



## Mr. Tommy R. McElroy

February 16, 1936 - August 11, 2018

A celebration of the life of Mr. Tommy R. McElroy, 82, of Henderson, will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 15, 2018, in the chapel at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home with Richard Harrison officiating, under the direction of Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home.

Mr. McElroy passed from this life on August 11, 2018, at his residence. He was born February 16, 1936, in Carthage to J.C. and Odell (Phillips) McElroy and attended school in Overton, graduating from Overton High School. After high school, Tommy proudly served his country in the United States Army. He later attended Kilgore College and graduated with his Bachelor's degree from Sam Houston State University. Mr. McElroy went on to graduate school and earned his Master's degree from Texas A&M University. In his professional career, Tommy was a professor at Kilgore College where he was Director of the Library.

Tommy recently moved to Henderson after living in Dallas for several years. He had a variety of interests but chief among them was photography and tennis. He was a member of the Kilgore Rotary Club and maintained his church membership at First Baptist Church Hebron in Carrollton.

He was preceded in death by his parents, J.C. and Odell McElroy.

Survivors include his wife of 24 years, Kathleen McElroy of Henderson; daughters, Kelly Hodges of Henderson and Monica McMellan and husband Austin of Dallas; son, Ryan Dickey and wife Jessica of Henderson; brother, Mack Willis McElroy and wife Callie of Arlington; grandchildren, Josh Hodges, Cassidy Hodges, Jaxon Dickey, Rylan Dickey, and granddaughter Jailyn; son-in-law, Danny Hodges of Henderson; and his beloved pup, Benjamin Willis.

A celebration of life will also be held at First Baptist Church Hebron in Carrollton at 3PM on Thursday, August 16, 2018.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Lone Star Westie Rescue on their website, <https://lswr.us>.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at [www.crawfordacrim.com](http://www.crawfordacrim.com).

# Events

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**AUG** **Celebration of life** 02:00PM

**15**

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Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home

1414 S. Main St, Henderson, TX, US, 75654

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home** - August 14, 2018 at 01:49 PM



“ Awwe so beautiful what a wonderful tribute love and prayers to you and the family.

**Kasha** - August 14, 2018 at 08:48 PM



“ Lovely and so sad. Heartbreaking.

**Pat** - August 14, 2018 at 11:02 PM



“ This is Absolutely BEAUTIFUL. Words can not express how beautiful this is. Love to all. Prayers to you and your family.

Love Traci

**Traci Bird** - August 15, 2018 at 01:59 PM



“ Precious pictures, precious family, precious memories. We will always love you, Tom. Kathy Roper

**Kathy Roper** - August 15, 2018 at 02:53 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family. Love you, Ginny

**Ginny** - August 15, 2018 at 11:03 PM



“ I just finished writing a memorial tribute in the KC newspaper, and before the article I knew nothing of Tom, but as my research process went by and I interviewed his friends I grew to love him as I would a character in a book. I wished I had the opportunity to meet Tom while alive but I know those who knew him were blessed.

-Destiny Baldwin

**Desi Nicole** - September 11, 2018 at 10:36 PM

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“ I am so sorry that Tom has passed. He and Kathy are the most authentic, generous and thoughtful people I know. I'm using the present tense because his light will stay with us.



**vicki hartman** - August 15, 2018 at 07:15 PM

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“ Kathy, I'm so sorry to hear about Tom. He was a wonderful person and I know you will miss him greatly. My love and prayers go out to you and the family. Linda Honeycutt

**Linda Honeycutt** - August 15, 2018 at 06:07 PM

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“ Ryan, I'm so sorry to hear of this. Praying for your family.



**Holli Bridges from Eastex** - August 15, 2018 at 02:27 PM

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“ 50 files added to the album LifeTributes



**Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home** - August 14, 2018 at 12:45 PM

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“ Kathy,

I am so sorry to hear of Tom's passing! He was truly one of the nicest guys I ever met and it was obvious he adored you! Please know you and your family are all in our thoughts and prayers as you go through this difficult time. May God bless you all and fill you with many, many wonderful memories of Tom's life!

Scott Kirkpatrick

Scott Kirkpatrick - August 14, 2018 at 12:01 PM



“ Kathy,

We are so sorry for your loss. We loved Tom! Love and hugs to you and all who are left behind.

Ron Heezen - August 14, 2018 at 11:00 PM



“ Kathy — Saddened to hear the news. Prayers for you at this most difficult time. Lots of fond memories of Tom!

He helped our family quite a bit and was a good friend.

Sincerely,

Robert Thornton

Robert Thornton - August 15, 2018 at 03:17 AM



“ Tamara Sanderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Tommy R. McElroy



Tamara Sanderson - August 13, 2018 at 04:56 PM



“ Dearest Kathy, I am so saddened to hear of Tom's passing. It has been a challenging time for you and I want you to know - just as you touched lives here at the J with NIA - so, too, do I want to offer the peace you give whenever YOU need it. May Tom's memory always bring a smile to your beautiful face.

Katharine Drake Rubenstein - August 13, 2018 at 12:58 PM



“ Sending you love and prayers, Kathy, for the loss of your precious husband. I heard many great things about Tom and I know he adored you. Precious are those wonderful memories of the life and love you shared. Tom will be with you always.

