



Ferol Robinson

January 1, 1918 - February 7, 2007

Funeral services for Dr. Ferol "Dr. R." Robinson are scheduled for 10:00am, February 7, 2007 at the First United Methodist Church in Huntsville. Interment will follow at Brooke Cemetery, Huntsville. Reverend Ellen Willett will officiate at both services. Dr. Robinson was born in Jewett, Texas to Bob and Cloud Robinson June 1, 1918. He died February 4, 2007. He was graduated from Jewett schools and received B.S. and M.S. degrees from Sam Houston State University. A doctor's degree was earned at the University of Missouri, Columbia in 1953. Robinson married Mary Creed Engledow January 27, 1946. He was always quick to share the credit for his success with Mrs. Robinson and often said much credit should be given her for his accomplishments. Following a three and one-half year hitch in the Army in the Classification and Assignment Division and as a Separation Counselor, he joined the Sam Houston State staff in September, 1946. Upon return to Sam Houston from two years leave of absence for Doctoral studies at the University of Missouri, President Harmon Lowman asked Robinson to become director of journalism. Robinson was head of the Journalism department and director of public relations for twenty years. Some of the nation's top newsmen and women were trained in the department during those years. He was always quick to credit quality of instruction to a faculty he assembled. Practicing newsmen were hired to teach two courses each semester. Coming to campus two days weekly from the Houston Post and Houston Chronicle were Jim Mousner, Leon Hale, Mickey Herskowitz, O.D. Wilson, Stan Redding

and Gayle McNutt. For ten years prior to retirement, Dr. Robinson served as Vice-President for University Affairs at SHSU. Following retirement he served as Editor Emeritus of The Huntsville Morning News. His community activities included two terms City Council, two terms Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce and founding committee for advertising Huntsville in East Texas Travel Guide. Robinson was a member of the First United Methodist Church for more than fifty years. He served three terms as member of the Administrative Board, taught Sunday school class and was a charter member of the Wesley Foundation Board of Directors. He was a charter member of the Raven Hills Higher Education Corporation and a member of the SHSU Foundation. Among Dr. Robinson's membership organizations include Sigma Delta Chi, Phi Kappa Alpha, Who's Who in South and Southwest, Kappa Delta Phi, Pi Kappa Delta and received his 60 year membership Mason's award. He is listed in Who's Who in Personalities in Southwest and the Dictionary of International Biography, Sixth Ed., London. In April 1983, he was named SHSU Distinguished Alumni. In 1981, his journalism graduates established the Ferol Robinson Journalism Endowment. Another Ferol Robinson Journalism Endowment was established by Karey Bresenham in 1998. Allen and Patty Gage established a Ferol Robinson Journalism Scholarship Endowment in 2003. A Ferol Robinson Scholarship Program was established at SHSU by Dr. and Mrs. Kailas Rao. He is survived by daughter Patty Trammell and husband Max of Willis, Texas, two grandchildren and five great grandchildren, two sisters, Mrs. Nealy Evans, Jewett, Texas and Mrs. Callie Skains and husband Jim, Dallas. He was preceded in death by wife, Mary Creed Robinson and daughter Pamela Robinson. Pallbearers are Allen Gage, Frank Krystyniak, Jack Sheridan, George Miles, Myles Knape, Clay Hooper, Jon McConal, Joel Barnard, Bill Hall, Bleu Beathard, Glen Lowry, Perry Smith, Larry Storrs, Don Sanders and Phil Warner. Honorary pallbearers include Lee Drain, Karey Bresenhan, Patty Gage, Ed Sandhop, Bill Prewitt, Platt McLaughin, J.M. Pollard, Walter Bennett, Dr. Jack Staggs, Morris Waller and Jim Mousner. The family will

receive friends on Tuesday, February 6, 2007 from 4:00 – 6:00pm at the Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home. Memorial condolences made be made online at www.shmfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ferol Robinson*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Dear Patty, I am so sorry to hear about your Daddy. I remember him and your mom like it was yesterday. My heartfelt sympathy to you.*
Joan Anderson

Joan Anderson - February 08, 2007 at 06:28 PM

BB

“ My name is Bleu Beathard. During Dr. R’s teaching career, he worked with hundreds of journalism students, and among them all, I was his favorite. He never actually said that, but I could tell by the way he treated me. Of course, he treated the hundreds of other students exactly the same way.

Although it has been nearly 50 years since I graduated from Sam Houston, I can still see Dr. R standing in the doorway of his crowded little office in the corner of the Houstonian news room with a big smile on his face and saying to some student with a problem, “Come into my office, hoss. Let’s figure this out.”

While I am not 100 percent positive about this, I feel pretty sure that Dr. R has already checked into Heaven and been assigned to a job at the Pearly Gates. Right after Saint Peter checks the list and tells a new arrival that they will be admitted, Dr. R steps up and says, “Welcome to Heaven. Come on in here, hoss.”

My father was a teacher, my mother was a teacher, I had eight aunts and uncles who were teachers, my sister was a teacher, and my son and my daughter are teachers. I have a strong affection for teachers. And I had some excellent ones from elementary school through college. But Dr. R was by far the best and my absolute favorite, just as I and several hundred other people were his.

