



Rayford Riley Pierce

August 29, 1950 - August 8, 2020

Rayford Riley Pierce passed away peacefully in his home in New Waverly, Texas, surrounded by family. He was born August 29, 1950 to Riley W. and Mary Nell Pierce in Jacksonville, TX. Rayford graduated from Aldine High School in 1968. He also attended University of Houston. On Valentine's Day 1970, Rayford married the love of his life, Charlene Pavlock. Ray started his career with Hi-Lo Auto Supply in 1965 when he was only 15 years old. At age 19, he was the youngest store manager. He continued to work at Hi-Lo for almost 30 years. During this time, he developed many long lasting professional and personal relationships. He soon discovered retirement life wasn't for him just yet. He then went on to work for 21 years at J.A.M. Distributing. He and Charlene decided it was time to finally retire to their 93-acre farm in New Waverly at the end of 2017. Rayford always enjoyed working with his Black Angus cattle in Alto as well as in New Waverly. He loved the country and could ride on his tractor from sunup to sundown. However, his true enjoyment came from his three grandchildren. He tried to make as many of their games as possible, whether it was football, basketball, softball, or track, Goon was there! He is preceded in death by his father; Riley W. Pierce; two infant siblings; Brenda Kay and Donald Wayne as well as a brother; Jack Edward, his beloved grandmother; Ella Mae Pierce; step-father; Russell E. Spencer and in-laws; Charlie and Maggie Pavlock. He is survived by his wife of 50 years: Charlene Pavlock Pierce, daughter; Tammy Birdsong and husband George and three grandchildren Jacob, Colton and Maddie Birdsong

all of Arp, TX, mother; Mary Nell Spencer (Zachary, LA), sisters; Becky Perkins (Winnsboro) and Teresa Vickers (Zachary, LA) and several nieces nephews and cousins. Pallbearers: Robert Lenard, Cody Thompson, Jerry Bobbitt, Steven Guice, Jon Flynn, and John Benestante. Honorary Pallbearers: Jacob and Colton Birdsong. Funeral Services will be held Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 10am at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home, 10129 FM 1097 West, Willis. Visitation with the family will be Wednesday, August 12, 2020 from 6-8pm at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Willis with burial immediately following service at Elmina Cemetery in New Waverly, Texas. We will be following all CDC mandates and ask that each guest do so as well. Masks are required. You are invited to leave a written condolence on our website at www.shmfh.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **12**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Willis
10129 FM 1097 Rd W.
Willis, TX 77318
(936) 890-0454
greg@shmfh.com

Funeral Service

AUG **13**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Willis
10129 FM 1097 Rd W.
Willis, TX 77318
(936) 890-0454
greg@shmfh.com

Interment following service

AUG **13** (CT)

Elmina Cemetery
40 Elmina Rd
New Waverly, TX 77358

Tribute Wall



“ *Rayford Riley Pierce*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *John Bailey lit a candle in memory of Rayford Riley Pierce*



john Bailey - August 12, 2020 at 11:26 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.*



August 12, 2020 at 07:23 PM



“ *I remember Mr. Pierce being a kind, light hearted and easy going Goon. He loved his family and always wanted the best for them. Sending my thoughts and prayers to you all.*



Belinda Flores - August 12, 2020 at 04:49 PM

PV

What a kind gentleman. The world needs more people like Ray. Charlene, I am very brokenhearted with you. Yall always treated me like family. Patrick Vicars Phone: 629-401-8444

Patrick Vicars - August 12, 2020 at 10:58 PM

S(

Mr. Pierce was such a pleasure to work with. He always had the words yo assure you when the chips were down. He was one of a kind. He and Charlene were a perfect match. Prayers to the family.

Sandra Oates (Bailey) - August 16, 2020 at 06:34 PM

CL

Connie Lockridge- I remember Rayford very well for he only lived two streets over from me in Gatewood addition. We graduated together after having many years of playing softball in the vacant lots. He was always so kind to everybody and their could never have been a kinder person than Rayford. I knew his wife; she was absolutely a great person also. I will be praying for his family during this time. Charlene I am so sorry for your loss. May God comfort you during this time.m

Connie Lockridge - August 30, 2020 at 08:12 AM

JB

“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



john Bailey - August 12, 2020 at 02:07 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.*



