



## William Roy Birkhead Jr

August 13, 1927 - February 26, 2015

William "Roy" Birkhead, age 87, died February 26, 2015.

Roy was born on August 13, 1927, in Frederick, Oklahoma, the son of the late William Roy, Sr., and Pearl Birkhead. He is also preceded in death by his first wife, Loyce Stigler Birkhead; sister, Irene Bryant, and brother-in-law, Bill Bryant; sister, Sally Lovell Rinehart Guinn, and brothers-in-law, Joe Rinehart and George Guinn; brother, Herbert Birkhead, and sister-in-law, Eugenia Birkhead.

Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Mary Ann Birkhead, of Huntsville, Texas; daughter, Susan Morrow, and husband, Bob, of Dallas, Texas; son, Bobby Birkhead, and wife, Janice, of Friendswood, Texas; and daughter, Sherri Cowan, and husband, Trey, of Spring, Texas; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Roy is also survived by his sister-in-law, Clara Crumbly and husband, Kenneth, of Williamsburg, Virginia.

After graduating from Victory High School, Roy joined the U.S. Navy in June, 1945. He was honorably discharged with the rank of 1st Class Seaman at the end of World War II.

Roy attended Oklahoma Baptist University, where he received a degree in accounting. After working in the industry for a few years, he decided to pursue

a career in education and administration. Roy, Loyce, and their two children, Susan and Bobby, moved to Pasadena, Texas, where they both taught school until Loyce passed away from cancer.

Roy and Mary Ann met on a date arranged by friends and married in 1965. Roy continued his work as an elementary school teacher and later became a principal. After working in education for more than 30 years, Roy retired from Pasadena I.S.D and they moved to Elkins Lake in Huntsville, Texas. Their retirement included travel, golf, and church activities.

The family will receive friends from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Monday, March 2, 2015 at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville, Texas. A service will follow the visitation at 11:00 AM on Monday, March 2, 2015 in the chapel at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral in Huntsville, Texas.

Mr. Birkhead will be laid to rest in Houston National Cemetery in Houston, Texas at later date.

Memorial condolences may be made to the family at [www.shmfh.com](http://www.shmfh.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 2. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

## Service

MAR 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *William Roy Birkhead Jr*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *He was my 5th grade teacher at McMasters elementary school in Pasadena. I'll never forget a book he read to us during that time, it was Rifles for Watie, made a big impression on me and one of the reasons I joined the US Army after my high school graduation. RIP sir*

**Rodney Alvarado** - October 22, 2020 at 01:00 PM



“ *Such precious memories of our years at FBC Pasadena. Please know we are praying for all of you during this time. Love, Barbara & Ted Ivy*

**Barbara Ivy** - March 02, 2015 at 09:09 PM



“ *Our friend and neighbor for over twenty years. The man always showed honesty and integrity both rare qualities in this day and age. We'll miss you Roy!*

**Gabe and Carol Labardini** - March 02, 2015 at 09:57 AM



Don  
Davison

“ I remember a time when Roy and Dave took Bobby and I with them to play golf. Bobby and I weren't very good and our dads became quickly irritated with us and we began to fall behind. I remember we both reached a point where whenever our dads weren't looking we began throwing our balls instead of hitting them. We laughed so hard we couldn't breathe!

*I'm so sorry for your loss. We never really quit missing them but have the comfort of knowing they are with our Lord*

*My love and fond memories of the Birkhead Family will always remain in my heart and my prayers are with you all!*

*Don Davison*

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**Don Davison** - March 01, 2015 at 08:46 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Roy ' s passing. I have so many childhood memories of our families having fun together. He was such a warm and wonderful man. I will be praying for all of you

*Judy Davison Jones*

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**Judy Jones** - March 01, 2015 at 07:09 PM



LF

“ Mr. Birkhead was my first male teacher and I was in his fifth grade class at Richey Elementary, Pasadena, TX a looong time ago. My most memorable occasion was the time he took a group of boys to the boys bathroom and gave us a stern lecture concerning our disregard for class decorum. We had been outside throwing "spear weeds" at one another and we continued our activity in the class room. We were about to get our butts busted when it was brought up a girl was just as involved. Saved my bacon! We had to write an essay instead and you can just guess the subject matter. He was an excellent teacher.

*Larry Fillman*

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**Larry Fillman** - March 01, 2015 at 11:28 AM

JB

“ Dear Birkhead family...please know how sorry I was to hear of Roy's death. It was my privilege and pleasure to have been a part of the Stuchbery family. He encouraged me to move forward in my career and always gave me excellent advise. He was a soft spoken and quiet man that created an excellent school environment. Know you will miss him so much. Thank goodness we will all meet again in our eternal life. God bless you all. Will see you on Monday.

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**Judy Bowers** - February 28, 2015 at 10:43 PM



“ Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of William Roy Birkhead Jr.



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February 28, 2015 at 03:07 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Roy Birkhead Jr.



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February 28, 2015 at 12:53 PM

SB

“ Mary Ann, Bobby, Susan, and Sherri,  
Dad called to tell me the news of Roy's passing  
and he was crying. We had so many memories  
of fun times between our families. Later I had  
the opportunity of working for him when he was  
my principal and true to what I had always  
experienced with him, he was kind and supportive to me as a  
teacher. He was a good man and leader. Mom and Dad are so very  
sad and send their love, thoughts and prayers for all of you. Betty  
and M.A. Wood and Sandy Wood Broughton



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**Sandy Broughton** - February 28, 2015 at 12:43 PM

JB

“ Mary Ann, I will always treasure the short time that I taught for Roy  
in Pasadena. Then Jerald & I had the joy of being in church with the  
two of you in Huntsville. If all could be as kind and caring as our  
dear friend, Roy, what a wonderful world this would be..  
Much love, Judy & Jerald Beene

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**Judy Beene** - February 28, 2015 at 10:59 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Birkhead, Jr.



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**Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home** - February 27, 2015 at 05:46 PM