



## Dr. John Miller Stinnett

September 28, 1930 - September 5, 2015

John Miller Stinnett

1930 – 2015

Dr. John M. Stinnett passed away peacefully on September 5, 2015, at the age of 84, after a short illness. He was born September 28, 1930, in Gatesville, Texas, to Lee Miller and Genevieve Stinnett. During childhood he was well known for his mischievous behavior. He would also go barefoot whenever possible, which occasionally led to his being mistaken for a child from a poverty stricken family, while in reality his family was relatively well-off. John graduated from Gatesville High School in 1948 and began college at the University of Texas in Austin, where he met his future wife, Peggy Louise Fisher, in biology class. He later transferred to Baylor University in Waco, Texas, and then went on to Baylor Dental School in Dallas, graduating in 1955. Afterward graduation, he proudly served in the U.S. Air Force as a dentist for two years.

While attending dental school in Dallas, he was fortuitously reconnected with Peggy in 1953, and she was truly the love of his life. The couple was married in Dallas on June 26, 1954, and had 61 wonderful years together before Peggy's passing on July 14, 2015. Peggy and John's son Reid was born in 1958 and their daughter Gena in 1965.

John established his private dental practice in Dallas in 1957 and continued to work there until late 1972, when he moved to what was then the Panama Canal Zone in Central America. The family joined him in February 1973 and had many wonderful adventures in Panama and often reminisced fondly of their time there. John was an excellent general dentist and could do literally anything related to teeth, but during his time in Panama, he focused primarily on orthodontics and gave dozens of people wonderful smiles, which they enjoy to this day, and remind us (Reid and Gena) of quite often.

John and Peggy moved back to the United States in 1983, settling in Huntsville, Texas. John continued to practice dentistry with the Texas Department of Corrections until his retirement in 2002. But he did not retire! He opened a part-time private practice in Lovelady, Texas, where he worked until shortly before his death. He truly loved dentistry and spent much of his spare time poring over dental journals, making notes and underlining, as any good student would do. He was a lifelong learner, teaching himself to use a computer with a good deal of proficiency, and during the past few months enjoyed getting to know the intricacies of his smart phone.

John had two major hobbies – flying and fishing. After earning his pilot's license in the early 1960's, he owned a part-interest in an airplane in Dallas and later two other airplanes in Panama. The family enjoyed many adventures all over the United States and Central and South America as a result. Fishing was his #1 hobby, and he was active on the Bass Masters Fishing Tournament circuit until a few years ago. Despite most of the entrants being less than half his age, he did extremely well in the competitions, placing among the top amateurs several times.

John had many longtime and lifelong friends and enjoyed catching up with them periodically on the telephone. He enjoyed dancing, traveling, following

politics, and watching football, especially the Baylor Bears and the Dallas Cowboys. He was especially excited and gratified by the resurgence of the Baylor football team over the past few years.

John was very strong in his Christian faith, reading his bible and other religious books and magazines on a daily basis, and was a longtime member of the First United Methodist Church of Huntsville. The family is comforted knowing that he is at peace and is reunited with Peggy, and dancing again with her in heaven.

Preceded in death by beloved wife Peggy, John is survived by his sister Gene Wandel, his son Reid, his wife Sarah and their children, Graham and Paige; daughter Gena Lloyd and her husband James and their children, Jessica and Berik; along with several cousins and their extended families.

Visitation is scheduled for Friday, September 11, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home, 1700 Normal Park Drive in Huntsville, Texas. A life celebration will be held on Saturday, September 12, at 11 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 1016 Sam Houston Avenue in Huntsville. Burial will be on Saturday, September 19 at 9:30 a.m. at the Gatesville City Cemetery, Gatesville, Texas. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make a memorial contribution to the charity of your choice.

