



Harry Esmond Clift

April 28, 1945 - November 24, 2017

Harry "Skip" Esmond Clift, 72, went home to be with the Lord on Friday, November 24th, 2017, with his family at his side.

Skip was born in Portland, Maine on April 28, 1945. He was raised in Tennessee by his loving grandmother, Lennie Pearl Clift until the age of 8 and later by his father and stepmother Clyde & Katherine Clift. In 1963, at the age of 18, he joined the Air Force where he would serve as a medic, gaining the rank of Sergeant and completing his enlistment in 1969. While working with Roloff Ministries in South Texas, he met his wife, Gloria Ann Smith, and they were married on January 8, 1983 at Faith Baptist Church in Mission, Texas. In 1983, Skip created Skip Clift Insurance Agency where his commitment to and pride in his work have been displayed until his death. In his dealings over the years, Skip has been a friend to many and through this developed a heart for those in need. He had a special love for those who were incarcerated. In 1996 he began serving as a chaplain at the Ellis Unit in Huntsville, Texas where, over the years, he has touched the lives of many. To those who knew him and his desire to share his faith with others, it was no surprise when in 2009 he accepted pastorship of Big Creek Missionary Baptist Church in Shepherd, Texas where he served until his passing. Through all of this, Skip was a loving husband and father to his family.

Skip was preceded in death by his grandparents, Fred and Lennie Clift; parents, Clyde and Katherine Clift; nephew, Warren John Clift Jr.; and father-in-law, Alvin Smith.

He leaves behind his wife of 34 years, Gloria Clift; his sons, Robert (Kristi) White and Kevin (Connie) Clift; his daughters, Cindy (Chris) Darland, Stacy (Trevor) Woita and Stephanie (Donnie) Davis; grandchildren, Paige Clift, Austin Clift, Bobby White, Kara Darland, Kaden Darland, Riley Davis; brother, Warren (Darlene) Clift; sister, Phyllis (Charles) Whitten; stepsister, Angelynn Morgan; and many in-laws, nieces, nephews and friends too numerous to count.

His passion in life was to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with everyone he met. He was many things to many people and will be deeply missed by all. Visitation with family is scheduled for Tuesday, November 28th from 5-7 PM at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Willis. Funeral Services will be Wednesday, November 29th at 11 AM in the Chapel at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Willis, with Burial following at Smith Memorial Park in Willis. You are invited to leave a written condolence on our website at www.shmfh.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **28**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Willis
10129 FM 1097 Rd W.
Willis, TX 77318
(936) 890-0454
greg@shmfh.com

Funeral services

NOV **29**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Willis
10129 FM 1097 Rd W.
Willis, TX 77318
(936) 890-0454
greg@shmfh.com

Interment following service

NOV **29** (CT)

Smith Memorial Park Cemetery - Willis
10129 FM 1097 Rd W
Willis, TX 77318
(936) 890-0454
greg@shmfh.com
<https://www.shmfh.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Harry Esmond Clift*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *I was blessed to have known my friend and brother Skip from the time we shared back in 1980-81 at the late Bro. Lester Roloff's home for older men, the "City of Refuge" in Corpus Christi, Texas. For all those years since until sometime last year we had lost track of each other and I always wondered how things had gone for him. Thankfully, via Facebook last year we re-connected and stayed in touch by phone sharing some wonderful fellowship with each other. I had hoped to be able to travel to Texas at some point in the future for a visit but now we'll have an even better reunion together in Heaven in the presence of Jesus. What a day that will be. I am so thankful that Skip went on to have a fruitful life for the Lord and a wonderful life with Gloria and their family after we went on with our lives. God is so GOOD! To Gloria and the rest of the family and all those whose lives Skip's walk with the Lord impacted I can only say that we can all share in the same thanks and some very good memories this side of the glory land. God Bless you all. Greg Perry Sr., Pickens, SC*

Gregory Perry Sr. - December 01, 2017 at 08:43 PM

KK

“ Steve and I remember Skip with very fond memories. He was such an encouragement to us as the "new kids" on the block back then. I specifically remember his concern that we needed a table in our first little apartment in McAllen...indeed he was right--every married couple needs a table of some sort, right! So much growth and nurturing happened around that table you brought. Thank you, Skip.

We mourn your passing, Skip, but rejoice you are with your Savior. We'll see you in a few short years.

Kim Kooy - November 30, 2017 at 09:00 AM

JP

“ We are very saddened at the loss of our friend Skip who we admired as more than an insurance man. He was always there for us. Since I am the Catholic Pro-Life Director for our Diocese, we would have conversations about Pro-Life and discuss different political figures. I enjoyed talking to Skip and loved him as a brother in Christ. He was not hesitant to talk about God and I deeply respected him for that. He will surely be missed but not forgotten. Jerry M. Peters Pro-Life Director for the Diocese of San Angelo, Texas. Owner of CM Construction Co.

Jerry M. Peters - November 28, 2017 at 07:08 PM

RL

“ I had the opportunity to work with Skip over the last several years on the Rivershire HOA where he and I were board members. I remember clearly his first meeting when he asked if we could lead off in prayer. That says everything about our dear friend and neighbor Skip... A man of God and a friend to all. You will be missed.

R Lisembee - November 28, 2017 at 11:16 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Harry Esmond Clift.*



November 28, 2017 at 09:38 AM



“ *Gary and Barbara Rice purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Harry Esmond Clift.*



Gary and Barbara Rice - November 28, 2017 at 07:49 AM



“ *I was blessed to be Brother Skip's pastor for a few years at Faith Baptist Church. I found him to be a friend, a faithful and consistent church member, a man who loved his wife and family, also a man who loved and cared for others. He will be greatly missed.*

Carl Braswell - November 27, 2017 at 09:39 PM



“ *Remembering our Friday night pizza dinners with Bro Skip, Gloria and family! Always had a wonderful time in the Lord as well as a lot of laughter! God is so good to have given us a friendship for a lifetime. It is wonderful to know that Bro Skip is in the BEST place, even though he will be missed so much....his loving testimony will live on...sending love and lots of prayers to the family! Love in Christ, Mrs. Patti Kelley*

Patti Kelley - November 27, 2017 at 08:27 PM

DV

“ Skip was such a wonderful man. I worked with Gloria for many years and every time Skip would call and ask for Gloria he always took the time to talk to me and brighten my day. He will be missed, our condolences to Gloria and the family.



David and Belinda Verbeke - November 27, 2017 at 05:53 PM

TP

“ The Purcell's purchased the Sapphire Skies Bouquet for the family of Harry Esmond Clift.



The Purcell's - November 27, 2017 at 05:51 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Harry Esmond Clift.



November 27, 2017 at 05:24 PM

EJ

“ Lots of fond memories of Skip. He will be missed greatly! So glad we were able to make a trip to TX 2 summers ago and my kids got to meet him.

Erin Jones - November 27, 2017 at 05:15 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Harry Esmond Clift.



November 27, 2017 at 05:10 PM