



Billy Crawford

August 14, 1924 - January 12, 2010

Funeral services for Billy Crawford, 85, of Henderson, will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 14, 2010, at First United Methodist Church in Henderson with Rev. Ricky Ricks and Rev. Jim Turley officiating. Private family graveside services will be in Lakewood Memorial Park under the direction of Crawford-A.Crim Funeral Home in Henderson.

Mr. Crawford died Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2010, at ETMC Henderson. He was born Aug. 14, 1924, in Wellington, Texas and lived most of his life in Henderson. He was a member of First United Methodist Church. He was a retired funeral director and former owner of Crawford-A.Crim Funeral Home in Henderson. As a family you and we all are aware of the many accomplishments dad has experienced in his full life. The list would be many; however, our dad would say that all of you wonderful friends were his greatest award in this life. God bless you all for making his life so beautiful. Viewing will be from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2010, at Crawford-A.Crim Funeral Home.

He was preceded in death by parents and wife, Betty Roy Crawford.

Survivors include: sons, Gary Crawford and wife Charlotte of Benbrook, Texas and Scott Crawford and wife Debra of Henderson; sister, Gay Stephens and husband Carlton of Henderson; grandchildren, Vic Crawford and wife Kristen of Grapevine, Mitch Crawford and wife Holly of Fort Worth, Crystal Bird and

husband Mark of Nacogdoches and Casie Summers and husband David of Tomball; great-grandchildren, Callie and Graham Crawford of Grapevine and Isaac Crawford of Fort Worth.

Honorary pallbearers will be Citizens National Bank Board of Directors, Strong-Hurt Coffee Club, Texas Rangers and Texas Rangers Association Foundation Board. If desired memorials may be made to the Texas Ranger Association Foundation, 104 Texas Ranger Trail, Waco, Texas 76706.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at www.crawfordacrim.com.

Previous Events

visitation

JAN 13. 8:00 AM (CT)

Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home
1414 South Main Street
Henderson, TX 75654

Tribute Wall

DD

“ *RIP Billy you will be remembered for ever. I know that you are keeping them laughing up there.*

Donald C. deGeurin - May 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *This is late but I thought so much of Billy that I designated a certain amount of my estate to him back in the 60's and 70's so I would be sure that only he bury me in case of my death.He made me feel good every time I spoke with him.SincerelyBilly F.Martin*

Billy F. Martin - July 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ *Gary and Scott, how proud of you we are that you are filling the HUGE shoes that Billy left. It will take both of you I'm sure!! Quite the extraordinary and exceptional man--your Dad! What a legacy he and your mom have given you. Glad you are carrying it on. Our sympathy and prayers during this time of loss.*

Gus and Betty Brown - May 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ *Scott and family,Thanks so much for your dad who like my dad and my father - in- law Keenan Barrett did their duty to keep us protected from harms way. Their lives are very precious and a statement to all of us who knew them. Nothing can replace him, but his life has touched Henderson and beyond. You have been a blessing to my family. Sincerely,Luke Fisher*

Luke Fisher - January 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ There was only ONE Billy Crawford...utterly irreplaceable is he. Billy and Betty, as I remember them years ago at NSM meetings, were the most stunning, joy-filled and gracious couple. Billy's outrageous and zany humor was legend....and the world is a better place because he walked among us. How lucky are each of us who kinew and loved this priceless treasure. Am thinking of you, Scott & Gary, during this difficult time. Thanks be to God for the life and legend of dear Billy. Mark T. Higgins President, Hall-Wynne Funeral Service, Durham, NCNSM Staff member, 1982-1992.

Mark Higgins - January 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Thank you, Mr. Billy Crawford and the Crawford Family for your service to our community and its' citizens. Billy was a great man of character, hard work, honesty, and humor. I remember my dad, Lloyd Boatwright, taking me to Crawford A. Crim to drop something off for a family member's funeral. My dad tried to explain to me that Jesus had taken our family member away and that she was just fine in paradise. I was about 5 at the time. Billy gave me a quarter after he pulled it from behind my ear. When I got home I was still playing with the quarter when my mom asked, "Chad, where did you get that quarter" ? My response was, " Jesus gave it to me". Thank you Billy for always bringing a smile to my face and for treating our family and our loved ones with class, dignity, and respect.

Chad Boatwright - January 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ I spent alot of time at the hospital. Billy was there all hours of day and night. To me, he was like a gate keeper. To help souls to their resting place. He will be greatly missed and can't be replaced. and I'm sure he's still doing his calling over on the other side. when I pass, i'm pretty sure he'll be there to welcome me... God bless.
Karenjo Lambeth

Karenjo Lambeth - January 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ So sorry for your loss. Billy and your family have helped our family so much. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

mary and steve lowe - January 22, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ I am sorry for your loss. Billy Crawford was one of the nicest people I have ever met. No one was a stranger to him. He will be greatly missed. Krista Furtick

Krista Furtick - January 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Gary & Scott: Billy was the living model for the Dale Carnegie Course--a tremendous ambassador of inspraion and goodwill. Your purchase of the Funeral Home is a tribute to Bettyand Billy. Your success will mirror your Heritage. We share your treasured memories. Sincerely, Mabel & Rex Carpenter.

