



## Lonnie J. Eslick

January 1, 1953 - August 15, 2009

Lonnie James Eslick Lonnie James Eslick, 66, passed away in Goshen, Indiana, on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2009. He was born Oct. 10, 1942, in Dawson, Navarro County, Texas, to L.J. and Lucy Elizabeth Keel Eslick. He was preceded in death by his parents and his infant son, Russell Glenn. Lonnie graduated from Mexia High School in 1961 and received an associate degree from Navarro County Junior College in 1963. He was awarded a B.B.A from Sam Houston State University in 1965 and an M.B.A from Sam Houston State University in 1968. After working for Humble Oil and Refining (Exxon) and Sam Houston State University in the mid-60s, Lonnie joined the Texas Department of Corrections on Oct. 18, 1967. After serving in various positions within the agency, he found his true calling in the data processing and communications area. Lonnie was instrumental in developing the information technology and communications programs for the prison system, many of which are still in place today. He was Employee of the Year for TDCJ in 1971. After 28 years of service with TDJC, Lonnie retired on Aug. 31, 1995, as the Assistant Director for Data Services and Communications. He has since donated many personal memorabilia items to the Texas Prison Museum. In 1995, Lonnie moved to South Carolina, where he worked for the South Carolina Department of Corrections. He served as Inspector General for three years. He retired in 2000. He loved and supported Scouting and attained the rank of Eagle Scout in 1957, and had continued membership in the Eagle Scout Association. He was also a member of the Texas Sheriffs' Association,

the South Carolina Law Enforcement Association, the South Carolina Sheriffs' Association, the American Correctional Association and the Southern States Correctional Association. Lonnie loved playing golf and traveling in his RV — especially to visit his grandchildren. He also loved Texas and Texas A&M. Lonnie was a Mason and an active member of Forrest Masonic Lodge No. 19, in Huntsville, Texas, for over 35 years. He served as Worshipful Master of Forrest Lodge in 1978, and as Lodge Secretary from 1979 to 1981. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of the 28th Masonic District of the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1983. He was also presented with a Life Membership in Forrest Lodge in 1983, and the Golden Trowel Award in Forrest Lodge in 2009. Lonnie was an active, avid member and supporter of his church, Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church in Lexington, S.C., and was a member of the Men's Prayer Breakfast Group and Bible Study groups. Lonnie is survived by his wife, Sandra Steele Eslick of Lexington, S.C.; daughter and son-in-law, Janet and Jon West, and granddaughter, Hailey Grace, of Coppell, Texas; son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Mark and Margge Eslick, and grandsons, Kyle and Wade and granddaughter, Peyton, of Georgetown, Ky.; stepdaughter, Shannon Cook and grandchildren, Ethan, Morgan and Megan of Gilbert, S.C.; and stepson, Jamie Jeffcoat and wife, Sarah, and grandchildren, Will and AnnaGrace, of Irmo, S.C. Visitation will be Friday, Aug. 14, 2009, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home, 1700 Normal Park Drive, Huntsville, Texas. Services will be Saturday, Aug. 15, 2009, at the Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home Chapel, at 10:00 a.m. with Reverend Reagan Cooksey officiating. Graveside services with Masonic Honors, under direction of Forrest Masonic Lodge No. 19, will follow at 2:00 p.m. at the Mexia City Cemetery, Mexia, Texas. Memorial Services will be held Sunday, 3:00 PM. August 23, 2009, at Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church in Lexington, South Carolina. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Lonnie's name to Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church, 1205 Old Cherokee Road, Lexington, SC 29072; Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, 2200 Children's Way, Nashville, TN 37232; or Forrest

Masonic Lodge No. 19, P. O. Box 1004, Huntsville, TX 77342.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lonnie J. Eslick*

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November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *It is now 2011 and just learned, last Friday, of Lonnie's passing. I worked, as a CO, with Lonnie, Asford Manning, Connie Wilson and Tom Powell in the historic Records Conversion project from 1967 - 1969. When Ashford left Lonnie was promoted to Manager and when Tom Powell left I was promoted to Supervisor. Lonnie was a born leader and I have always cherished the time I spent with him. He will be missed. Gods blessings on his family.*

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**Don Bell** - May 22, 2011 at 12:37 PM



“ *Lonnie was a great person. I knew his father and mother and they were hard workers and his mother was super with the kids at school. She was so proud of him as we all were.*

*I hope God will ease the hurt in your heart soon. I was shocked to hear of his death.*

*Bod Bless You and your family.*

*Bert*

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**Bert Harrison** - August 24, 2009 at 07:28 PM

