



Jerry Nemec

February 3, 1924 - January 18, 2023

Jerry Nemec, 98, of Huntsville passed away peacefully on January 18, 2023. He was born in the Lilac Community in Milam County, Texas. He grew up helping his family with work on the farm. The family farm was the center of the community. They had orchards and raised different types of fruits and berries. On the farm they had a blacksmith's shop and a butcher shop, where they ran a beef club with members from the community. They also had a syrup mill where people would come from all over and bring their cane to make syrup. Jerry graduated from Sharp High School and enrolled at Durham Business School in Austin. While attending school, he worked at the Del-Valley Airport at night writing tickets for the truck loads of material as they arrived. After finishing business school, he returned to Lilac and was going to find a job close to home. Shortly after returning he received a notice, that at age 18, he would be called up for the draft. So, he volunteered and signed up for the Air Force. He was stationed in Papua New Guinea in the South Pacific, where he was part of the Fifth Air Force, Army Air Corp. When the direction of the war changed, he was sent to the Philippines to Clark Air Field to check on space for campsites, then returned to Papua New Guinea. In July 1945, they thought they were going to construct a campsite in the Philippines but ended up the Tokyo, Japan. Jerry made sketches for the layout of the camp to house soldiers returning home at the end of the war.

December 9, 1945 he was back on U.S. soil. After arriving home, he enrolled at Texas A&M to study engineering. HE was the first to enroll on the G.I. bill at

Texas A&M and received a degree in Civil Engineering. He moved around Central and East Texas working on bridged and other road construction. He was offered a job in Fairfield, where he met Martha Jane Laird. They married on October 6, 1951. The next three years, they moved from one location to the next, around North East Texas for construction jobs. In July of 1952, they had a daughter, Dyan Nemec. Jerry had an offer for a job in Fort Worth where he designed and completed the work on the Fort Worth Flood Plane while working for Russell Smith.

Around 1954, the Highway Department ask him to take a job in Huntsville, Texas to design and construct the bypass around Huntsville. They moved to Huntsville, set up the Highway Department office and started designing and constructing the bypass. People in Austin were impressed by the design. That was the first section to be built, that became part of the Highway Interstate System.

He retired from the Highway Department in 1985, after 31 years. He started his own Engineering Consulting Business and completed numerous jobs around Walker County, including the Veterans Museum in Huntsville. He also worked for the Walker County Department of Planning and Development for many years until 2019. In his spare time, Jerry enjoyed hunting and fishing, along with gardening and cooking.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents Val Nemec and Annie Ouda Nemec. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Martha Jane; brother Marvin Nemec of Houston, TX and sister Betsy Hilliard of Killeen, TX; one daughter Dyan Nemec; grandson Alan Ray Tate and granddaughter Savannah Castell, several great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held on Tuesday January 24, 2023 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville. Services will be held on Wednesday January 25 at 10:00am at the Walker County Storm Shelter. Graveside services will be at Fairfield City Cemetery at approximately 2:00pm. Memorial condolences to the family may be made at www.shmfh.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 24. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville
1700 Normal Park Dr
Huntsville

Funeral Service

JAN 25. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Walker County Storm Shelter
455 TX-75
Huntsville, TX 77320

Graveside Service

JAN 25. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM.

Fairfield City Cemetery

Tribute Wall

SW

“ Sarah Wiley lit a candle in memory of Jerry Nemec



Sarah Wiley - February 05, 2023 at 10:00 AM

SW

Dyan. Sending condolences and prayers for the passing of your father. He lead a very fulfilling and exciting life. God truly blessed you to have him so long to meet many generations of family. Much love to you and your family. God bless you.

Sarah Wiley - February 05, 2023 at 10:05 AM

NV

“ I worked with Mr. Nemec in the Planning & Development department for the county. From my first day to my last day there, he was so inviting and helpful with any information I asked for. His smile will be greatly missed. God bless his family and give them peace during this time.

Nicole Venette - January 27, 2023 at 02:26 PM


Charlotte Efird

“ Charlotte Efird lit a candle in memory of Jerry Nemec



Charlotte Efird - January 22, 2023 at 11:06 PM

BB

“ *Bonnie Barker lit a candle in memory of Jerry Nemec*



Bonnie Barker - January 22, 2023 at 06:12 PM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Jerry Nemec.*



January 21, 2023 at 04:03 PM

DH

“ *Dianna Holbrook lit a candle in memory of Jerry Nemec*



Dianna Holbrook - January 21, 2023 at 12:24 PM

MH

“ *M. Hyvl sent a virtual gift in memory of Jerry Nemec*



M. Hyvl - January 21, 2023 at 12:01 PM

AO

“ *Annette Olivier lit a candle in memory of Jerry Nemec*



Annette Olivier - January 21, 2023 at 02:41 AM

AO

“ *Jerry Nemec was one of a kind. He never met a stranger and always had a smile for everyone. He was my mentor for over ten years at the county, but my dear friend for 15 years. He had a heart of gold and would do anything for anyone. He was always ready to share a story and knew more about the history of this community than anyone I know. He was a proud veteran and an integral part of the H.E.A.R.T.S. Veterans Museum. He was a proud Aggie.*

Above all, he was a great man, there will never be another one like him.

I will miss him everyday.

Annette Olivier

Annette Olivier - January 21, 2023 at 02:40 AM

LK

“ *Lex And Ramona Koch lit a candle in memory of Jerry Nemec*



Lex and Ramona Koch - January 21, 2023 at 01:28 AM

BS

“ *Beverly Stewart lit a candle in memory of
Jerry Nemec*



Beverly Stewart - January 20, 2023 at 07:20 PM