Mabel & Rex Carpenter - January 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ To the Crawford family - It is always sad to learn that a friend has moved, but I look forward to seeing Mr. Billy again one day. I don't know which would be the greater number: the people that loved Billy or the people that Billy loved. What a special man! What a wonderful smile. God bless you all. Buddy Owles, retired DPS.

Buddy Owles - January 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Thank you, Scott & Gary, for sharing your Dad with the rest of us. I guess from birth I have always known and loved Billy Crawford through my grandparents, P W & Kathryn Rushton. He was a special man to all of us in the Henderson/Rusk Co. area. God blessed him and then blessed each of us by putting him here in Henderson! He was a once in a lifetime person and he will be missed. Your Dad always knew who you were and who you were from and where your family lived. He gave the best hugs too! When I worked at the Chamber, I'll never forget him coming in with those Bubba teeth! He enjoyed talking to my late husband, who was a police officer in Jacksonville, about their guns. He always had a fresh joke and spoke to everyone. My prayers are with the family of this wonderful man. I look forward to a big hug from him when I get to heaven!

Cindy Benson Clifton - January 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ Many years ago, I worked at the Bank as part of their external audit group. Mr. Crawford was one of a kind!! He always had a smile on his face and a kind word in his heart (along with a few practical jokes!). I will never forget him.

Kristie McFarland - January 19, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Scott and Gary, You and your families have been in our thoughts and prayers. We will always remember Billy smiling and wanted to tell his latest joke. He was so full of life. He will be missed by so many friends and family. What a joy he was to so many. Billy was one you always knew would be there. Mother always talks about the good times. We know now he is in heaven with your Mom and they are having a wonderful time together.

Jim and Carmen - January 19, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ What a blessing for those of us who knew Billy. Jean and I are so sorry for your loss, but know that Billy is now in Heaven along with Betty, waiting to greet all of us one day. We are thinking of you at this time and praying that your sorrow will be softened by the great memories of a wonderful man.

Don and Jean Montgomery - January 19, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CU

“ One of a Kind! There'll never be another!!!!

Chad Utley - January 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Hey guys, Sorry to hear about your Dad. There really are no great words of wisdom to offer other than to know your Dad is at peace eternal. Again, my condolences. David

David Dudley - January 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ To the family of a great man. Billy has built a legacy for your family to be proud of. There are not many people that you hear that share their life with so many people in such a caring, humorous and loving way. Cherish your memories. His grandchildren will have a lot to remember about their grandad and share with their children. What a blessing it is to say to say that we knew him. Of course I don't know very many people in Henderson that didn't know who Billy Crawford was. Gary and Scott carry on his Legacy. Know he is proud of his family. Our love and Prayers Kenneth and Becky Miley

Kenneth & Becky Miley - January 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ The Texas Rangers and I lost our best friend.

Bruce Casteel - January 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ " I wanted to say thanks to the man that for many bore witness to remarkable greatness; I've no doubt the origin of that greatness... it was God's presence in a man with an open heart. " JRK

James Ray Keith - January 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

VH

“ Gary & Scott I am so sorry for your loss. When I worked in Henderson, your Dad was always a ray of sunshine for all when he would stop by the bank to visit. I treasured his friendship. You & your family will be in my prayers.

Vickie Hubacek - January 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Dear Crawford Family: God gave your dad a most unusual gift of JOY. Just the mention of his name brought a smile to the face! He was a true blessing. We understand missing someone who has gone on to Heaven, but your wonderful memories will erase the sadness and bring you much joy in the future. In love, Ray & Jean

Ray & Jean Ludwig - January 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PA

“ Gary and Scott, I can still remember the first day I met your Dad at the funeral home on my way to Huawni. He made me laugh like crazy! I know he is rejoicing with your Mom right now!!! I am so sorry Mike and I were out of town during the funeral. We are praying for all the Crawfords...you have an awesome family.

Pam Adams - January 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Billy was always a delight to visit with. He always made us laugh with his stories. We speak of him often. Our prayers are with the family.

John & Danita High - January 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Gary and Scottl remember when I first met the world famous Billy Crawford I instantly I knew he was the most special person in the world. When I first met him I was a DPS Trooper and when he found out he stopped everything he was doing just to visit with me like I was his very best friend. He so loved law enforcement and we in return grew to respect him deeply because of his dedication to our profession. There were many things besides this that I found so unique about him. I do not remember him asking people to do things for him. It was the other way around. He would ask what he could do for them I never saw him when he wasn't smiling. Your father had a way to make everyone feel special as if you and he were the best of friends. He was such a friend to law enforcement and for those of us in the profession we will forever remember him as the one person we could count on in a time of need. He was our biggest fan. In general he made everyone smile and so glad to be living in Henderson. I will never forget him. He left us many gifts but perhaps it is his friendship that I will treasure the most.