Love,  
Jill Forsythe

**Jill Forsythe** - August 13, 2018 at 09:44 AM

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“ Joanna Gilmore lit a candle in memory of Mr. Tommy R. McElroy



**joanna gilmore** - August 13, 2018 at 08:09 AM

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“ Dear Kathy & family - I'm so sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts & prayers.

Danny & Janice Males



**Danny & Janice Males** - August 12, 2018 at 09:53 PM

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“ Brandon Goggans lit a candle in memory of Mr. Tommy R. McElroy



**Brandon Goggans** - August 12, 2018 at 05:51 PM



“ I will always remember TOM as one of the most genuine and personable colleagues I had the privilege to work with in my forty-four years at Kikgore College. He always brightened my day, and I know that he did others. Persons like TOM don't come along very often, and when they do, that world is blessed. To his family I extend my best wishes in their great loss. I encourage each to record an oral history of their many memories of TOM, to be shared and passed down to future generations. God 's blessings be with you

**Joe White** - August 12, 2018 at 04:08 PM

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“ For a number of years I had breakfast with Tom at Los Lupes. I witnessed his kindness & generosity in action. Several of his friends brought their dogs with them. Tom would always order some extra sausage patties that he shared with them. He often brought treats for the dogs as well. When we started to leave the restaurant he always took the left over chips and broke them up to share with the birds. Tom loved photography and often brought a new camera in. The next week Tom would bring the developed photos in and give them to us. I could go on & on about my dear friend. Needless to say there is a huge gap in his friends life now that he is gone. We were so blessed to have had Tom in our lives. R. I. P. my friend.

**Fred Williams** - August 12, 2018 at 08:00 AM

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“ Tom was truly one of the best. Both he and Kathy were there for me when I lost my father. Tom was the kindest man I've ever known. I am blessed to have had him in my life.

**Brandon** - August 11, 2018 at 09:26 PM

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“ A truly tender, adoring man. I see in my minds eye the pure JOY he exuded when joining his beautiful wife, Kathy, at our Nia community events....always with a camera in tow to document the event with photos to enjoy and share. Kathy really lit up his life! I could see it in the gleam in his eye! May this gentle giant rest in peace, and his family mend the pain of grief and loss of this spectacular human being. How blessed I feel to have known him and shared time together in this life.

**Jule Aguirre** - August 11, 2018 at 08:47 PM

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“ One of the kindest people I know always enjoyed seeing Tom and Kathy walking their dogs in Carrollton he always had that great smile and took the time to talk with me my prayers are with the family. Mary Tufariello

Mary Tufariello - August 11, 2018 at 08:00 PM

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“ Tom always had a warm smile, big hug and kind word and that's how I will remember him. I know he will be missed by many. Kathy, thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Vicki Linberg - August 11, 2018 at 04:41 PM



“ Tom was a true gentleman. His heart was as big as the sky . He was strong, elegant & solid . His love for you was beautiful. He was so proud & supportive of you. We loved being w/ you two . He gave so much to the world with his warmth , kindness & acceptance. He was fun & he had a great sense of humor . Sending peace & love to you . R.I.P. Tom

Saliye Martin - August 11, 2018 at 07:32 PM

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“ Tom has been such a dear friend and colleague. His big smile would light up an entire room. He will be sorely missed and I grieve for his family. Godspeed, my dear friend!

Marian Jackson - August 11, 2018 at 03:24 PM

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“ Tom was a good friend while he was at Kilgore College. He always looked like he was happy and always made others feel better. He was a friend and also a neighbor for a while. He will be missed.

Joan Light - August 11, 2018 at 02:48 PM

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“ Tom and I had a great connection when he was Librarian at Kilgore College. He loved Photography so he and I hit it off from our first meeting. He so enjoyed our ordering photography books together and all the fine photography books that are left in the library we owe to Tom. Love to his family.  
O. Rufus Lovett

O. Rufus Lovett - August 11, 2018 at 02:43 PM

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“ You are going to be missed. Not going to be the same not seeing you at family Reunions. One think I will always remember about you is your smile. I don't think I ever seen you when you wasn't smiling. You enjoyed life and that made people around you enjoy life to. Until we meet again.

Lynn

Lynn Ezell - August 11, 2018 at 02:36 PM

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“ Michael McElroy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Tommy R. McElroy



Michael McElroy - August 11, 2018 at 02:26 PM

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“ Kelly sorry for your loss. Prayers for you family.



Jeff waits - August 11, 2018 at 02:23 PM

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“ I will always remember how friendly and kind spirited Tom was. Anytime we were together I felt very welcomed. Tom was and is an amazing person. I am grateful we were able to have breakfast Father's Day just the three of us ...Tom, Kathy and myself. We had a wonderful visit. I will miss you very much. I know you are in Heaven having a welcome party to see all your family and friends who are there too!! I remember when you adopted Ben!! You were so good to all your animals!! I know your y must be holding Sam in your lap now....who was such a wonderful little dog !!

Cheri Belt - August 11, 2018 at 02:19 PM

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“ Trudy McElroy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Tommy R. McElroy



**Trudy McElroy** - August 11, 2018 at 02:05 PM

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“ We adored this sweet and compassionate man. Always had a kind word to say and a generous offering of love. He will be missed by so many especially his beautiful wife Kathy, our dear friend. We pray that the family will begin their healing journey surrounded by love and fellowship. Never forgotten always in our hearts.

Rest in Peace Mr. T!

With Love,

Sharyn and Eric Fein

**Sharyn Fein** - August 11, 2018 at 01:49 PM