KG

“ God Bless All of You. Although older than me, Lonnie and I grew up together, Our fathers played golf many years ago. Lonnie had been signing obits for people here when they passed away and I was so shocked when his obit came out. He will always be remembered.  
A Mexia Blackcat "65"

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**KAREN GREER-BOUNDS** - August 18, 2009 at 04:02 PM

JJ

“ I was the class of 66'.... My dad Buck Jackson was the eagle scout leader. From my birth and that of my sister Jo, our family knew all the Eslick's. Lonnie, as I called him was always my hero, so kind and gentle with us younger ones. I know GOD is thrilled to welcome him into HIS arms. I pray for peace for the family and it is a blessing to know ya'll have wonderful memories to hold in your hearts.

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**Jan Jackson** - August 18, 2009 at 02:14 PM

DS

“ To the Eslick family, I am so sorry to hear of Lonnie's passing. I introduced to myself to Lonnie many years ago when I first came to work for the agency. In our first conversation I recall him asking me my last name and where I was from. When I said Teague, he asked me if I knew a man by the name of Big Les. I said yes sir, that's my dad. He said your kidding. Your dad can really pound a golf ball. Come to find out Lonnie's dad and my dad played a many round of golf together at the old Mexia Country Club. We shared many good conversations about the old club, golf and some of the old country club characters. He was very kind and helpful to me. I will never forget that.

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**David Stacks** - August 17, 2009 at 10:33 PM

PT

“ Deepest sympathy to Sandra and all the "Eslick" Family. May he rest in peace and may all of you have wonderful memories of your time with him. My thoughts and prayers are with you all!

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**Patricia Thrailkill** - August 17, 2009 at 08:23 AM

DS

“ Sandra, we are sorry for your loss. Your love "Lonnie" has walked ahead. His laughter and love for you, his family and friends will be with those he loved dearly. Keep your chin up and enjoy life as he did. Remember our motor home rally's and the happiness it gave you both. We will keep you in our prayers. Please let us know if there is any assistance we can give you.

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**Don and Sam Souder** - August 16, 2009 at 09:21 PM

PH

“ I met Lonnie when our girls were in band together. He was a good man, who loved his children. Later, I went to work at TDC, where I got to know Lonnie on a different level. He expected only the best from you and there was never any confusion as to where you stood with him. He and my late husband, Gary, went eye to eye at work, but were good friends. I know they are in heaven now swapping stories.  
My prayers to his family as they grow closer to God through this loss.

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**Patricia Hawes-Hipps** - August 16, 2009 at 10:12 AM

KH

“ I wish to send my deepest condolences to the entire Eslick family. I meet Lonnie thru SCDC. I was a vendor who worked with him on a communications project. I am truly sorry for your loss. Take care of each other. My prayers are with the family.  
Kathi Wilson Hinds

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**Kathi Wilson Hinds** - August 15, 2009 at 07:53 PM

JW

“ Sandra, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts are with you, the children and grandchildren. You all will continue to be in my prayers.

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**Jamie Rauch Ward** - August 15, 2009 at 07:51 PM

WS

“ To the Eslick family: Andrea and I send you our sincerest condolences for your loss. We pray that God will ease your pain and comfort you through this very difficult time.

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**Wayne And Andrea Scott** - August 15, 2009 at 07:32 PM

GG

“ SANDRA YOU ARE IN MY PRAYERS,LONNIE WAS A SPECIAL PERSON.ENJOYED HIM COMING INTO THE OFFICE TO CHAT.HE WAS ALWAYS WILLING TO HELP IF WE NEEDED HIM.WE WILL MISS SEEING HIM COMING INTO THE FACILITY WITH HIS RV, GOD BLESS YOU AND THE ENTIRE FAMILY.MINI WAREHOUSE OF LEXINGTON,S.C

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**GLENDIA GUNTER** - August 15, 2009 at 08:22 AM

WP

“ *Lonnie was a great brother mason, i enjoyed working with him AT TDCJ-ID, and the years as a mason with him. He will be missed by all, GOD Love to the whole family-and his memory will live on for all who knew Lonnie.*

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**WILLIAM PERVIS** - August 14, 2009 at 03:35 PM

TI

“ *may God comfort your surviving family, friends & brothers at this time. I look forward to seeing you again some day on the other side of the River of Life.*

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**Tarrant B. Boyd II** - August 13, 2009 at 02:18 PM

CK

“ *Sandra, It was such a pleasure to spend time with you on the picnic table at the Rally in Goshen. We had a marvelous visit and while Lonnie didn't participate in our conversation, it was a joy to visit with you. Our thoughts, prayers and hearts are with you during this time of your sorrow. Be strong and celebrate his life and the joy of your time together.*

