



JJ Head

October 17, 1930 - May 18, 2014

J.J. Head Jr. went home to be with the Lord on May 14, 2014. He is survived by the love of his life and soul mate Willard Faye James Head, daughters Jenna Beaver and husband Joe, daughter Jackie and husband Hudson Hudgins, grandson JC Peters, brother-in-law Audrey Baker, all of Huntsville, and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by parents J.J. Head Sr. and Lola Winters Templeton Head, brothers James Templeton, Matthew Jerome Templeton, son-in-law David Peters and grandson Brody Beaver, sister-in-laws Lorene Hamblin, Charlene Baker and Solora Riemenschneider. Born October 17, 1930 in Huntsville, Texas, he was a third generation resident of Walker County. He attended school in Huntsville where he was active in the football program at Huntsville High School making All-District Guard for two years. He graduated in 1947. And he began attending Victoria College in 1951. He was All-Conference Guard for two years and one year was Little All-American Guard. In 1952 he was All-American End, Western Air Defense. While in Victoria, JJ enlisted in the Texas Air National Guard, 136 Fighter Group, on January 11, 1951. On October 1st of that year, he was called to active duty to Aloe Field in Victoria. Later he was in the 503rd Air Defense Group, stationed in Spokane, Washington and Portland, Oregon. J.J. Head, Jr. graduated from Sam Houston State University in 1955 with a Bachelor of Science and a Masters in Education. On July 1, 1956, J.J. and Willie were married in Lockhart, Texas. After earning his degree he became a Jr. High coach and educator. In 1957 he began coaching a very special 7th

grade team. He was promoted to the high school and continued on with this group of young men until they graduated. He became the high school principal in 1966 and served in that capacity for 10 years. In 1977 J.J. joined First National Bank as Vice-President and loan officer. And in 1984 joined his wife in the insurance business, and retired in 1989. J.J. was a long time member of First Baptist Church where he served as Deacon. He was Chairman of the finance committee, Chairman of the Deacon body and served on numerous other committees and in any capacity the church requested. J.J. learned ranching at an early age from his father and continued ranching all his life. After he retired, he continued serving on many community organizations including the Veteran's Land Board, Black Jack Cemetery Association, Hearts Museum, Huntsville Rotary Club and the Huntsville Education Foundation. He also served on the Board of Directors of American Bank and Lake Area Bank. J.J. was dearly loved by his family and friends and will be deeply missed. He made a huge and lasting impact on players, students, and many in Walker County. The family would like to thank their friend and helper Monica Mejorado who loved and cared for them for the last 10 years. Also a special thanks to our friends and caregivers Pat Oliphant, James Earl Oliphant and Darlene Tubbs. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to First Baptist Church Choir & Music Department, 1229 Avenue J, Huntsville, TX, the Black Jack Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 918, Huntsville, TX 77342, or the Willie & J.J. Head Endowment Fund, SHSU, Box 2537, Huntsville, TX 77341. The family will receive friends Saturday, May 17, 2014 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville, Texas. Services will be held Sunday, May 18, 2014 at 3:00 PM at First Baptist Church in Huntsville, Texas with interment to follow at Black Jack Cemetery. Memorial condolences may be made to family online at www.shmfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ JJ Head

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ Dear Willie, Jeanna, Jackie, and family,
I would like to offer my condolences for the passing of a great person in the life of my family--Beth, Abe, Bill (Kamal), and me. He touched all of us. To my brother Bill and I, he was a coach, teacher, and mentor. He ingrained in us the qualities that made us better athletes and citizens. That was not always the easy path, and he challenged us and encouraged us--as only a coach can do when he is respected and trusted. Of course, our family's association with Coach was primarily through Huntsville High School, but that was only the beginning of his successful career and his inspirational leadership in the Huntsville community. Although he inspired and led thousands of students, athletes, and others in the community, he always made each person feel very special. Once I was the only member of the track team to participate in a meet, and he spent all that time taking me to competition in Cypress Fairbanks on a weekend. From the depths of my soul I thank Coach Head for the difference he made in my life . May he rest in peace, and may God bless his dear family. We will miss him, but my fond memories of Coach Head will live forever. Shad (Rashad Dabaghi)

Shad (Rashad) Dabaghi - June 19, 2014 at 06:26 PM



“ The community will miss a kind and gracious man. Farewell old friend.

