



Dr. George Robert Vick

December 18, 1920 - August 22, 2013

Dr. George Robert Vick Dr. George Robert Vick was born to Clara Lena Arnold Vick and George Henry Vick on December 18, 1920 at his paternal grandmother's farm between Huntsville and New Waverly, Texas. He passed away in Huntsville on August 19, 2013 at age 92. He is survived by his wife of sixty nine and a half years, Sybil Heath Vick, and his younger daughter, Christina Vick. He was preceded in death by his parents, his uncles and one aunt, and his elder daughter, Adrienne Vick. From first grade through high school, George attended the Demonstration School on the campus of Sam Houston State Teachers College, now Sam Houston State University, graduating as valedictorian of the last senior class. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees at that university, where he taught mathematics for forty six years, chairing the department for eleven years. In pursuit of his doctorate in the 1950s and 1960s, he attended the University of Iowa and the University of Oklahoma, ultimately receiving the Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. In the 1970s he chaired the Texas section of the Mathematical Association of America. During his tenure at SHSU he served on numerous committees, including an advisory committee to the university president. In 2003 he was honored to receive the SHSU Alumni Association Service Award for exemplifying the university motto, "The measure of a life is its service." For one year prior to his induction into the United States Army during World War II, he taught at Huntsville High School, where he met his future bride, Sybil Heath. They married on Christmas Day 1943. During the war he had a year's

anti-aircraft training in El Paso before being shipped to England and then on to the European theatre, where he served in the Occupation Army, finally returning to his family on Mother's Day 1946. George had a lifelong love of music, beginning as a student of Miss Inez Powell. He played the guitar and the accordion, and during the occupation was able to attend the University of Nancy, France, where he studied piano and voice. George and Sybil sang in Huntsville's historic first production of Handel's Messiah at Sam Houston's Old Main building on the evening of December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor Day. In light of the terrible events of that day, the choir thought no one would come; the house was packed. He and Sybil sang in many subsequent productions of The Messiah over the years, and George performed in local productions of Amahl and the Night Visitors, several Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, the Huntsville Men's Chorus, and with Sybil in the Bach Choir. For nearly forty years, George and Sybil had season tickets to the Houston Grand Opera, but George also loved Roy Rogers and the Sons of the Pioneers and the Light Crust Doughboys. At least as important as his professional career to George was his lifelong membership in the Huntsville Church of Christ, where for many decades he taught adult classes, led the congregational singing, and served as an elder. George and Sybil were world travelers, visiting Canada, Great Britain, Europe, the USSR, Hawaii, Japan, China, Morocco, Crete, and Rhodes. Dr. Vick's memorial service will take place on Thursday, August 22 at 10:00 a.m. at the Huntsville Church of Christ. Interment will follow at the Adickes Addition of Oakwood Cemetery in Huntsville. The family will receive friends Wednesday, August 21, 5:00-8:00 p.m. at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that people make contributions to their favorite charities. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.shmfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. George Robert Vick*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Sorry I am so late to share a memory. I just found out about Dr. Vick's passing. My condolences to the family. I am a 1965 Master's degree in math where Dr. Vick was my advisor. We spoke on Fermat's Last Theorem many times. I finished a PhD in math at the University of Houston and have over 100 publications. I worked at NASA for over 27 years and still teach calculus as an adjunct at HCCS. I see Dr. Edmonson and Dr. Guy at the AEF (R.L. Moore Foundation) meetings from time to time. Dr. Edmondson was Dr. Vick's advisor for the PhD at UT. I had coffee with Dr. Vick most every morning for 2 years. He kept his Master students up, taught, and worked on his PhD all at the same time. I was truly lucky to get him as an advisor.*

*Regards,
Travis A. Moebes, PhD*

Travis A. Moebes - May 11, 2015 at 07:50 PM



“ *Sybil and Chris,
God sends us special friends to share our lives. Your family is an example of that love and affection. Your wonderful friendship with Rubye and Levi --extended to the whole family. Thank you for your love.*

*Memories of George will have a special place in my heart, forever.
Peace and comfort to you at this time.*

Hazel Gentry & the extended Bill Gentry family

Hazel Gentry - August 24, 2013 at 01:44 PM

DG

“ Dear Sybil and Chris,
Some of my earliest memories are of George and your family, like test driving our new "Olds" out on the access roads that were all that existed of I-45 back then. From this kid's perspective it wasn't important that this was a brilliant, talented and amazing man. What mattered was that George was a faithful and fun-loving family fixture.

From childhood in the '50s until now, George and Sybil were unrivaled as the first to come to mind when one thought of family friends. Mom and Dad and George and Sybil shared world travels and life's travails. George's unassuming, completely dependable friendship to Mom and Dad is the treasure and legacy George leaves to my family and me.

May God give you the peace, comfort and assurance that He alone can give in this time of

George's passing. A star has set, but only for a while.

Love to you, Chrissie and Sybil!

Dave Gentry

Dave Gentry - August 23, 2013 at 12:09 AM

GG

“ Sybil and Chris, the hearts and spirits of all of our family are with you and those gathered at this hour to honor and celebrate George's life. We love you and cherish the deep friendship and everlasting bonds we have shared for so many years, and our prayers are with you now and in the days to come. The Gentrys

Glenda Gentry - August 22, 2013 at 11:10 AM

JM

“ Sybil, we have so many great memories of both of you and have great respect for the life George lived. Our travel times are memories we cherish. Our love to you all.

Joyce and Jimmy Merchant - August 21, 2013 at 02:36 PM

JR

“ To the Vick Family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. I will always remember him when I hear the hymn "The Lord Bless You and Keep You." Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.

Juanita Richardson - August 21, 2013 at 02:33 PM

NJ

“ What a pleasure it was to work with Dr. Vick while I was the SHSU Alumni Director at SAM (1977-1992). He was an extremely smart man and a gentleman==also very talented. Norma Dell Jones of Lovelady.

Norma Dell Jones - August 21, 2013 at 12:11 PM

BP

“ Our Loss but Heavens' gain. God Bless you Sybil and Christine. Our Love and prayers. Bob and Rosemary Payne

Bob Payne - August 19, 2013 at 07:05 PM

GG

“ Dear Family, What a wonderful life! So many fond memories of singing with George. God's blessings as you say goodbye to one of the best.

Greg and Dani Gathright - August 19, 2013 at 05:13 PM