August 12, 2020 at 10:20 AM



“ *I met Mr. Pierce in September of 2006 when I started at J.A.M. and had the privilege working with him for 11 years. In those 11 years he was always in a good mood no matter what. I never had to see him in the office but I knew he was there just by hearing him jingle the loose change in his pocket, I swear it sounded like at least \$5 worth of change! Any questions I ever had about a specific oil we had in our warehouse he would always pull out a book he had in his desk just like how it use to be at auto parts store years ago never looking in the computer. I recently found out at the end of the 2019 Mr. Pierce and Mrs. Pierce were old neighbors of a aunt and uncle of mine. I shared that with Mrs. Pierce in February this year after my uncle passed and she knew exactly who they were. I think now about all the times I visited my aunt and uncle as a kid and Mr. Pierce was his neighbor, too bad I didn't found that out while we were working together it would've been really cool to have talked to him about that. Mr. Pierce you're in a better place now, my condolences to the Pierce family and friends.*

Christopher Gonzales - August 12, 2020 at 09:22 AM

AM

“ Alex M lit a candle in memory of Rayford Riley Pierce



Alex M - August 12, 2020 at 08:56 AM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.



August 12, 2020 at 08:46 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.



August 12, 2020 at 07:44 AM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.



August 12, 2020 at 06:57 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.*



August 11, 2020 at 09:19 PM



“ *I had the pleasure of working with Mr. Pierce for over 10 years at J.A.M. Distributing. Mr. Pierce was a very dedicated worker who was extremely punctual, uniform was always pressed, and never hesitated sharing his knowledge to anyone that wanted to learn. I had a huge amount of respect for Mr. Pierce not only as a colleague, but also as a person. I enjoyed his repetitive sayings such as “I’ll see you good people tomorrow good Lord willing,” or “I got an opportunity for you Captain.” In addition, we cannot forget the “Charlene” with his hand over his head every time a last minute request came through because he could never say no to her.*

Mr. Pierce and Charlene had something very special. Something that only a select few can say they have been married for 50 years. This type of milestone is a prime example of marriage, commitment, and true love for one another. I’m grateful and honored to have known someone like Mr. Pierce. I know he has made an impact on all of our lives in some way or another which is why he will be missed dearly. My deepest condolences to the entire family. Our prayers and thoughts are with you all.



Wally Perez - August 11, 2020 at 08:59 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.*



August 11, 2020 at 08:24 PM



“ *Rodney, Sue and Melissa purchased the Sweet T enderness for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.*



Rodney, Sue and Melissa - August 11, 2020 at 07:58 PM



“ *Ray was my first boss when I was still in high school working at Hi-Lo. Ray was a very patient man and cared about his employees. I learned so much from Ray because he was always willing to answer questions.*

Tim and La Donna Highley

Tim Highley - August 11, 2020 at 07:27 PM



“ *Cesar lit a candle in memory of Rayford Riley Pierce*



Cesar - August 11, 2020 at 03:23 PM

RG

“ What a great man very privileged to know MR. P as we all called him at work. I can remember as a teenager going to his parts store store to get parts for my old junkers . Though i did not have a personal relationship with Mr. P until we worked together at JAM. I always remember him taking the time to tell me about the parts i was buying and what i needed to get the job done. As well in the years we worked together you could always go to him and get some celerity on not only work issues he would take the time to help you with personal issues as well. My prayers go out to Ms Pierce and family.

Rusty Gallagher - August 11, 2020 at 11:07 AM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.



August 11, 2020 at 08:09 AM

BM

“ Becky and Dick Perkins and Brandy Marshall purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.



Becky and Dick Perkins and Brandy Marshall - August 10, 2020 at 09:51 PM

JD

“ Our sincerest condolences to Charlene and her family. Rayford and Charlene shared their love since high school. His loss will be difficult for everyone that knew them. JD and Vicki

JD Davis - August 10, 2020 at 04:31 PM

FM

“ Mr.Ray a great man to work with here at J.A.M. Distributing,so sorry for you loss. 🙏 Praying for y'all . God Bless you Ms.Charline....love Fred Meza and the J.A.M. Family.

fred meza - August 10, 2020 at 03:53 PM

FM

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



fred meza - August 10, 2020 at 03:49 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.



August 10, 2020 at 03:26 PM

JB

“ James, Marvin and Kervin Buckner purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.



James, Marvin and Kervin Buckner - August 10, 2020 at 03:00 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.



August 10, 2020 at 02:09 PM

SF

“ Sherry Keeling Calfee and Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Rayford Riley Pierce.



Sherry Keeling Calfee and Family - August 10, 2020 at 01:28 PM