Craig Sweeney - January 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Gary and Scott, I am sorry to hear about your dad. Billy Crawford was one of a kind. I'll never forget first meeting him when I worked at the Henderson Daily News. William (Ashby) saw Billy walking up and told me who he was. It was pouring outside that morning. Billy walked into advertising and as soon as he came in Billy took his hair off and shook it dry! Then William introduced me to him! I knew right then he was a character...my assessment was correct! I so enjoyed getting to know him through the years. Your family is in our prayers. I know you both made him proud and rightly so. Stacy and Curt

Stacy Frisbie - January 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ What can I say in the loss of my friend? I can tell you that I was blessed to have known such a charismatic soul and one whose remarkable presence spanned my lifetime. Billy would know me from early times of my life as, â?? one of the Birdwell children of Mt. Enterpriseâ?; moving forward heâ??d remain strength to guide and help me through the marked points which changed my life; and without counting those many years weâ??d gone in passing and smiles. Who knew through days distinguished by difficulty, followed with our many which resonated in laughter that weâ??d meet up again? It was a privilege to have shared with others in your care. I am only sorry that our time was cut short and that I wasnâ??t there to see you through. So, what can I say in the loss of my friend? lâ??d say the world was a better place with him in it. lâ??d say that everyone should know of someone like â?? Billy Crawford.â? Thank You Billy & Goodbye My Friend.

Rosa Lee Cook - January 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Scott, Gary, and family, I'm very sorry for your loss..... Billy was truly a wonderful man and I have the most fond memories of him. Making you feel great and laugh just came natural to Billy and he told a joke better than anyone I've ever known. He always made me feel special and I'll Never forget this wonderful man.

Darin Bassett - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Didn't spend much time in Henderson as Sports Editor at The Daily News in 89 and 90. But one didn't have to spend much time there to know or remember Billy Crawford. He was one of a kind and a pleasure to know in every sense of the word. No matter how long the hours had been or how stressing the situation, or how much of a whirlwind was surrounding the Henderson Lion baseball team, you could set your watch by the arrival of Billy Crawford every morning. He'd come bursting through that front door, guns a-blazing and was destined to leave you in stitches. My favorite will always be his introduction to our new reporter Toni Laxon. Without blinking he said "Oh, Toni Laxative!" He was also a one man Chamber Of Commerce and I appreciate all of the places he invited me to when I was there. Truly kind generous and funny, while he leaves us a bit sad, he definitely left us laughing. My condolences to all family and friends.

David Chuber - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Billy always had a big smile, a big handshake or a big hug for every person he met. Billy always left you feeling better. We have all lost a great friend.

Steve & Pam Lee - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ My heartfelt sympathy to the entire Crawford family. How blessed we all are to call Billy "our friend." He touched so many lives with his kind and sincere heart. His smile was contagious. May GOD bless you all.

Sandy Hargrove - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Dear Crawford Family, We are saddened by Mr. Billy's passing but we are proud to have known him. Are your family has played a part in our history and all of Rusk County for many years. He will always be remembered for that warm smile. He also called us by name and probably knew most everyone in the county. Your best legacy is to continue what he started. We are proud of your contribution as a family and wish you the best. As always, if you need us we are here. Roy & Debbie Lemley

Roy & Debbie Lemley - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ I truly feel a loss. He was so personable and personal to everyone that he came in contact with. What a loss for everyone that knew him.

Tommy and Paula Fryman - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Dear Gary, Scott, and Families...I can truly say I LOVED Billy Crawford - not related, but he always made you feel like you were! I will never forget him coming and sitting with my sister and me the night our father passed away and telling us that everything was going to be okay. He knew just what to say to two young girls that were scared to death. All through the years he made us feel like we were special to him...and I know we were not the only ones that felt that way. It makes me sad to think he is no longer with us, but just think about all those in Heaven that are so glad to see him again!! I know you both have wonderful memories that will be with you from now on! He and Ms. Betty Roy were wonderful! With love and prayers, Phyllis and Danny Bigbie

Phyllis Shaw Bigbie - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Mr. Crawford was such a wonderful man. He ALWAYS made me smile everytime I saw him. I will truly miss him. Your family is in my prayers.

Cecilia (Johnson) Koch - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ We were so sorry to hear that Billy is no longer with us. He was such a wonderful man. He never met a stranger and always remembered a name. He was so charming and charismatic. He certainly knew how to have fun and to make everyone around him feel special. We will miss him greatly!

Kyle and Carol Dean - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ Many memories if Billy. Visiting at First Methodist and Billy squeezing my shoulder as he went down for communion. Billy had sold the funeral when my father, Otis Wylie, passed away; but I was so pleased as we exited our car at the cemetary on that dreary day to see Billy step out from behind the wheel of the hearse.

Stan R Wylie - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ To the Family: Billy Crawford truly had a delightful spirit. There was no need to read a book about how to be a people person! Just watch him was all a person needed to do! He was a perfect example! I (Linda) still tell this story: When I was in Middle School, a teacher gave the assignment to interview someone in an occupation that we were interested in. I chose to interview Billy Crawford! Not because I wanted to be an undertaker, but because I wanted to be a comedian! It was a hilarious interview! His bright personality will be missed!