Robert Conner - May 31, 2014 at 06:12 PM

JB

“ to the Head Family: We are so very sorry for your loss of Mr. Head. He was our loan officer at FNB for many years and he placed complete trust in us as we did him. Anytime we needed a loan, he would just ask how much and he would deposit it in our checking account that same day. We would get the paperwork in the mail 2-3 days later and we always made our payments on time for him. Many years later when we would see each other in town, he always made the time to stop and give me a hug & ask how everything was going! He was a wonderful mentor for all the students & staff that passed through the halls at Huntsville High School during his tenure...he was loved by all!! The county has lost a valuable part of our community! Please know that your family is in our thoughts and prayers!! God Bless and hugs...
Jamie & Don Brinegar

Jamie Ellisor Brinegar - May 21, 2014 at 04:49 PM

RP

“ I will miss sweet Mr. Head! He is one of the kindest men I've ever known. I enjoyed sitting next to him at First Baptist Church and hearing him sing. He always had a big smile. My thoughts and prayers are with you. I love you all dearly.

Ruby Pierce - May 19, 2014 at 10:09 AM

AM

“ So sorry for your loss.
HHS Class of 1976.

Annette Massie-Hunnicut - May 18, 2014 at 06:36 PM

TH

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Mr Head was our principal for the class of '72. He was very respected and loved for his fairness and respect for his students and staff. As a teacher and coach myself, I always compared the principals I worked with to the standard Mr Head set. They were few and far between. My fondest memory in high school was during graduation practice our senior year, Mr Head said each graduates name, first and last name, by heart with no notes. This was over 200 names and he did not miss one person. He didn't even waiver!! How remarkable is that. May you find comfort in his love and legacy he left behind. God Bless

Tarryl Hyder - May 18, 2014 at 04:57 PM

FM

“ Dear Willie, Jackie and Jenna,
In mourning the death of a King Louis XV, the church bells of a cathedral in France were rang continuously for forty days and nights. As a result of this repetitive ringing, believe it or not, the echoes of the ringing sounded continuously for an additional twenty years and seven months.

Like the vibrations of the hard-rung bells, loss hits us in rerepercussive waves. Loss of a Mother, Of a marriage. Of a Dream. Just when we think we're done with grief and life can return to normal, another cycle begins. And yet I've seen the beginning of a truth in the lives of those who grieve. The repercussions eventually grow weaker, shallower, and quieter. In their place come new insight, understanding and strength. Yes, a simple touch on the wound can begin the vibrations again. But the pain is less each time the touch comes, until finally it leaves but a gentle resonance, a memory of what once was but it is no more. The way we die is as important as the way we life and share all of the many things that we were blessed to share with those we met along the way and those we had known along the way. God Bless you all, as you have touched so many people along the way in this rather busy LIFE:-)Maryann, Floyd, Donna and Johnny Moore

Floyd Moore - May 18, 2014 at 04:12 PM

SM

“ Sorry for your loss Willie Head. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Stone Murray - May 18, 2014 at 02:56 PM

JW

“ Dear Willie, Jenna, & Jackie,
We are so sorry for your loss. J.J. was a wonderful man and we treasure the good memories we have of him. We are sorry we will miss the services this afternoon. Jerry is having several health problems and having trouble with his legs. Know that we love you and are praying for you. Your friends, Jerry and Judy.

Jerry&Judy Woods - May 18, 2014 at 01:46 PM

JM

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. I know Audrey's really missing him as you are too. We ask God's blessings on your family in this time of grief. Love, Jo Ann McDougall & Family
(Laura Baker's Mom)

Jo Ann McDougall - May 18, 2014 at 09:54 AM

MC

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Our prayers go out to all of you. Hold on to your memories and never, ever forget what your Daddy taught you. God Bless.

Mike and Margo Chandler - May 17, 2014 at 09:55 PM

GL

“ Mrs. Head, Jackie, Jenna & family, So sorry to hear of your loss. I know that this is a difficult season in your lives and know we are praying for all of you. May the Lord wrap His arms of love and comfort around you during this time.

Gaylon & Linda Lippe - May 17, 2014 at 07:53 PM

DT

“ Willie, Jackie, Jenna and family, I am so sorry to hear about your loss of J.J. He was such a fine person and a wonderful principal. I can remember our days of teaching when you and I were in the West Wing and J.J. was the principal. He was such a fair person. Then, our lives continued to be together with the days of State Farm Insurance. My thoughts and prayers are with y'all. May God wrap his loving arms around all of you.

