, he unfortunately witnessed the Texas City, Texas explosion disaster from afar. In 1956, while driving a herd of some 700 steers from the McAdams Ranch, the 12 Bar, 12 miles northwest of Huntsville to the railroad pens east of Huntsville, the cattle were scared by the airbrakes and horn of an eighteen wheeler and stampeded through downtown Huntsville. It became the last commercial cattle drive through Huntsville.

In the 1960's, Doyle transitioned to running commercial cows and calves, but also was an innovator in the commercial cattle feeding industry. He was one of the first stockholders in Union Feed Yards of Blythe, California. At one time it was the largest feed yard in the United States. He led a group of local cattlemen that built Huntsville Feedyard. It is today the home of the Huntsville Livestock Auction.

He was very active in his community, serving terms on the Huntsville City Council during the 1960s; he participated in business and real estate development, and with his friend, R. B. "Buck" Thomason, developed the Forest Hills subdivision. He was a long time Director of the Huntsville National

Bank. He was a Director of the Huntsville – Walker County Chamber of Commerce, and of the United Way, and served in many other civic and charitable ways.

He was a member of numerous organizations, including the Huntsville A&M Club, serving as President, the Sons of the Republic of Texas, and the Sons of the American Revolution, serving as President of the Captain John McAdams Chapter of the S.A.R.

He was a leader in the cattle industry, as a Director for many years of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, and by representing them on the national level as a member of the Animal Health Committee of the National Cattlemen's Association.

He served as a Director and President of the Board of the San Jacinto River Authority of the State of Texas. His 25-year tenure encompassed the conception and completion of Lake Conroe, which provides water for many, including the people of Greater Houston. He served at the appointment of four Governors of Texas: John Connally, Preston Smith, Dolph Briscoe and William P. Clements. After those 25 years of service, he continued this commitment to water issues by serving, until late in his life, as a member of his region's committee of the State's system of water planning.

Doyle is survived by his wife of 63 years, Dell, and they were very devoted to each other. Dad is survived by his son, James Doyle "Jim" McAdams, Jim's wife Dr. Molly Meade McAdams, and Papa's grandsons, James William "Will" McAdams and John Kohl McAdams. Dad is survived by his son, Judge William Lee "Bill" McAdams, Bill's wife Shan Walley McAdams, and Papa's granddaughter McKinsey Kelton McAdams Copeland, and McKinsey's husband Baron Kyle Copeland. He is also survived by his numerous

McAdams and Burney cousins, whom he also loved dearly.

Doyle had many other and varied interests and experiences in his life. He sang well. He played tennis well. He loved to follow the stock market. Doyle loved the American West, and travelled there many times, often with his friends Jack Kyle and Doyle Stuckey. He loved being “out in the country”, and spending time at his lake house on the ranch. He read extensively, and with a keen sense of curiosity. He treasured the past, but was always looking to the future. He enjoyed his family; and he and Dell had innumerable friends to whom they were loyal, from all over and from all walks of life.

Doyle F. McAdams, Jr. worked hard, and he was devoted in preserving his family’s heritage. He was true to his faith, a man’s man, a cowman’s cowman, a steward of the land, and a loyal Texas Aggie. His legacy is strong.

The McAdams family wishes to express its gratitude to Mr. McAdams’ caregivers: Carolyn Ashley, Anedra C. Mock, Lidia Ramos, Lizeth Nieto, Deisy Abrego and Jessie Johnson.

Mr. McAdams will lie in state Sunday, February 26, 2012, 2:30- 6:30 p.m., at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home Chapel in Huntsville, Texas. A visitation will be held at the First United Methodist Church of Huntsville on Monday, February 27, 2012, beginning at 1:00 p.m. His funeral service is to be conducted at the First United Methodist Church of Huntsville on Monday, February 27, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. The interment is to follow at the Oakwood Cemetery in Huntsville.

Honorary Pallbearers are Andy Adams, Dr. Tommy Cole, Col. M. B. Etheredge, Rev. Tom Holcomb, Jack Kyle, Brock Lively, A.C. Merchant, James Patton, Judge Danny Pierce, Hal Ridley, Morris Shaw, Doyle Stuckey, Alvin Stutts, Edwin Thomason, Jimmy Wood, and Mac Woodward.

In lieu of customary remembrances, the family requests that any memorial contributions in Mr. McAdams' name be made to the First United Methodist Church of Huntsville Foundation, 1016 Sam Houston Ave., Huntsville Texas 77320.

Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.shmfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Doyle Frederick McAdams, Jr.*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Dear Mrs. McAdams, I am so very sorry to hear of Mr. McAdams passing. He was such a nice man, full of laughter and all that life had to offer. I will always remember him as a tower of strength and a man that loved his family deeply. Much love, Debbie*

Debbie Vaughan Norton - September 01, 2013 at 02:17 PM



“ *To the McAdams family, we want to express our heartfelt sorrow on the loss of Doyle. We were out of town and upon returning we heard of this misfortune and just wanted the family to know that our thoughts and prayers are with each and every one of you and I hope and you may find peace and comfort in the eyes of the Lord. God Bless you all and please let us know if there is anything at all that we may do to help you at this difficult time. Floyd, Maryann Moore and Family.*

Floyd and Maryann Moore - March 03, 2012 at 05:54 PM



“ *Bill, our sympathy to you and your family on the loss of your Dad. Pat & Vicki Hogan*

Pat & Vicki Hogan - February 29, 2012 at 03:49 PM

CW

“ Jim, Bill, and Ms. McAdams, I want to express my heartfelt sympathy. May the love of family and friends comfort you. Coleman, Elizabeth, Joe and Sandra Ward

Coleman L. Ward - February 27, 2012 at 03:03 PM

JM

“ Jim and Bill,
My deepest sympathy over the loss of your dad. It's never easy whatever the age or situation. He certainly lived an impressive life. I wish I had had the privilege of knowing him. There are not many like him left and the country is poorer for it.
I hope to see you all this spring. Take care.
Joe Munson'60
(4.5)

Joe Munson - February 27, 2012 at 02:56 PM

MJ

“ We are very sorry to hear of your loss. May God wrap his arms around you during this time.

Mellicent Wiley & Children Bobby II, Heather & Jason, Heath, Justin & Joanna -
February 27, 2012 at 09:52 AM

BN

“ Prayers for the McAdams family during your time of sorrow. Mr. McAdams will truly be missed. He and Althen Niederhofer were good friends in the cattle business.

Beverly Conner Niederhofer - February 26, 2012 at 10:03 PM

AC

“ I am so saddened to hear about your lost. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Ann McAdams Colwell

Ann McAdams Colwell - February 26, 2012 at 08:12 PM

HA

“ Jim and Bill, we are so sorry to hear of your Dad's death. We both have fond memories of him. We knew he had been in ill health for a while but it is never easy to lose them. I (Marla) have so many memories of our 4-H Club and all us kids riding and seeing him there. We pray God's peace on all of you.

Herb and Marla Atkinson - February 26, 2012 at 07:27 PM

DB

“ Our deepest sympathies are extended to the McAdams family.

Dan & Donna Beto - February 26, 2012 at 06:41 PM

JD

“ My condolences to all of your family during this sad time. My dad Bun Park visited and knew all of the McAdams family very well, as we lived just down the road from the McAdams Ranch. We Park's have many fond memories growing up as neighbors to the McAdams and will always remember home. Mr. Doyle will be remembered.

Janie (Park) Dulaney - February 26, 2012 at 06:17 PM

CF

“ Jim,
Sending our love and prayers to you and your family... I'm thankful I got to meet your Dad the few times I was in Texas. He was an incredible man.
All our love,
Colleen, Grace, and Jesse

Colleen Fraker - February 26, 2012 at 05:44 PM

SS

“ Our prayers and thoughts are with The McAdams Families. With our deepest symapthy, Shelly, Craig and Betty Stover (Madisonville)

shelly stover - February 26, 2012 at 01:28 PM

DH

“ We learned what class was when we moved to Huntsville at the beginning of the summer of 1964 without knowing anyone. Dell and Bill were the first to reach out and make friends. We later got to know Doyle and Jim. All of those acts of friendship meant a lot. I am sorry to hear of this great loss.

Dennis Herlong - February 26, 2012 at 09:51 AM

MK

“ To the McAdams family, Our thoughts and prayers go out to you. Mr. Doyle was a wonderful man and had a wonderful family. "GOD BLESS"
Love,

Milton & Peggy Kroesche - February 25, 2012 at 09:00 PM

CM

“ We were very saddened to hear of Doyle's passing. What a gentleman he always was, doting on Miss Dell. Our families go back a long way, and we will keep the family in our thoughts and prayers, always. The Huntsville Community has lost a wonderful person.
Lots of Love, Ann and Charles Mallery

charles and Ann Mallery - February 25, 2012 at 05:27 PM

JB

“ *Bill and family, I send you my sincerest sympathy on the loss of your dear father. You all have enjoyed a beautiful family life together and I hope that you may lean into those memories as you mourn this loss. May God bless you all.*

*Bill, I will always remember the goodness and kindness that you extended to me as I began a new life in Huntsville many years ago.
Julie Grivich Benkoski*

Julie Grivich Benkoski - February 25, 2012 at 05:10 PM

RF

“ *Ms McAdams family.
Sentimos mucho la muerte de su esposo
mi esposa lidia y yo lo tendremos siempre en nuestras oraciones. y
estara siempre en nuestro
corazon.*

Con carino suyos en Cristo

*Diacono Felix Ramos y familia. 02/25/2012
02:03 pm*

Ramos family - February 25, 2012 at 03:00 PM

LW

“ *Ms.Dell,
I'm sorry for your lost. We will miss Mr. McAdams. If there is
anything I can do give me a call. Love you very much dear.*

Love

Laura Walker-Jessie sister

Laura Walker - February 25, 2012 at 08:20 AM

KD

“ *June and I were saddened to hear of Doyle's passing. We always
enjoyed working with in him. We will keep him and you in our
prayers.*

Ken & June Davis - February 25, 2012 at 08:00 AM

NJ

“ *So very sorry to read about Doyle's death. All of you were so very
nice to me while I was in Huntsville as the SHSU Alumni Director
(1977-1992). My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Norma Dell
Jones of Lovelady.*

Norma Dell Jones - February 24, 2012 at 09:52 AM