Chris and Linda King - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ Gary, Scott and Family, I would like to tell you that I'm truly sorry for your loss. Your Dad was truly one of a kind. The video reminds us of the man that loved life, never met a stranger and loved God, country and family. God's love truly shined in his and your mothers life. He was always an encouragement to me and my family, always asked about me being gone from home with work and let me know that even through trials that life and family was always special. I know that everyone he met he made feel special and we will all miss him. My prayers are with you during your loss. GOD bless you and your families.

Bobby Davis - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

VM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Christian will always laugh when he thinks of Billy and his well known "Bubba teeth" at church as well as at "The Coffee Club!" He has gone with my dad there since he was a small child and always has great memories. He would even tell everyone not to sit in the barber chair because that is "Mr. Billy's chari!" I will miss myself seeing Billy at the Post Office EVERY day even when he had to sit in the car! He will be greatly missed.

Vaughn, Rebecca, Christian & Ford Merritt - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Gary & Scott, There has been so many good things already said about you dad that I can totally agree with. He was one of a kind. When the bank was where CFG is now, we looked forward to seeing him just about every morning. He would drive up and honk. He had the sharpest memory of anyone I have ever known. Never met a stranger, always had a smile and I loved his Hats. His hats had personality when put them on. Your mother was a charming lady and so sweet to take everything he said with a grain of salt. I think both of you with your families and Pat and Tommy and the Grace of God, your business will so blessed. Your parents did a fine job with you guys. Thanks for the memories that will last forever. John and Mary Jo Ash

Mary Jo & John Ash - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Rebecca Risinger - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ We are thinking of you during this time of sorrow.

David & Mary Fullen - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ May God Bless you and your family during this time. We loved your father and we will miss him greatly. He was a man that no one will ever forget. There will never be another Billy Crawford he truly was a unique man and a very special friend to everyone that he ever met. Our prayers are with you all.

Tony & Rhonda Roberts - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ Your dad was a very special person who always found a way to make you smile in the saddest times. My mom and dad always talked about him when we were growing up and he was very special to all of us. He will be deeply missed.

Marcella McRae Lawless - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ DEAR CRAWFORD FAMILY,MAY GOD BLESS AND COMFORT YOU AT THIS TIME.WHAT A GREAT MAN BILLY WAS. HE HAS GRACIOUSLY AND LOVINGLY CARED FOR THE BOYD FAMILY FOR MANY YEARS.HE NEVER FORGOT A FACE, ONCE YOUR FRIEND ALWAYS YOUR FRIEND.

JIM AND SUE BOYD - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ With Deepest Sympathy, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Brad & Valerie Hampton - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ What a great man and the best neighbor & friend in funeral service. We loved him.Don Lipsey

Don Lipsey - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BY

“ Gary, Scott, and all family members, If you ran into Billy, your day was happier and brighter. He knew just how to make you feel special. All souls in heaven will be feeling a little more joy as he joins them. We mourn with you our loss.

Becky and Hi Young - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ Gary & Scott and all of the Crawford family we want to offer you our deepest condolences during this time. Your father was a wonderful man, he loved everyone no matter who they were. Our dear friend has gone home. May God Bless you and know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Elmer & Ruth Roberts - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PA

“ Im so sorry to hear about Mr Billy. Truly a great man.We really enjoyed taking care of him on 4F.

Patricia Allred,RN - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Billy Crawford had the ability to make each person with whom he interacted feel special and important. He made time for everyone, and he gave you his full attention when he spoke. We who were fortunate enough to know this man are forever blessed.

Janie Needham Wilkins - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

WD

“ I am so sorry to hear about Uncle Billy. I really wish that I could make it to the funeral. I hope everyone is doing okay.Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.Mat 5:4

Wes Dean - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ He will live in our hearts forever...

Brad & Valerie Hampton - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ *Such a wonderful and uplifting friend. You are in our prayers.*

David & Mary Fullen, Rebecca Risinger - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ *Thinking of you, Scott and Gary and the rest of the family. There will never be another Billy Crawford, he was one of a kind and will be missed by all.*

Ruby Doris Davis - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *Our prayers are with you during this difficult time.*

Margaret McAlister - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *We have so many memories of Billy. His quick come backs, his humor, his love for people and his pride in his family. I especially admired how he could take each family and place them together at a funeral. When you were dealing with my side of the family (Wallace, Bearden, and Orr) it was quite an accomplishment. I always wondered how he managed to do it just right. He will be missed by many. Love to you all.*

David and Sherry Harris - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Dear Crawford Family, We would like to express our sincere sympathy during this difficult time. Billy was a wonderful and unique person that touched our lives as well as so many others. We are thankful that we had the pleasure to know him. Larence and Jeanell Soape, Catherine Birdwell, and Carla Grafton*

Jeanell Soape - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TV

“ Scott & Gary, So sorry for your loss. To have known your Dad was one of the great pleasures of our life. When ever you saw him you knew you were seeing a friend. He always made you feel important because when you talked to him he listened to what you had to say. Plus you could always count on hearing a humorous story about your family and he knew all of them. He will be missed but I'm sure glad we had him for as long as we did. Tom & Marilyn Vaught

Tom & Marilyn Vaught - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Ditto.....there can't be enough good things said about Mr Billy Crawford---Great Man!