Dorothea Tarver - May 17, 2014 at 07:10 PM

DB

“ Coach was a great mentor to us all, he will be missed by many. My prayers are with you all. God called a GREAT Angel home! David Bradham

David Bradham - May 17, 2014 at 03:57 PM

MH

“ Mrs Head and girls...I was so sorry to hear about Coach Head...My thoughts and prayers are with you

Mary Beth Van Horn - May 17, 2014 at 12:49 PM

GT

“ Willie and girls...JJ was such a true and wonderful friend. Both of my parents thought the world of your entire family as do I. "Coach" Head raised my class at HHS! We all loved him as a father figure and as an older brother! He lead with the love of children that only a special few can. As time passed the friendships grew. It is only fitting that JJ and Dad decided to "go together"! All my love to each of you. May all of your wonderful memories sustain you.

Ginny Thompson - May 17, 2014 at 09:28 AM

DT

“ Willie, Jenna, Joe, Jackie & Hudson,
Heaven definitely gained an angel when JJ was called home to be
with Our LORD. JJ gained the love and respect of the entire HHS
student body and has touched more lives and hearts than
imagineable. May GOD wrap HIS arms around each of you,
embrace and guide you through this difficulty time. Ya'll are in our
thoughts and prayers. GOD bless the entire Head family.

Donnie & Dorothy (Penney) Tucker - May 17, 2014 at 09:23 AM

RB

“ MY CONDOLENCES GOES OUT TO THE FAMILY;MAY God rest
J.J. soul;he was one of my great admirers in High School;he stood
up to good principles for all of his students to live by;he was a great
coach too;long live his memory Ronnie Bracewell;his student

Ronnie Bracewell - May 16, 2014 at 08:30 PM

DP

“ To Mrs. Head and family,
The world couldn't ask for a more professional educator than Coach
Head. He was a genuine leader with integrity and dedication. I knew
the two of you when I was a student at HHS in the early 60's. You
both left an impression on me that I still remember with great
fondness and respect. My sympathy and prayers for your loss. God
bless.
Doris

Doris Warner Phelps - May 16, 2014 at 07:27 PM

MM

“ Mrs. Head , Jenna and Jackie,

I am so sorry to hear of y'all's loss of your husband and dad. JJ is by far the greatest man that ever led or will lead HHS. Huntsville lost a great great man as you well know. JJ is the sole reason that I graduated from HHS. If not for him I would have walked out my Jr. year. Word got back to him what I was going to do and the next thing I know there I was in his office. I had missed an entire six weeks of school because of a brain tumor. JJ first told me that if I quit he would kick my A\$\$ from one end of Huntsville to the other. He then cut a deal with me that as long as I passed everything from that day on I would not have to make up any of the work I had missed. He would check on me regularly to keep track of my progress. He did that because he cared. He didn't cut me any slack on anything else either. He wanted to see everyone succeed in life. If that man came up to you and grabbed your hair right at the ear you didn't have to ask him what he was doing. You just politely said yes sir it will be cut by morning time. You knew your hair was getting to long. You did this as you were standing on the tips of your toes. He was a good man one that molded many lives in Huntsville. I could go on with more stories about what transpired between him and this dumb country boy but I am sure everyone that crossed paths with him has their own story. He will be truly missed. My love and prayer go out to y'all. Once again he Mr. JJ Head was the GREATEST man there was.

Mark R. McElligott

Mark R. McElligott - May 16, 2014 at 06:12 PM

JH

“ *This just breaks my heart. He was one of my favorite customers at Denny's. He made me smile everytime he came in. He is going to be missed up there very much! RIP Mr. Head. My love and prayers go out to his family!*

Jennifer Harmon - May 16, 2014 at 05:20 PM

KH

“ *I feel very fortunate to have met Mr. Head. What a great life he lived and legacy he leaves behind. What a sweet man who loved his wife and daughters dearly. My prayers of comfort to the family*

KAREN HERBST - May 16, 2014 at 02:24 PM

GR

“ *We have lost a great educator and man. May GOD bless the Head family*

Gene Reynolds - May 16, 2014 at 11:20 AM

BP

“ *Mr. Head was the principal when I was in High School during the 70's and his wife was a teacher. He was a wonderful, caring man. GOD bless you all. Prayers and thoughts to the family of this amazing man.*