Full obituary may be viewed and memorial condolences made to the family at [www.shmf.com](http://www.shmf.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **11.** 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville  
1700 Normal Park Dr.  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
(936) 291-7300  
belinda@shmfh.com

## Funeral services

SEP **12.** 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church of Huntsville  
1016 North Sam Houston Ave  
Huntsville, TX

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. John Miller Stinnett*

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November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *We are so sorry to hear about Dr. Stinnett. Our thoughts and prayers to go out to all his family. God bless all of you during this difficult time.*

*Bruce and Mary Thaler*

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**Mary Thaler** - September 15, 2015 at 03:46 PM



“ *Gena and family, I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your father. I know the physical loss will be hard but Your Mother and Father will always live in your memories and heart and their love will never be far away. God Bless you all.*

*Judy and Larry Miller*

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**Judy Miller** - September 13, 2015 at 08:18 PM



“ *I worked with Peggy and John Stinnett for close to 20 years. They were a joy and a testament to true love and devotion. He was one of the best dentist I have ever worked with and a fine gentleman. They are now together again even though I will miss them.*

*Pam Myers*

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**Pamela Myers** - September 11, 2015 at 03:26 PM

MU

“ Gena, Reid, and your wonderful families,

*I am so saddened by your father's passing, but so thrilled your mom and heaven have gained another Angel to watch over you and your precious families. I will forever miss Dr. Stinnett's humorous idiosyncrasies, driving his "silver bullet" to and from Ellis I, listening to stories of his travels afar, and him rushing down to the lake at lunch to comeback and tell us how the fish were biting. Or him driving me crazy with his persistent annoying and teasing just to watch my reaction. I don't think he knew, but I got a bigger kick out of watching his reaction to me. I will also never forget that moment I sat in awe when I realized the dental work in an inmate's mouth was John Stinnett's art work. But my favorite memory that will forever be etched in my mind and still makes me cry happy tears, is when we would arrive at dental meetings, he would meet up with Peggy, and walk in hand in hand. I was always impressed with how much he loved her, and can still hear her saying, "Oh, John" to his silly antics. John Stinnett was one of a kind and my life will be forever blessed just by having him in it. Thank you so much for sharing his last moments with me.*

*Michelle Upton*

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**Michelle Upton** - September 11, 2015 at 11:10 AM

TC

“ The Cazort's purchased the Secret Garden Basket for the family of Dr. John Miller Stinnett.



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**The Cazort's** - September 10, 2015 at 09:42 PM

AJ

“ Dr. Stinnett was a wonderful man and dentist, who really enjoyed and loved dentistry. He performed nothing less than superb dentistry. His art for dentistry and character is a legend that still lives behind prison walls. One of his famous sayings he would tell a patient who was becoming agitated and is still used today is,....."there is not a lot you can do to speed things up; but there is a lot you can do to slow things down". I was fortunate also to work with his love Ms Peggy, what a remarkable couple they were who enjoyed life like no other. May you as family and friends enjoy to reminence the life of Dr Stinnett and Ms Peggy.

*May the Lord fill you with His love,  
Anita Jones*

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**Anita Jones** - September 10, 2015 at 02:26 PM

NP

“ *Stinnett Family,*  
We are so sorry to hear about your father. He was an amazing man who shared fishing stories with our family when we would see him outside. I know he is at peace with your mother in Heaven. We will sure miss seeing him pull in and out of the driveway with his boat. We could not have asked for better neighbors to have.

*The Paul Family*

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**Nicole Paul** - September 10, 2015 at 08:18 AM

SC

*“ I admired Dr. Stinnett for the love and commitment he had for his wife. Peggy adored him as well and never failed to let us all know what John does for her. I did not have the privilege of working hand in hand with him as I was in a different dental location, but admired and respected him so much and his desire to never give up. Our prayers are with the family at this time. May you find peace and comfort to know your mom and daddy will be in the eternities together.*



**Sherry Carter** - September 09, 2015 at 08:31 AM

GW

*To the family of John Miller:  
I first met John in September of 1937 when we entered 1st grade in Gatesville. We became friends then, but didn't see much of each other after high school.  
He didn't attend many class reunions but was a joy to visit with when he was there.  
Among his class mates he earned the nickname of "Pig Iron" because he was a tough kid.  
I know the loss of both parents had been difficult. May the Lord give you comfort. I know he is happy to be with your mother.  
May the Lord give you comfort.  
Blessings, Dr. George W. "Bill" Whitt*