CONNIE BOATWRIGHT CONNER - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Gary and Scott, Your Dad's kindness and his ability to connect to people for a life time was remarkable. I feel very blessed getting to see him in June, when my Mother was there. I wil cherish the card he gave me at a very young age.(IT'S NICE TO BE IMPORTANT,BUT MORE IMPORTANT TO BE NICE.) He will be missed by many. Sincerely, Jan Mitchell

Jan Torbert Mitchell - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Gary, Scott and Gay, I know that you all are rejoicing that Billy is Billy again. You also know that he was well loved by our community and his presence has been missed for some time. He was a "hoot", wasn't he? Just enjoy your memories and know that everyone's prayers are with you all.

Martha Melton - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ Gary, My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this most difficult time. Keep your hand in Gods hand and He will see you through.

Toni Holliman Harkless - January 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ We will always cherish Billy's kindness and over flowing sense of humor. Jim fondly remembers Billy calling out, Hey Fireman, whenever he saw him. He always had a ready hug and loved to call me Kamona which I will forever cherish. He loved to tell me stories about his dad and my grandfather, Ollie Brightwell, and always making sure I knew what a good man my grandfather was. I'll always remember that. Of course, he also got my kids stirred up during church by making funny faces at them across the aisle but that's a cherished memory too. It was always a happier day if you happened to run into Billy. He was a true blessing to so many people in so many ways. Henderson will truly miss his smiling face but Heaven just got a whole lot brighter.

Jim and Ramona Brightwell White - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ Gary and Scott, your father was a very loving man that will be missed. We can remember acts of kindness that he showed to people we knew. He was a dear friend to both our families (Vaughn and Gholson) and not just in business matters. When Billy came into the bank, he would lift everyone's spirits to the point that you knew he really cared about you as a person. I have a few fun stories that I remember about him. He always made you feel better. Both of us have memories of a great man. God bless you all in this hour. Look to God for strength.

Robert and Diane Gholson - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ Gary & Scott, we send our love to you and family. We as everyone else will miss your Dad&Mother. God Bless everyone of you. Love, Harvey & Gloria Channel

Gloria&Harvey Channel - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ That smile...never saw Billy Crawford any other way! He buried my Father and like many others, he always knew my name and always asked about my Mother. When I grew older, he always greeted me with a firm handshake and a big hug! And a sense of humor that knew no bounds! My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Paul Saxon - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ All of you are in our thoughts and prayers. Billy and Betty were very special people in Henderson, and made the Funeral Home feel very warm and friendly. They were both loved very much. Henderson will not be the same without Billy. Gary and Scott please continue your daddy's legacy because he left a grand one! Kerry and Kathy BucknerVirginia Hampton

Kerry & Kathy Buckner; Virginia Hampton - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ The family of Billy, We've all lost a wonderful friend. It was truly a joy when I worked at Diamond Specialits to see Billy and Betty Roy walk in the door! They were both very special people. My love and prayers are with you all. Jean

Jean Wilson - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ You will be greatly missed. The family will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Kevin and Shani Brooks - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LO

“ Shubuta is where it all began for the CrawfordFamily...a proud family and one filled withlaughter and love, sadness and sorry, but aboveall, one filled with LOVE.Billy was one of the favorites...filled with love for hisfamily and love for all of his friends, which were many.He never met a stranger to my knowledge.I know that all will miss him, but he's in a betterplace and having visitation from PaPa & MaMaCrawford on down....God's Blessings upon all !!!Love to Each of You,Libby Crawford Owen

Libby Crawford Owen - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Billy Crawford always brightened my day with a friendly smile and a warm and personal handshake. I consider it a great honor to count him as my friend.I mourn his passing and wish to express my condolence to his wife and extended family.Ralph Wadsworth, Retired,Texas Ranger Co â??Bâ?

Ralph Wadsworth - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Gary, Scott and families-I am so sorry about your loss and no doubt, Henderson and Rusk County have lost one of the best! He was a wonderful person and loved by all who knew him. The Crawford family is special to our family. Our prayers are with you at this time.

Amy Miley - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Gary and Scott, we are so sorry for your loss. Your Dad was truly one of a kind. Having known him most of my life through his friendship with my Dad I have some great memories and stories to tell. He was my friend and we appreciated his support and welcoming arms when we came to Henderson. We know you will miss him greatly. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your families during this difficult time. Charles and Lacy

Charles and Lacy Rader - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Scott and Gary: We were so sorry to learn of the passing of your Dad. We will all miss him. Once he met you, he never forgot you. He was truly one of a kind and made you feel better each time you met. Our loss is Heaven's gain. May God be with you during this sad time. Buddy & Shirley Honeycutt Overton, Texas

Buddy & Shirley Honeycutt - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ Gary, Scott, Gay and family I just learned the sad news of your loss. Like everyone else who grew up in Henderson I loved Billy. He will be missed by all who knew him. Know that you and your family will be in my prayers and thoughts. Ann

Ann Lemon - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ I have nothing but fond memories of your Dad and Mother, the world is a far better place for these two people being here. Billy was a great friend so I will miss greatly. Paul Chapman Garland, Texas

Paul Wesley Chapman - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Gary, Scott and Family, we are sorrowful for your loss. Your father was a great man. He will be surely missed. We were all honored to have known him . May God bring peace to your heart and home during this time. God Bless you all.