Beverly Pegoda - May 16, 2014 at 10:34 AM

FV

“ *Mrs. Head, I am sorry for your loss and the sorrow that you feel now. I knew Coach Head my sophomore year in Huntsville High School and you were my biology teacher...though you taught me so much more about life than what the textbook offered. I pray that Coach Head is secure in the arms of Christ and I pray that God will be with you and help you through this time of sorrow.*

Floyd Vice - May 16, 2014 at 10:30 AM

DW

“ Shirley and I are sorry for your loss. I remember him from my childhood through graduation from HHS in 1958, and Shirley in 1962. We lift you up in our prayers, and our thoughts are with you. The Lord will be with you through this loss, and for the days to come.

Dorothy Cauthen Hammock and Shirley Cauthen Winters - May 16, 2014 at 10:09 AM

DV

“ To the Head family: I was saddened to hear about coach Head. He was my football, & track coach, & principal, at HHS in the 60's. I always looked up to him. He helped me in life in many ways. REST IN PEACE COACH

Dennis Vermillion - May 16, 2014 at 09:55 AM

MF

“ Mrs. Head, Jenna and Jackie -
Your family is in my thoughts and prayers. Mr. Head was a wonderful man. Always a smile on his face. He will be missed but you have beautiful memories to live on in your hearts.

Monetta Mooney Frenza - May 16, 2014 at 09:30 AM

SD

“ To Jackie and the entire Head family:
Just know that you and all of your family are in my thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time. May God bless each of you.

Shirlette Rolling Deveraux - May 16, 2014 at 09:05 AM

DG

“ Your family is in my prayers. I graduated HHS in 1974 and got to know Mr. Head and have admired him ever since. I also worked at First National Bank and had the pleasure to get to know him even better. He was a caring and giving man and will never be forgotten. May his memories give you strength during this difficult time.

Dixie Gray - May 16, 2014 at 08:44 AM

TC

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I remember Mr. Head as a very caring and dignified man. I'm glad I had the opportunity to know him and spend time with your family while I was growing up.

Terri Burns Cox - May 15, 2014 at 11:49 PM

BD

“ Dearest Mrs. Head and Family, I was saddened to hear about Coach Head. He was a wonderful man. He taught me biology, while you taught me P.E. I loved it that you both came to our 50th class reunion. It was so good to see you both again. I always loved seeing you two at the Waverly House when we were there to see our son Steve and his wife Laura (Malak)Drake. I will keep you in my prayers. May God give you peace. Know that you are loved by many.

Barbara (Foster) Drake - May 15, 2014 at 10:29 PM

RC

“ Willie & family--I too graduated HHS 50 yrs ago this year and I remember JJ not as my coach but as my biology teacher -- he was simply THE BEST..Prayers for all during this difficult time

Ray Carroll - May 15, 2014 at 10:22 PM

DP

“ May God wrap His loving arms around all of you at this very sad time. May He give you the comfort, rest, and peace you need. Our prayers are with you. Maudie Robinson, Carol and Richard Byrd, Janice and Tom Rogers, Donna and Walter Paschall, Mary and Nathan Roe

Donna Robinson Paschall - May 15, 2014 at 09:21 PM

MK

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. May GOD bless all of you!!!

Milton and Peggy Kroesche - May 15, 2014 at 09:05 PM

HP

“ Mrs. Head and family. I feel lucky to have been in school when Mr. Head was principal. I always respected and looked up to him. He set such a good example of how to live and act and care about people. He set the bar high and expected you to do what he said. We could sure use some like him now in the school system. I will never forget him. His legacy will live forever.

Hal Phillips - May 15, 2014 at 06:21 PM

HO

“ Dear Willie, Jenna, Jackie and Family,
J.J. was the best principal I worked with during my nearly 40 years of teaching. He was a kind and supportive man who loved people. I will never forget his leadership during the first year of total intergradation. I am thankful to have known him and shared a part of his life. Please know that our prayers and thoughts are with you in this time of sorrow.

Hattye P. Owens - May 15, 2014 at 04:58 PM

MH

“ I want to express my sorrow on your loss. JJ was a person you enjoyed a conversation with and just being around him. It was amazing how he could make you smile and forget about worries when fellowshiping, sharing ideas, and talking about our community. Words just sometimes cannot express the impact a person can have on others. He will be missed. I am thankful I could just share a part of his life. My prayers for comfort and strength from our Lord.