**George Whitt** - September 12, 2015 at 02:03 PM



*“ Lisa Townsend lit a candle in memory of Dr. John Miller Stinnett*



**Lisa Townsend** - September 08, 2015 at 09:38 PM

GG

“ My Uncle John was one of the most interesting man I ever knew. He loved his family, and as a young girl visiting from Michigan, he always made me feel special, even if I was a yankee! I marveled how he was always searching for more knowledge for lots of new adventures. He never stopped learning. He loved his family, and loved Peggy . It was remarkable how he cared for her in the later part of her life. He would dance with her almost every day. He lost the love of his life when she passed in July. After knowing his children were successful adults he wanted to be with Peggy. God granted his wish. Me and my entire family will miss him dearly.

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**Genette Wandel Gillard** - September 08, 2015 at 09:07 PM

MK

“ I've heard that Dr. Stinnett was so meticulous and so good at what he did, his patients never needed to come back because he fixed everything for good. I was never his patient, but his son Reid has been a wonderful best friend for 42+ years, and his daughter Gena started as a friend because she's Reid's sister, and continued as a friend because ... she's Gena. I've been to Dr. S's home many times, but he was rarely there because he was always working. When he was there, he was hilarious. It's easy to see where Reid and Gena's zaniness and sense of humor came from. Dr. and Mrs. Stinnett had a wonderful home and a wonderful family - I know there are many who will miss them both always. I am thinking of Reid, his wife Sarah, and Gena and her husband Jaimie, as well as their grandchildren; I just know they are all making him proud. Much love from Margaret Kienzle

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**Margaret C. Kienzle** - September 08, 2015 at 08:54 PM

JO

“ Dear Gena and Family,  
We are deeply sorry for your losses of both  
your mother and father so close together but  
you know that they're in Heaven together  
looking over to guide and protect you always!!  
God Bless and our deepest condolences!!



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**John Lisa and Justin Ober** - September 08, 2015 at 08:13 PM

PF

“ Gina,  
I can't imagine losing both mom and dad  
within a month or so like you have.  
I know you take comfort knowing they are  
together again. At my retirement party I got a  
delivery of beautiful flowers with a very sweet note from dr. Stinnett.  
He was very thoughtful!  
Not to mention he was the best two stepper in dental! I loved  
dancing with him!  
I will have you and your family in m thoughts and prayers!



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**Penny Fowler** - September 08, 2015 at 06:52 PM

VE

“ Vicki Pledger Easley And David Easley lit a  
candle in memory of Dr. John Miller Stinnett



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**Vicki Pledger Easley and David Easley** - September 08, 2015 at 04:27 PM

RG

“ *Ronnie Gibson lit a candle in memory of Dr. John Miller Stinnett*



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**Ronnie Gibson** - September 08, 2015 at 11:50 AM

RG

“ *Doc Stinnett was my fishing buddy. He will be remembered for his kindness, caring and giving nature. I respected Doc for the man he was. I will always have our fishing memories, especially when we went on our trip to Lake Dardnelle in Arkansas. He will be truly missed. Fish on Doc fish on!!!!!!!!!!!! Love ya man!*

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**Ronnie Gibson** - September 08, 2015 at 11:49 AM

BF

“ Gena and Reid my heart goes out to you and your families. He was one of a kind and even tho we had our differences we cared about each other and I have some wonderful memories and funny times with him at the Ellis Dental clinic. We have cried together laughed together and yes we had had some knock down drag out fights but we respected each other. I will truly miss him but I know that he is a real happy camper about right now cause he is with his sweet Peggy !!!! He had a really big heart and I don't think that anybody knew dentistry the way he did and he loved it so much. Oh my goodness we can't leave out fishing and all those fishing magazines that he carried around, and all those lures that he bought. Dentistry, fishing and Peggy is what he lived for!!!!  
God Bless him and God Bless all of you my thoughts and prayers will be with you.



*In loving and thoughtful memory,  
Wayne and Becky Frezia*

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**Becky Frezia** - September 08, 2015 at 10:41 AM