Donald, Mary, Hughes & Emily Ellis - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Scott and family,Just wanted you to know that our thought and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. And that we know how you feel since we just lost my Dad, John Dudley, in November. May God bless and keep you during this time of sorrow.

Johnny & Patti Beall - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ Gary and Scott and family....WHAT A BLESSING TO HAVE KNOWN YOUR DAD..THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER BILLY CRAWFORD...HE WAS A BLESSING AND HELPED SO MANY..YOU WILL ALL BE IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...GEORGE AND NELDA BRADY

George & Nelda Brady - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Dear Gary and Scott, I will never forget your dad. I have memories of him in the Lions Laffs from the 50's. He and my mother were such good friends. She told me so many hilarious stories about their years growing up in Henderson. I remember when I was in jr. high, eating lunch at Kobb's Lunchroom, when he came in with his new toupee. He came over and tipped it like a hat to me and took it right off his head! At first it scared me, then I laughed until I cried. What a wonderful man. My mom always said your mom was a saint to put up with all his shenanigans. My whole family loved them both so much. I'm glad I got to see him recently. We will be praying for you and your families. Heaven is a much happier place with him on board.

Bette Barrett Fisher - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ WHEN YOU NEEDED A SMILE, ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS TO MEET BILLY CRAWFORD. HE WAS A FRIEND TO PEOPLE IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE & OUR LIVES HAVE BEEN ENRICHED BY KNOWING HIM. OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU.

BILL & JOANN REDDEN - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

EA

“ My sympathy to the entire Crawford family for the loss you have all sustained. Your father, in the short time I was around him, was always a gentleman to not only myself but to all he came in contact with. I have never known a person with a better memory for names this Billy! Being a new resident to Henderson, he shared a lot of insight about the people and history of the community with me during his daily visits to the funeral home. It was an honor to have met Billy. My sympathy to you all.

Ed Allan - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LI

“ Scott, Gary, and family, I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your dad. Billy was a wonderful friend with an amazing heart! He never met a stranger, was full of joy, and always left us with a smile! I am truly blessed to have known him! Your family has always been very special to me and my family and we will keep you all in our prayers. Love in Christ, Laura

Laura Isaac - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ GAY, GARY, SCOTT AND FAMILIES, .SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT BILLY. HE HAD A GREAT LIFE AND A GEAT FAMILY.HE WILL BE MISSED. SORRY WE COULDN,T BE THERE. WE LOVE YOU ALL. BORDEN AND JEAN CRAWFORD

BORDEN CRAWFORD - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

HT

“ Scott, Gary and family. A great loss to lose a friend from my years of aqaintance. Billy was my hero and a great friend of our entire family.

Harvey Thompson - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Gary and Scott Your dad was such a special person. He was also a treasured friend to my mom and dad, Bill and Edna Wilson. I have so many great memories of him including the time that he surprised Robert and me when we saw him at Cayce's in Longview by paying for our dinner. It was just small things like that that made him a person to look up to. He and your mom did a wonderful job raising you as you both have their caring personality and ways. May God be with you during this time and just know that Billy is in Heaven reunited with the love of his life and visiting with many old friends.

Robert & Kathy Phillips - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

C(

“ Gary, Scott and Family, your dad was such a wonderful compassionate man and will be missed by so many people. My family was honored to have known him . God Bless you all during this time.

Cynthia, Julia and Nelda (Pinnell) - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ This man has been a big part of our lives for nearly 40 years, there is no way he can be replaced on this earth. He was the one in a million people speak of but never meet,we had the pleasure.He is now back with his beloved wife, and others the like of Speir,Crowder,Mitchell and his other rowdy friends.I will miss him but I had the pleasure of his company and have a box full of memories.The Best to you Gary and Scott and families and GOD BLESS.Capt, Jack DeanTexas Rangers ((Retired)

Capt.Jack &Janie Dean - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ America had a FDR, a JFK, and a Ronald Reagan~~but Henderson had a Billy Crawford! He will be missed and cherished as long as this generation lasts! My love and heartfelt sympathy to Gay and all Billy's loved ones. PS One funny memory~I met Billy in the 5th grade. My mother laughed and said she thought she would have to take me out of school because I was so in love with Billy Crawford!

Billie Marie Coyle Slay - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ Gay, Scott, Gary your Dad and brother will never be forgotten. I used to see him scooting around town in that ambulance of his. It seemed he didn't have a care in the world. Mom always talked about his kindness to the telephone operators at Christmas time with his big boxes of candy. Daddy thought that Billy hung the moon, and that is high praise. I remember him taking care of many family members at their death. He would always find something personal to say that made you feel just a little better. Billy was always a funny person that made you laugh no matter the circumstances. You have our prayers.