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**Carolyn and Dave Kelsey** - August 11, 2009 at 08:48 PM

LM

“ *We recently met Lonnie & Sandra at a couple of RV Rallies. They were very easy to get to know and enjoy. Glad we were privileged to meet them and sorry it was such a short time with Lonnie. Sandra, our thoughts and prayers are will all of you during this time.  
Larry & Karen Miller, Newmar RV Friends*

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**Larry & Karen Miller** - August 11, 2009 at 08:24 PM

CG

“ My first opportunity to work with Lonnie was in 1987. I enjoyed every minute we got to spend together, he was rough and could be a little gruff but he had a heart of gold. He was honest and you always knew where things stood with him. I will miss him but I will be able to tell "Lonnie stories" for the rest of my life; I will miss him.

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**Clint Goodin** - August 11, 2009 at 07:40 PM

TB

“ I wish my deepest condolences to Sandra and the entire family on the loss of Lonnie. My thoughts and prayers are with each and every one of you. I first met Lonnie when on a visit from SCDC to look at ID systems at TDC was using in 1993. Lonnie was not only a co-worker here at SCDC, but I considered him a mentor and good friend. God Bless

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**Tom Barrett** - August 11, 2009 at 03:09 PM

SO

“ We wish to extend our deepest condolences to Sandra and the entire family on the loss of Lonnie. Our thoughts and prayers are with each and every one of you.

We were Lonnie's neighbors in South Carolina. Over the past six years we came to know Lonnie as a very thoughtful and generous man who would give the shirt off his back if you needed it. He took our son Alex under his wing and became a mentor for him as he taught him the responsibilities of having a job and doing it well. Alex enjoyed taking care of the pool and the other jobs Lonnie had for him to do. Alex will miss Lonnie greatly, as will we all. He was always concerned for us and did whatever he could do to help. I will miss the friendship and the weekly conversations on politics, the state of the world and whatever else was the hot button that day.

Take care my friend. You are in a better place. Watch over us all and keep us safe. God Bless.

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**Sean & Kelley O'Brien** - August 11, 2009 at 11:11 AM

JP

“ I met Lonnie many years ago when I began working for TDC. Over the years he became a good friend. We kept in contact even after leaving the TDCJ, as Lonnie became one of my favorites on my e-mail list. He was kind to everyone and treated all he came into contact with respect and value. Lonnie will be missed!

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**Jerry Peterson** - August 11, 2009 at 10:26 AM

RW

“ We have only had the privilege of knowing Lonnie for a little over three years through the marriage of Janet to our son, Jon. Our friendship began in that happy time of their marriage and grew as we spent many hours together in various waiting rooms at Vanderbilt University during the time before, during, and after the birth of Hailey Grace. Last Thanksgiving, we all came together again in a happy time at the home of Jon & Jan. In such a short time of getting to know Lonnie, we formed deep bonds of love, respect, and friendship. To all the family, it was very obvious to us how much he loved you. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you.

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**Roger & Andrea West** - August 11, 2009 at 09:33 AM

BW

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers

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**Bob, Mellicent, Bobby II, Heather, Heath & Justin Wiley** - August 11, 2009 at 08:22 AM

JP

“ I met Lonnie several times in my career and he was always very pleasant and helpful. He will be missed by many that he has come in contact with throughout his career with (TDC) TDCJ.

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**John J. Pitzeruse** - August 10, 2009 at 08:07 PM

DM

“ Of all the people in the world, Lonnie Eslick picked me to be one of his friends and he shall always remain my friend. I met Lonnie at Mt Horeb United Methodist Church and the past few months, we enjoyed one of his passions once or twice a week and that was Golf. Lonnie was a very generous person who donated to every worthwhile cause. I wish I had met him earlier in life and I will truly miss my friend.

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**Don McCarty** - August 10, 2009 at 01:00 PM

BN

“ I knew Lonnie in the 1970's and he was a fine gentleman. He will be missed by many. God be with you in your time of sorrow.

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**Beverly Conner Niederhofer** - August 10, 2009 at 10:13 AM

TF

“ Lonnie hired me about thirty years ago. It doesn't feel as if it should be that many years, but it is. Janet and Mark, you have my deepest sympathy. You know your dad loved you above all. I believe anyone that knew him at all, knew that. Keep him in your hearts and you will always have him with you. Time will help you heal with God's help. My prayers are with you and your family.

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**Trudy Fuchs** - August 09, 2009 at 08:55 PM