



## Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian

May 8, 1939 - August 28, 2019

C.O. (Sonny) Christian, Jr. passed from this life on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at UT Health East Texas. Sonny was born on May 8, 1939, in Henderson, Texas to C.O. and Alice Christian, Sr. He was born and raised in the First Baptist Church of Henderson where he was a lifelong member.

Sonny graduated from Henderson High School in 1957. He briefly attended Stephen F. Austin State University but the love of his land and cattle called him to be a rancher. He later served in the 49th Armored Infantry, completing basic training in Fort Ord, California.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister and brother-in-law, Doris and Bud Rea, sister Patsy McCrory, and nephews Randy and Tracy Rea.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Melinda Christian, and his three children whom he loved dearly, daughter Paige Christian Keitt and husband Brad, son Courtney Christian and wife Lynn, and daughter Holly Christian McBerty and husband Mike. The light and love of Pop Pop's life were his eight grandchildren, Christian Keitt Patterson and husband Chase, Collyn Keitt, Kylie Christian, Loren Christian, Colby McBerty, Sydney Christian, Holden McBerty, and Hope McBerty, as well as one shining star, his great-grand daughter, Elliott Patterson and a great-grandson due in December. Sonny is also survived by his nephews Ronnie Rea, Pat McCrory and his wife Johnnie,

and Cole McCrory. Other special family members include Ara Jane Rea, Nic Rea, Renee Porter and husband Luke, Marlene and Billy McGlaun, and Casey and Gina Barrett, along with numerous great nephews and nieces and his “cousin brother” Tommy Moore and wife Charlene.

Sonny was an amazing husband, father, Pop Pop and friend. He was a quiet man of few words but his family and friends knew that his love ran deep.

A memorial service for Sonny will be held at 4:00 pm on Saturday, August 31, 2019, at First Baptist Church of Henderson with Dr. David Higgs and Rev. Don Edmiston officiating under the direction of Crawford – A. Crim Funeral Home of Henderson. Family will receive friends following the service in the Family Life Center parlor.

Pallbearers will be Colby McBerty, Pat McCrory, Cole McCrory, Ronnie Rea, Chase Patterson, Nic Rea, and Luke Porter.

In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes contributions to the Sonny Christian Rusk County Youth Project Show Memorial Scholarship at Vera Bank in Henderson, TX.

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

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG 31. 4:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
207 W. Main St.  
Henderson, TX 75652

## Visitation

AUG 31. 5:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
207 W. Main St.  
Henderson, TX 75652

# Tribute Wall



“ *Crawford A.Crim Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



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**Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home** - August 30, 2019 at 05:21 PM

DK

“ *Dianna & David Kelley lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



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**Dianna & David Kelley** - September 11, 2019 at 04:16 AM

SA

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. We will be keeping your family in our prayers.*



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**Sheila Alford** - September 09, 2019 at 07:05 PM

ED

“ *Elaine Franklin Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



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**Elaine Franklin Davis** - September 01, 2019 at 09:05 AM

CG

“ *Candy Grant lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



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**Candy Grant** - August 31, 2019 at 09:53 PM

 Paula Marshburn

“ *My fondest memories of Mr. Christian was when he and Paige gave me a lift to school. He always had the farm truck decked out with the dip cup on the dash. Mr. Christian greeted me with a kind smile and that gave my day a big lift. He was such a gentle giant.*

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**Paula Marshburn** - August 31, 2019 at 12:38 PM

KT

“ *I have known him for a very long time. Ever since I was a little girl Sonny would come to the pasture next to my house to feed the cattle and cut the hay. He will be missed. When I moved back here my husband and I would always wave or talk to him.*

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**Kathy Townsend** - August 31, 2019 at 12:21 PM

TV

“ Sorry to learn of Sonny's passing I had the privilege of serving with him several years in the 49th Armd. Div. My condolences to the family.