Brenda Twomey Leigh - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Our dear Billy Crawford. He has meant so much to our family. He was a precious friend and will be greatly missed. We remember that, our loss is heaven's gain. He is rejoicing with all those that have gone before him. Our love and prayers are with all the family. We realize what you are going through. Just trust in the Lord and He will take care of you. Love & Prayers, Howard & Shirley Lee

Shirley & Howard Lee - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Gary, Scott and Family Your dad was the most loved man in East Texas. I would see him around town and he'd always say Debbie, I buried both your Granddaddy and your Grandmother and your mama and your daddy and I'd tell him, yes Billy and you'll be burying me one of the days. We would hug, then he'll pull out that picture and say have you met my wife? He was always a pleasure with that big smile of his. He will be missed so much and Carl and I were blessed to have known him. He's with your mother now and smiling down at all of you letting you know that all is ok, He's with his love, Betty Roy again. Bless you all Carl & Debbie Smith

Carl & Debbie Smith - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ I remember Mr. Crawford from when I worked at Royal Cleaners. He would always pull to the drive through and drop his clothes and have a joke to tell you. He would brighten my day! What a great man he was. He will be missed.

Mandy Tirado - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CV

“ Scott and Gary,I am so sorry for your loss. Your dad was one of a kind,He never met a stranger and if he met you once, the next time he saw you he would call you by name.]

Clyde Valdetero - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ What a light in the world Billy Crawford was! His smile, his friendship, his open heart, his humor (oh, his sense of humor!) and his love were gifts. Few people have brightened so many lives. May all of us who were blessed by this amazing man keep his spirit alive by telling the world his beautiful, laughter-filled stories. To the Crawford family, thank you for sharing your Dad and your Mom with us all these years.

Dr. Mike & Anne McCrady - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ We are sadden to learn about the passing of our special friend and former neighbor. Billy was one of a kind in his outgoing personality and his concern for others. We are forever grateful for the opportunity to have known him. Myrtle Lea Romer, Henderson, Tx. and Linda Romer, Houston, Tx.

Linda Romer - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ To the Crawford family: Your Mom, Dad and funeral home have helped our families through decades in Rusk county. He had the unique and caring ability not to forget people and faces after years of absence. May God Bless.

Don Cooper - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ I am so sorry to hear of you father's passing. He was a great man and will be missed by many. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Bea Reynolds Ormsby - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ There will NEVER be another Billy Crawford!!! Who else could tip his toupee to all the ladies in his presence or show the men (and complete strangers) the picture of his "beautiful wife" that he kept in his wallet? Billy Crawford LOVED to play a joke or gag on someone and he did it beautifully because we all fell for it at some point in our lives and loved his humor and his laugh. Yes, he truly was a remarkable man who was loved by all and will be missed by so many as well. If Heaven can be livened up any more right now, Billy Crawford is making it happen and having the time of his life. My thoughts are with Billy's entire family at this time. We have all lost a great man.

Suzanne Reed - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ I'm so very sorry for your loss. I think I can speak for everyone in town that we all share in your pain right now. We've all lost a great man. Billy was a wonderful friend who brightened everyone he came across. He had such a wonderful gift of remembering people, names, dates. If you were new in town he made you feel welcome. He was truly an angel to all of us, and I am certain he is looking down on us smiling, toupee in one hand, twinkle in his eye, saying we'll all be together again, I won't forget you.

Stacey Strong - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ Our deepest condolences to the family. From Russell & Allison Molina

Russell Molina - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ "Thanks you for allowing me to be your friend". This greeting was given to me many years ago beginning with the passing of my dad and later my mom. Both Billy and his gracious bride always welcomed me into their home. We had frequent discussions ranging from Fig Preserves to The Texas Rangers Association. This space will not allow me to list all of the things that he has done for me and mine from providing the caskets for both my mom and dad to providing advice on local matters. I will truly miss this TEXAN. Henderson and the surrounds will truly miss my friend.

Dr. Felix Jenkins - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ Since I was old enough to walk Billy was special in my life. Daily my grandmother would make the rounds with me in tow and Billy was always on our list. I will never forget his smile, his jokes and his big hugs. He will truly be missed by all.

Amy Rainwater - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ Your dad was truly a legend. He was a great friend, mentor, and influence in so many lives. I will always cherish his friendship and encouragement in my life. May God Bless you in this time of loss.

William Brown - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ The words people have used to describe Billy are surely words of honor. What a great tribute. After reading his obituary I think we are probably connected. When Wellington was mentioned that was the key. Scott, were you named after your grand dad? The Scott I knew was married to Lena. His brother was Luther, who was my granddad. If this is the case please let me know . My the GOD we serve fill your minds with all the great memories you have of Billy and by doing so give you peace. Don Crawford Tyler, Texas

Don Crawford - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ Sorry to hear of the loss but I know that Billy would want it this way if he could not smile, laugh, joke, play tricks, shake hands, slap backs and cheer the whole world up. He will be missed but his smile will be remembered. God Bless.