Marvin Hyvl - May 15, 2014 at 04:54 PM

BT

“ I KNOW YOU FEEL HE IS IN GODS HANDS NOW AND MAY GOD BLESS ALL OF THE HEAD FAMILY

BETTY TACKETT - May 15, 2014 at 04:18 PM

JM

“ Willie and Family, We are so sorry to learn of J.J.'s passing. We, like many others, have wonderful memories of his leadership and service throughout the Huntsville community. He was always the "involved" person in all of the activities in which he participated. Our best wishes to all of you.

Joyce & Jimmy Merchant - May 15, 2014 at 02:13 PM

MJ

“ *Willie & girls:
We are so sorry to hear of the loss of JJ. We are praying for your family. JJ was such a wonderful Christian man. He was great at everything he did from educating, coaching, being principal, banking and helping in your insurance office to retirement. He had the greatest smile and always took the time to speak. Your wonderful Christian family has been a great example to everyone. We love you and your family.*

Mellicent Sikes Wiley, Bobby II, Heather & Jason, Heath, Justin & Joanna - May 15, 2014 at 12:54 PM

SM

“ *Prayers for comfort and peace to the Head Family as you say "farewell for now to your loved one." You abide under the shadow of the almighty and angels are encamped around.*

Sandy Murphy - May 15, 2014 at 12:40 PM

DB

“ *Mrs. Head and family,
This year is 50 years since I finished high school, but I've never forgotten what "The Coach" did for me and the impact he had on my life and so many other lives. The lessons I learned from Coach Head helped carry me through the military, college and the years to follow. The last competition I had with Coach was as a team member in a ranch rodeo. Coach was roping and I was branding. When I left the circle too early it cost us the competition. The look from Coach felt like the 1964 football season all over. God Bless him and y'all.*

Danny Billingsley - May 15, 2014 at 12:36 PM

JJ

“ I am so very sorry for the loss of your loved one. My prayers are with the family during this difficult time.

Jeannine Jacoby - May 15, 2014 at 11:15 AM

NJ

“ Willie and family: How shocked and saddened when I read about J. J. He is be missed by so many people and I know all of you will miss him dearly. Thank you both so much for being so nice to me. Norma Dell Jones of Lovelady.

Norma Dell Jones - May 15, 2014 at 10:39 AM

JV

“ We will miss JJ- he was a loyal Huntsville Rotarian and value the time and friendship that he always gave me. Our prayers are with you and your family. Jon & Roxey Volkmer

Jon Volkmer - May 15, 2014 at 09:48 AM

KF

“ Willie, Jenna, & Jackie, I am so sorry for your loss. What a contributor to life, JJ was! He has touched soooo many of our lives, and made an impact in so many positive ways. Thank you for sharing him with the rest of us. My heart and prayers are with you all as you mourn your loss and celebrate his homecoming to our Lord.

Kay Nabors Fountain - May 15, 2014 at 09:09 AM

SB

“ Dear Mrs. Head & Family: I am so very sorry for your loss. Mr. Head was my High School Principal at Huntsville High School. I graduated in 1973. I always had great respect for him. Though he was firm, I always felt that he was very fair as well. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Susan Irvine Bright - May 15, 2014 at 12:10 AM

DE

“ We feel so sad for the entire Head family today. It was a real pleasure to know him and he is remembered by us to be the educator of our children, someone we trusted with our business and a part of our life for more than 45 years. He is now in Gods hands and we pray for comfort to you. Dana and Doug

Dana and Doug Eckles - May 14, 2014 at 11:56 PM

JS

“ Dearest Family;
My heart goes out to you at this time. It has been such a short time since I too had to let go of the love of my life. God does sustain you and He will give you strength. Willie, Jackie & Jenna, may you feel Jesus presence throughout this season of your life.
Jan Solomon

Jan Solomon - May 14, 2014 at 11:04 PM

DW

“ Mrs. Head, you and your daughters are in my thoughts and prayers. Mr. Head was one of the kindest and one of the most caring teachers I was priviledged to know. He will be missed by many, but we will see Him again one day soon.

Dorene Walding - May 14, 2014 at 10:45 PM

BR

“ *Ms. Head I am so sorry for your loss. My prayer is for God to keep His arms around you during this time.*

Barbara (Cobb) Rushing - May 14, 2014 at 10:18 PM