Tom Vaught - August 31, 2019 at 11:14 AM

PL

“ Melinda. I am so sorry for the passing of Sonny. My deepest sympathy for you and your family. You are in my heart. Paulette

Paulette Lee - August 31, 2019 at 09:55 AM

MH

“ Missy Hacker lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Missy Hacker - August 31, 2019 at 08:47 AM

DA

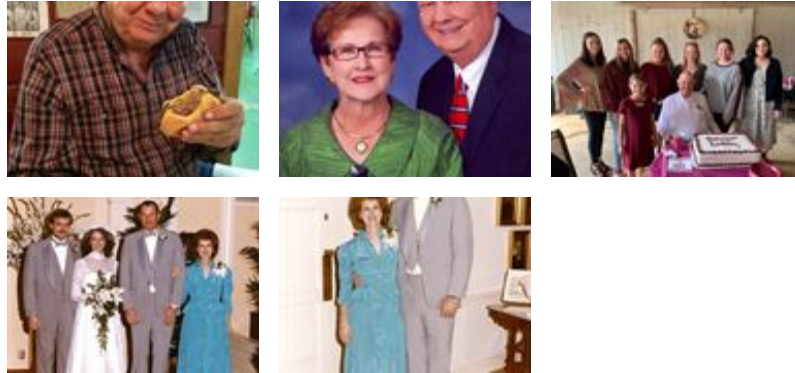
“ Sonny was a very Sweet man and he always was very well liked by his classmates as well as the many people who knew him. God's grace and comfort to Malinda and the family



Denny and Merlene Ainsworth - August 31, 2019 at 01:00 AM



“ 167 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home** - August 30, 2019 at 05:03 PM

KC

“ *Kristy Davis Campbell lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



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**Kristy Davis Campbell** - August 30, 2019 at 04:54 PM

LP

“ *Laura Payne lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



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**Laura Payne** - August 30, 2019 at 04:23 PM

BG

“ Praying for peace and comfort for family & friends

*Bonnie & John Geddie*



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**Bonnie Geddie** - August 30, 2019 at 03:29 PM

RW

“ Robert And Janet Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



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**Robert and Janet Williams** - August 30, 2019 at 02:21 PM

BH

“ Bob & Sue Henderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



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**Bob & Sue Henderson** - August 30, 2019 at 11:56 AM

BH

“ Bobby & Becca Holland lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



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**Bobby & Becca Holland** - August 30, 2019 at 11:48 AM

MD

“ *Mary And Donny Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



Mary and Donny Davis - August 30, 2019 at 07:28 AM

JY

*Malinda, I am truly sorry for your loss  
Jim and Sheri Young*

Jim and Sheri Young - August 30, 2019 at 12:08 PM

BB

*Praying for your family and am sorry for your lost. Keith and Brenda Barton*

brenda barton - August 31, 2019 at 01:26 PM



“ *Melinda, David and I were so sorry to hear about your loss. You and your family are in our prayers.*



Pam Brown - August 30, 2019 at 07:26 AM

CB

“ *Colleen Briggs lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



Colleen Briggs - August 30, 2019 at 01:10 AM

JS

“ *Melinda, so sorry for the loss of Sonny. May God hold you in his loving and comforting arms.*

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**Jaunice Griffith Silvertooth** - August 29, 2019 at 09:44 PM

CB

“ *Carolyn Orr Boren lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



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**Carolyn Orr Boren** - August 29, 2019 at 06:48 PM

DB

“ *Melinda - you and your family are in our prayers. We are so sorry for your loss. God bless and give you comfort during this time.*

*Betty, Don, Robin and Mike*



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**Don Brown** - August 29, 2019 at 05:53 PM

GA

“ Though Sonny "was a quiet man of few words," when you looked up--higher up, above his shy grin, he sent warm messages through the gentle twinkle in his eyes. To me, Willie Nelson's lyrics to "No Place But Texas" describes the sweet, giving man I'll miss.

*"God painted the bluebonnets in the fields,  
By a tough little scrub oak, on an east Texas hill.  
And he plucked the star from a lone star sky,  
And he put it in the twinkle of a cowboy's eye.*

*The wide open spaces he made wild and free.  
Texas, as far as any eye can see;  
And he made her sons grow tough and strong.  
They still cry when they hear a sad song."*

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**Gay Allen** - August 29, 2019 at 05:14 PM

CB

*I have many fond memories of Sonny , he was a very good friend and classmate of 1957.  
With caring thoughts and prayers to Melinda, and his entire family. The last time I saw him I told him I thought he was getting taller.  
Love to all,  
Carolyn Orr Boren*

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**Carolyn Orr Boren** - August 29, 2019 at 06:57 PM

GN

“ Though our words can do little, we hope our thoughts and prayers will support you at this sad time and in the days ahead. Love, J. Paul and Glenda K. Nelson.