Phil Ryan - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ To the Crawford Family: Your Dad was a beautiful person. I will always remember how nice he was to my family and how he always waved to us throughout our school years wherever we were in Henderson. He will be truly missed. May the memories stay in your heart forever and bring you peace. Sincerely, Elaine Guytine

Elaine Guytine - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ An East Texas Icon has left us. The impact and influence Billy Crawford had on others will live on as his legacy. I was a Vise (my dad was Bill Vise). I grew up in Henderson and in the late 50's worked at the Randolph Hotel Coffee Shop where the Lions Club met (among other places such as Hayden-Brown soda fountain which he also frequented.) I remember vividly Billy Crawford encouraging me and telling me I would go on to bigger and better things. And I did. I have a telegram he sent me congratulating me when I graduated (1958). When I look back at my life, I remember Billy Crawford as one of those people who inspired me and I am sure many others to "make something of myself". Henderson, Texas will never be the same without Billy Crawford.

ROSE ANDERSON - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ If you set out to meet a friend that would be there for you always, you stopped looking when you met Billy. He brought smiles to everyone he came in contact with. Our prayers are with the family at this.

Ken & Rosemary Walton - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FH

“ With our love and deepest sympathy. The Fred Head Family

Fred Head - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ You are in our prayers. Remember the great memories that you all have shared. Take care and God Bless! (Love ya Casie)

Evelyn & Dennis Rasberry - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Dear Gary and Family, Wow! What a man your Dad was. He was a friend to the Texas Rangers and to me personally. Every time I was around him, I left in a better mood and as a better person--he just had that effect on folks. I am so sorry for your loss and you are in my thoughts and prayers. Hope to see you soon.

Kenny Ray, Texas Rangers - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Scott, Gary and family - I am so sorry to learn of Billy's passing. He was a good man and he will be missed by all who knew him. I hope you can find comfort in the fact that your parents are together again. I have never witnessed such love shared by two people. God be with you all during this time - Martha Sue

Martha Solomon - January 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Gary & Scott, I was so sorry to hear about your dad. He was a truly great man and will be missed by many. Please know that both of you and your families are in my thoughts and prayers. Blake

Blake Cammack - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

WS

“ As a child my father Stroud Seelbach introduced me to Billy at which time Billy proceeded to pull a quarter out of my ear. I'll never forget how each time we met he always thoughtfully inquired about how Irene (my Mom) and Stroud were doing. Billy was truly a people person and will be missed. Sincerely, WayneTokyo, Japan

Wayne Seelbach - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Dear Gary, I am so sad to hear of your Dad's passing. He was a very special person in Henderson. My Dad's family, from Henderson ~ the Seelbach's & the Barrett' thought a great deal of him. You probably don't remember me, but we met in the summer of 1956. Before I went to join my family in Okinawa, Japan.I think of you in prayer.Kindly,Pabs

Pabs Barrett - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ Gary,Scott and Family.We are so sorry to hear of your loss.Billy was a wonderful man,he always had a smile on his face.He was always full of jokes and tales.He was loved by many and will be truly missed.Our thoughts and prayers go out to yall.

Rickey&Liz Thrasher - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ The Texas Rangers never had a Bigger or Better Supporter than your Father. Well Respected,Funny and Great Friend. I consider Billy one of my Best Friends for over thirty years. Your Friend Jack B. Morton Texas Ranger (Ret.)

Jack Morton - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Gary and Scott...What a blessing it was to have known your dad all of these many many years. He never met a stranger and was always a joy to be around. We have such sweet memories of him and your mom. It has been a pleasure and honor to have called him FRIEND. We will never forget him and what he has meant to our community. Love and blessings to you two young men and your families. Doyle and Linda Rushton Benson

Doyle and Linda Benson - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Gary, Scott and Gay, my family has lost a dear friend. Billy meant so much to us through the years. We will miss him. We send out love and prayers,

Mozelle Duncan, Ronnie and Patsy Morrison - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ The world is a better place for having had Billy Crawford a part of it for the time we were blessed with his presence. Henderson has lost a legend. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Ryan & Tracy Stanford - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ We are better for knowing a man like Billy. He was one of a kind. Our prayers are with your family during this time. Love, Roy and Kathy

Roy and Kathy Hall - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Gary, Scott and families, and the family of Crawford-A.Crim Funeral Home, when I look at the smile that is on his face, I can only think of the happiness that he has spread in his lifetime to everyone he come in contact with. He will be missed. Just know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers.Donna Boatwright Saffell

DONNA SAFFELL - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Billy Crawford was one of the most amazing men I have ever met. I don't think he ever met a stranger. He will be missed be all. Gary & Scott, may God bless you and your family at this time and may His presence fill your lives with peace and comfort.God bless you.Mike & Karla Wade

Mike Wade - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SV

“ What a joy to know Billy Crawford. His smile was contagious. We will miss him. The angels are rejoicing as he walks the streets of gold with them.

Sue Vandegriff - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ To the Crawford family, Words can never express how missed Billy will be. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Gary and Scott, we know that your dad is smiling down and we all thank God that you are continuing his legacy for being there for us in time of need. Please know that we are here for you as well. May God continue to bless you and may the memories we have of Billy Crawford never fade. What a character he was and will remain in our lives!
Shalom,Jan and Roger Spann

Jan and Roger Spann - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM