



John Floyd "Possum" Cole, Sr.

May 21, 1930 - October 27, 2013

John Floyd "Possum" Cole, Sr.

John Floyd "Possum" Cole, Sr. of Huntsville, Texas, passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 27, 2013, surrounded by family in his home. He passed into Heaven due to complications from Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). John was born on May 21, 1930 in North Zulch, Texas to Jake Raymond and Lilla Morgan Cole. During his life, he was a very successful business man and yet a simple man at heart. He had a great love for family and friends, always championing for the "underdog".

He was predeceased by his parents, brothers Manuel Cole, Jack Leon "Coon" Cole, and Sister Mavis Cole Boswell. He is survived by his wife, Peggy Whitten Cole, son John Floyd Cole, Jr. (Elizabeth), daughter Lisa Annette Johnson (Marty), grandchildren Cole Davis and Connor Davis, Jacob, Morgan and Nathan Cole, great-grandson Chad Davis, brother Kenneth Ray Cole (Barbara), sisters Nelva Cole Pratt and Gracie Cole Sanders as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

He attended Madisonville High School and Lon Morris College where he played basketball and made many friends. He served as Tank Commander of the 44th Tank Battalion during the Korean conflict from February 1952 to February 1954. He was also a 50+ year 32nd degree Mason.

After being honorably discharged from the military, he entered the retail automobile business in Pasadena, Texas. In 1970, he and his brother, Jack Leon "Coon" Cole purchased Charles & Sam Motor Company, a General Motors dealership in Huntsville, Texas. Upon moving to Huntsville, the Cole brothers renamed the dealership Cole Motor Company. He enjoyed 17 years at Cole Motor Company and most of his customers became immediate friends for the rest of his life. He will be remembered for having a magnetic personality and being a man of his word.

Possam was involved in the community and had a special love for the development of the Walker County Fair Association (WCFA). He was an original founding director of the WCFA in 1978 and Cole Motor Company was a big supporter of the WCFA for many years. Possam and his brother, "Coon" Cole, had purchased 65 acres on Highway 30 West for future development, but agreed to sell it to the Walker County Fair Association for the development of the current fair location. He also served on the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Area Go Texan Committee, supported the Scramble Heifer Program, the Junior Livestock Sale, and was a Silver Spur Member. In addition, he served as a Director of Sam Houston National Bank.

Upon the sale of Cole Motor Company in 1987, he entered semi-retirement and became involved in rental property, private investments, and raising cattle on land he owned in Madison County. In 1998, he acquired the first of three Foretravel motor coaches and enjoyed traveling for many years with dear friends across the United States until his health became an obstacle. He was a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

The family wishes to extend a special thank you to Dr. David Prier and Dr. Sudhir Sehgal for years of dedicated care and concern; the nursing staff of Huntsville Memorial Hospital; Carolyn Williams, R.N. and Susan Caraballo,

R.N. of Embassy Hospice.

Visitation will be held at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home on Tuesday, October 29, 2013 from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Services will be held on Wednesday, October 30, 2013 at the Huntsville Church of Christ at 2:00 pm. Following the service, there will be a private internment ceremony for family and close friends. The service will be officiated by Brother James Featherstone, Brother Reagan Cooksey, and Brother William Wesson. Nephews will serve as Pallbearers and the following will serve as Honorary Pallbearers: DC Averitt; A.L. (Dick) Campbell; Charles Hale; Judge Ken Keeling; Dr. Mickey Moore; Ronnie Williams; Wilber Wood; and, Dr. Mike Ritchey.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the following charities of choice: The Walker County Fair Association, PO Box 1817, Huntsville, Texas 77342; or the COPD Foundation, 20 F Street NW, Suite 200A Washington, DC 20001.

Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.shmfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *John Floyd "Possum" Cole, Sr.*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Mrs. Cole,
Our thoughts and prayers to you and your family. Sorry for your loss. It was a pleasure to have met such a kind and wonderful person.*

Zach, PT and Lisa PTA (from Rehability Therapy Svcs) - November 06, 2013 at 02:55 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to the Cole family.*

Beverly Conner Niederhofer - October 30, 2013 at 07:32 PM



“ *To the Cole family, I am so very sorry for your loss of Possum. His last days were really rough and I am just thankful that he is no longer suffering. He was a wonderful man that could always bring a smile to your face and he always had a smile on his. I have so many wonderful memories of my parents being good friends with Possum & Peggy...whether it be with dealings at the car dealership, the Apple Tree, or the dances my parents had at their house MANY years ago. It is so hard for children to lose their father for it still seems like just yesterday that I lost my own dad, but those wonderful memories will help you make it through the rough days ahead. Please know that you & your families are in my thoughts and prayers. With many hugs and much love, Jamie Sue Brinegar*

Jamie ELLisor Brinegar - October 30, 2013 at 07:16 PM

KW

“ Dear Peggy, John and Lisa -
I am so sorry to hear about Possum. What a wonderful man and how much he will be missed. Possum gave me many great memories as he did with so many kids. He always had a big smile and a hug for all of us, but made each one feel special. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Kelley Brooks White - October 30, 2013 at 03:17 PM

KW

“ I am so sorry to hear of Possum's passing. I am glad that our lives crossed paths at the Brisket House and then when I rented from you guys. You were both so good to me. He will be greatly missed in this community, God bless you both.

Kyla Walker - October 29, 2013 at 05:33 PM

JY

“ We are sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

James & Betty Young - October 29, 2013 at 05:30 PM

N(

“ Lisa, John and Family; my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.

Nancy Gajan (Gray) - October 29, 2013 at 05:06 PM

DW

“ My hope for Peggy, John & Lisa and all the family is that you have peace knowing you did everything to make his last moments so precious to him. He was such a special man there will never be another like him. He will be sorely missed & will always have a place in our hearts. We Love You & prayers & thoughts will always be with you all.

Darlene Williams 10-29-13

Darlene Williams - October 29, 2013 at 04:20 PM

RH

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this difficult time.

RL and Lynn Harrison

RL and Lynn Harrison - October 29, 2013 at 03:38 PM

PA

“ praying God will wrap his loving arms around you tightly and send his Angels your way for extra comfort and strength! praying for you today and always! God Bless you all, pam ault and charles and judy james and family

pam ault - October 29, 2013 at 01:40 PM

KW

“ Mrs. Cole and Family:
Our prayers and thoughts are with you at this time. Possum was a wonderful person and always had a smile on his face no matter where we saw him. He was a wonderful person and will be truly missed by all. God bless you all and help you thru this time.
Ken and Theresa Westbay

Ken Westbay - October 29, 2013 at 08:35 AM

MH

“ My prayers go out to the family. It is hard to loose a love one. May our Lord give all the comfort and strength that only He can provide. John your father is in the presence of our Lord receiving his reward as a faithfull servant. I am keeping lifting you for comfort and understanding during this time.

M Hyvi - October 28, 2013 at 09:52 PM

DP

“ May God bless you and wrap you in His loving arms around you. Please know that we are praying for the entire family. Maudie Robinson (Dick died 7 weeks ago), Carol and Richard Byrd, Jan and Tom Rogers, Donna and Walter Paschall, Mary and Nathan Roe

Donna Robinson Paschall - October 28, 2013 at 07:37 PM

NJ

“ We are so sorry to learn that Possum has died. Please accept our thoughts and prayers. Norma Dell and Jerry D. Jones (formerly of Huntsville).

Norma Deell Jones - October 28, 2013 at 06:38 PM