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**Glenda Nelson** - August 29, 2019 at 04:03 PM

BJ

“ I knew Sonny for many years. He was always friendly.may God comfort his family.

**Betty Johnson** - August 29, 2019 at 01:56 PM

RS

“ Robbie Stephens lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



**Robbie Stephens** - August 29, 2019 at 01:42 PM

VH

“ Melinda, I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your husband, Sonny. Please know that your entire family members are in my thoughts and prayers. May God comfort you.

**Vicki Scoggins Haberman** - August 29, 2019 at 01:05 PM



“ Donna Aaron lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



**Donna Aaron** - August 29, 2019 at 12:53 PM

DA

“ Donna And Abb Abercrombie lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Donna and Abb Abercrombie - August 29, 2019 at 12:48 PM

MW

“ Sorry for your loss. Prayers for you and the family. Mike Walters

Mike Walters - August 29, 2019 at 12:36 PM

DK

“ David And Peggy Keeling lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



David and Peggy Keeling - August 29, 2019 at 11:19 AM

JB

“ Jeff Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Jeff Brown - August 29, 2019 at 11:18 AM

BH

“ *Barry Hampton lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



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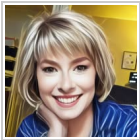
**Barry Hampton** - August 29, 2019 at 11:15 AM

RC

“ *Melinda, I am so sorry for your loss!  
Love and prayers!*

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**regina gray callender** - August 29, 2019 at 10:34 AM



“ *Dotti Sweeney-Roberts lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



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**Dotti Sweeney-Roberts** - August 29, 2019 at 09:55 AM

KB

“ *Kim McDonald Burgess lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian*



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**Kim McDonald Burgess** - August 29, 2019 at 09:50 AM

AM

“ Amy Miley-Payne lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Amy Miley-Payne - August 29, 2019 at 09:44 AM

PB

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. I am praying for the family.

Patti Capps Bryan - August 29, 2019 at 08:17 AM

DB

“ Heaven has gained a wonderful gentle man so sorry for your loss.

Deborah Barrett - August 29, 2019 at 08:01 AM

JC

“ Jim And Jeanne Cowart lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Jim and Jeanne Cowart - August 29, 2019 at 02:49 AM

AL

“ A. L. And Carolyn Layne lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



A. L. and Carolyn Layne - August 28, 2019 at 11:41 PM

DN

“ Debra Nichols lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Debra Nichols - August 28, 2019 at 10:49 PM

JB

“ Jane Brightwell lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Jane Brightwell - August 28, 2019 at 10:03 PM

CW

“ Charla Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



charla williams - August 28, 2019 at 09:46 PM

SC

“ Sharon Reeves Collins lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Sharon Reeves Collins - August 28, 2019 at 09:46 PM

MB

“ Many fond memories of time spent in the Christian’s home with Paige and family in our younger years. So sorry for your loss. Keeping each of you close at heart during this time.



Margaret Green Brown - August 28, 2019 at 09:39 PM

SS

“ Stephen & Rhonda Stanfield



Stephen and Rhonda Stanfield - August 28, 2019 at 09:32 PM

LT

“ We’re so sorry,praying for all of you.Rickey&Liz Thrasher



Liz&Rickey Thrasher - August 28, 2019 at 08:12 PM

BH

“ Brent Hale lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Brent Hale - August 28, 2019 at 07:40 PM

DS

“ Our hearts and prayers are with Melinda and their family during this time.



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**Dean and Linda Smith** - August 28, 2019 at 07:08 PM

JG

“ Jill Gloede lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



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**Jill Gloede** - August 28, 2019 at 06:52 PM

CB

“ Rest In Peace and Enjoy Heaven Mr. Christian. It has certainly been an honor to know you and your wonderful family. I first remember you and Mrs. Christian coming to eat with Holly at Northside Intermediate. I was thinking man that guy is tall. Working with and knowing Courtney and his family and Paige and her family has really been nice. You have a wonderful family that reflects the great qualities you instilled in them. I'm so grateful that I visited with you and your family at Whataburger. Prayers for all your family.



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**Chad Boatwright** - August 28, 2019 at 06:29 PM

DB

“ Doyle And Linda Rushton Benson. lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Doyle and Linda Rushton Benson. - August 28, 2019 at 06:15 PM

TP

“ Sincere condolences and prayers for the Christian family. Mr. Christian was such a nice gentleman who loved his family and church.

Tom & Linda Pharr - August 28, 2019 at 05:48 PM

TP

“ Tom & Linda Pharr lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Tom & Linda Pharr - August 28, 2019 at 05:45 PM

CW

“ Chris And Dana Wright lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Chris and Dana Wright - August 28, 2019 at 05:33 PM

GG

“ Greg And Melinda Gibson lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Greg and Melinda Gibson - August 28, 2019 at 05:24 PM

BM

“ Mr Christian was such a respected man and his last name was a sure sign as to what he was! Keeping the family in my prayers. Love y'all!!



Becky Massengale - August 28, 2019 at 04:46 PM

LH

“ L.D. And Jenny Hardy lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



L.D. and Jenny Hardy - August 28, 2019 at 03:44 PM

WJ

“ Wayne Jimmerson lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Wayne Jimmerson - August 28, 2019 at 03:36 PM

BM

“ So sorry for your loss. Many memories...many prayers.

Betty Mullens - August 28, 2019 at 03:06 PM

WR

“ Winnie Ramey lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Winnie Ramey - August 28, 2019 at 03:03 PM

BP

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I pray that your memories will sustain you during this difficult time.

Beth Hale Pope

Beth Pope - August 28, 2019 at 02:55 PM

SN

“ Our Heartfelt Condolences to Paige and the entire Family. My mom Judy Davis Morris sends her love to the Family she knew Mr.Christian from their days going to school. Sissy & Joe Neill and Bailee Barnett



Sissy Neill - August 28, 2019 at 02:35 PM

VM

“ Vicki Mullins lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Vicki Mullins - August 28, 2019 at 02:10 PM

JD

“ Jim And Mary Dudley lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Jim and Mary Dudley - August 28, 2019 at 01:16 PM

PD

“ Pat Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Pat Davis - August 28, 2019 at 12:42 PM

AR

“ Colby & Amy Rockey



Amy Rockey - August 28, 2019 at 12:30 PM

BW

“ Bennie And Emily Whitworth lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Bennie and Emily Whitworth - August 28, 2019 at 12:28 PM

RJ

“ Retta Johnson lit a candle in memory of Sonny Christian.



Retta Johnson - August 28, 2019 at 11:02 AM

CF

“ Craig & Jolene Fenter lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Craig & Jolene Fenter - August 28, 2019 at 11:00 AM

JW

“ We'll have a class reunion when we get to heaven with you.



Jane Williams - August 28, 2019 at 10:53 AM

CN

“ Clay Newomb & Frances Newcomb lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Clay Newomb & Frances Newcomb - August 28, 2019 at 10:43 AM

CW

“ We are so sorry for your loss. God's comfort to all of you at this very sad time.

Cyndi Walker - August 28, 2019 at 10:42 AM

DN

“ Donna Newman lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Donna Newman - August 28, 2019 at 10:33 AM

DP

“ I'm so sorry to hear this. Sonny was such a sweet man. Praying for this dear family!

Love,  
Debbie

Debbie Ashby Payne - August 28, 2019 at 10:30 AM

JY

“ Jim & Wilma Young lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Jim & Wilma Young - August 28, 2019 at 10:27 AM

BH

“ Barbara And Joel Hale lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Barbara and Joel Hale - August 28, 2019 at 10:02 AM

JJ

“ Jake Jordan lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Jake Jordan - August 28, 2019 at 09:38 AM

JW

“ Memories of “Sonny” coming by the house on Sundays in his Oldsmobile , to pick up my brother Kenneth.

“Sonny” has joined Kenneth and William Ashby in God’s Kingdom 🙏😊

Joe White - August 28, 2019 at 09:17 AM

ST

“ Skipper And Patty Turner lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Skipper and Patty Turner - August 28, 2019 at 09:05 AM

TC

“ Tony And Anita Cavaliere lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



Tony and Anita Cavaliere - August 28, 2019 at 09:00 AM

PP

“ Pud Patterson lit a candle in memory of Mr. C.O. "Sonny" Christian



pud patterson - August 28, 2019 at 08:26 AM

PC

*A very fine family man.*

Patty Christian - August 28, 2019 at 03:50 PM

JL

*Such a kind and gentle man. Praying for all of you~*

Jill Littlejohn - August 29, 2019 at 10:01 AM