Bleu Beathard - February 07, 2007 at 07:16 PM

DM

“ It would be impossible to guess the number of lives Ferol Robinson touched during his many years at Sam Houston. He made you believe in yourself. He made you believe you could be successful, even when you had never see it in yourself.

A rousing hello from Dr. “R” always made your day. He was as comfortable talking to a would-be student’s parents as he was talking to the President of the Board of Regents. He was everybody’s best friend.

Informal sessions with Dr. “R” and Glenn Brown in the “Mole Hole” were times to cherish. We learned more about how to be responsible adults and how to achieve success in those sessions than pretty much anything else we did. Many is the time I’ve thought about Dr. “R” and thought to myself, “ How would Dr. “R” have handled this?”

It was such a thrill to spend time with him last September in Huntsville. I’ll always remember Dr. “R” and all he did for me, knowing I’m not alone.

Don Rascoe, Ellicott City, Maryland - February 06, 2007 at 06:18 PM

DC

“ Dear Patty,

I read about your father’s death in the Houston Chronicle this morning. Although I haven’t seen you in many years, I wanted you to know how very sorry I am, and that I will be keepipng you in my thoughts and prayers. I remember you telling so many stories about your Daddy and Mother and how proud you were of them both. My younger daughter, Megan, will be graduating from Sam this May! Take care, Deb Cejka (your old INA buddy)

Deb Cejka - February 06, 2007 at 05:03 PM

NR

“ *Ferol was always a kind and gentle man and made everyone feel right at home especially when Pam and Patty brought a gal friend or two home to Huntsville over the years. I always looked forward to receiving my first Christmas card each year from Ferol and Creedie. It was my pleasure to have known him.*

Nancy Richter - February 06, 2007 at 12:45 PM

“ Dear Patty: You'll hear this a lot, but I have to say it — Dr. R. changed my life. He was mentor, advocate and a dear friend. He always called me "GG," and the way he said it made me feel extra special. I called a few weeks ago: "Dr. R., this is Glenda, and I'm coming over for lunch next Tuesday if that's okay." "Now, who is this?" he asked. "Oh — GG. Well, why didn't you say so?"

Our family didn't have a lot of money for college, and in my sophomore year Dr. R. created a job for me when tuition was due. I even did some babysitting for you and Pam once in a while. He scratched around for scholarships to fill in the gaps. Celebrated my victories and counseled me when I was heading off in the wrong direction. Taught me everything I needed to know about great writing and editing and about the joy of taking the high road. He was an old-school journalist who preached DeWitt Reddick, the 5Ws and responsible reporting. He understood the value of strong relationships to a reporter (or a college professor) way before that became a media buzz phrase. He could pick up the phone and get through to anyone on campus whenever he needed something done. He laughed with us and cried with us, and most of all refused to take no for an answer where his kids were concerned. And we were all his kids.

I can see him now — pipe in his mouth — in the little glass cubicle of an office in the Graphic Arts Building, pecking out a memo on that beat-up old manual typewriter. And I can see the gleam of pride in his eye when he showed me the site of the new Bearkat baseball field on a recent visit. (We shared a passion for college baseball.)

Thanks to you and to your family for sharing him with us. We have been blessed. How wonderful it would be if every person could know the love and support of a man like Dr. R. He really made a difference, though he would argue with me about that. "No, GG, I just had a great bunch of students, that's all. Just a great bunch of students in a great school." Who could ask for more?

Glenda Grant Goehrs - Class of 1960 (Austin, TX)

Glenda Grant Goehrs - Class of 1960 - February 06, 2007 at 12:26 PM

SG

“ *My father, Raymond Davis, and Ferol enjoyed many a game of dominoes with their cohorts. I was fortunate to get to observe some of their good times, and spend time chatting when he came to visit my dad in later years. I'd known Ferol since the 50's, when he and Ben Gillespie were on the faculty of SHSU in the Journalism department. My sympathy to you and the family. Ferol will be missed.*

Suzanne Gillespie - February 06, 2007 at 09:37 AM

NJ

“ *What a shock to learn of my good friend Ferol Robinson's death. What a loss to Sam Houston, Huntsville, and to all of the SHSU Alumni! When I was a student at SAM he was my advisor on the "Houstonian". When I was the Alumni Director he still advised me. How he will be missed. Thank you, Dr. R. for helping us all! Norma Dell and Jerry D. Jones of Lovelady.*

Norma Dell & Jerry D. Jones - February 05, 2007 at 09:29 AM

DB

“ *Ferol Robinson was a great man who made significant contributions to higher education. I first met him in the early 1960s and we immediately became friends. I will miss his friendship and his great sense of humor. My deepest sympathies are extended to his family and friends.*

Dan Richard Beto - February 04, 2007 at 07:38 PM

MT

“ It seems as if it were yesterday that my family and I walked into Feroi Robinson's office on that hot July morning. We had left Menard County at 3 a.m. to arrive there for our appointment. He made us feel as if we were royalty, and I knew immediately that I had selected the correct place to complete my degree. He became my mentor and my friend, and through the years we maintained that friendship. My husband and son and I have had many good visits in his home as well as in ours. We loved his stories, especially the milk cow story. In fact, I use that story in my English classes at Lon Morris College. We shall miss him and his lively, upbeat spirit. Mary Ellen Walker Thornton

Mary Ellen Walker Thornton - February 04, 2007 at 03:39 PM