



Donald Ray Copeland

August 11, 1934 - September 4, 2012

Mr. Donald Ray Copeland, 78, of Henderson, passed from this life on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at Hospice of East Texas in Tyler. Don was born August 11, 1934 in Rusk County to E.D. and Lois Mae Pool Copeland. He graduated from Gaston High School in 1952 and received an Associates Degree from Kilgore Junior College in 1954. He married Sarah Youngblood on December 10, 1955. Don was drafted into the United States Army in March 1957 and received an honorable discharge in March 1959. He was called back for active duty October 1961 through July 1962 during the Cuban Conflict under President John F. Kennedy. He was employed for almost 38 years with United Gas Co., now Center Point Energy. He also served for 38 years as a Volunteer Fireman for Henderson Fire Department. Don Accepted Jesus as his personal savior at Turnertown Baptist Church at an early age. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Henderson for over 50 years. During this time he was very active and served on many committees. Don was an avid outdoorsman and loved hunting and fishing. He also enjoyed spending time at his farm tinkering on antique cars, tractors, motors, and farm equipment of all kinds. Don is preceded in death by his parents, E.D. and Lois Copeland; and his son, Donald Ray Copeland II. He is survived by: his wife of almost 57 years, Sarah Youngblood Copeland; daughter, Debbie Hollis; grandson, Carson Hollis and wife Jennifer; granddaughter, Cortland Suzanne Hollis and fiancée Tyler Esters, all of Henderson; brother, James M. Copeland and wife Jean, also of Henderson; and a great host of family and friends. A

graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, September 6, 2012 at Lakewood Memorial Park in Henderson, with a memorial service following at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church with Dr. David Higgs and Rev. Bill Tisdale officiating, under the direction of Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home. The family will receive friends following the memorial service at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hospice of East Texas at 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, TX 75701, and/or the Missions program at First Baptist Church at 207 W. Main St., Henderson, TX 75652. Words of comfort may be shared with the family at www.crawfordacrim.com.

Previous Events

visitation

SEP 6. 3:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

PP

“ Sarah and family: So very sorry about Don...Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time. Pud and JR Patterson

Pud Patterson - September 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time. John and Joyce Davis

Johnny Davis - September 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

EO

“ Sarah , Debbie, Carson and Cortland,We are so sorry to hear about Don. We just found out last night or we would have come to the memorial service and graveside. Don was a larger than life presence at Entex and we have many good memories of our years there in Henderson. I know you have many memories to comfort you in the days to come. May God give you peace and comfort in each day ahead without him.

Eddie and Anita Overhultz - September 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Dear Sarah and Family,We were saddened to learn of Ray's death, but we're also rejoicing that he's free from illness and in the presence of our Lord in heaven! We'll remember you in our prayers.

Milton and Sharla McGee - September 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

WY

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you. May God bless you.

Wilma Young - September 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *Debbie, I am just seeing this and am so sorry about your Dad. He was so good to my Dad right before he died and I will never forget his compassion toward him. This is the only venue for me to get you a message. My thoughts are with you and Sara. Sincerely Billy Martin Longview, Tex.*

Billy Martin - September 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *Debbie and Family, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Praying for your family during this difficult time. Debbie Wallace Holts*

Debbie Holts - September 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ *Don will be missed. The Copeland family will be in our prayers.*

Rod Carnahan - September 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ *Sara & Debbie, I am so very sorry. You are in my thoughts and prayers. I have wonderful memories of Don, he was very good to me. We always knew Don could make us laugh with his laugh. Cherished memories at CenterPoint (Entex) Henderson Office.*

Ronda Musick Reynard - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *Sarah, my prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time... Don was such a cut-up and had such a good heart. May God hold you in the palm of His hand and comfort you. Deepest Sympathy, Debbi Corley (Thomas)*

Debbi Corley - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TV

“ So sorry to learn of Don's passing. I served with Don in the 49th Armored Division at Ft. Polk, La. He was a good soldier and I am proud to have known and served with him.

Tom Vaught - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ Sarah, Debbie, and Cortland, I am so sorry to hear about Mr. Copeland. He was such a sweet sweet man! Yalls family is in my thoughts and prayers. We love sweet Cortland and yall are very dear to our family. Love, Jay, Amanda, Cade and Conner Wherry

Amanda Wherry - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ James and family, Sorry about the passing of your brother. God bless.. love KJ

Karen Lambeth - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Sarah, Debbie, Cortland, Carson and Jennifer, Our hearts are saddened by the loss of Don. I know it has been a long road for all of you and he will be missed. You are in our thoughts and prayers. May God Bless you and give you strength through this difficult time.

Mozelle Duncan, Ronnie and Patsy Morrison - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ Debbie, Please know that you & your mom are in my prayers -lots of love, Ella

Ella Beal - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Mrs. Copeland, Debbie and Family My prayers and my heart are with you during this sad time. I know that Don and Ray are rejoicing together today. But for their family i know this is still a sad time.

Britt Burt - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

VJ

“ So sorry for your loss. Don will be greatly missed. He was so well know throughout the area. I will remember you, Sara, as well as, Debbie, Carson and Courtland in my prayers. Velma Jones Retired
CNP employee

Velma Jones - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family at this time. May special and happy memories ease your loss. Your husband/father was a wonderful man Love to you all, Scott and Marsha McKenna

Marsha McKenna - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Sarah and Debbiel am so sorry for your loss of Don. He now is reunited with Ray. Your family is my family's prayers.

Lee Scoggins - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ Sara, I'm so sorry to hear of Don's passing. He always called me "cousin" as I came into Sunday School. I am sorry that I did not get to visit him when we were in Hospice but all my time was with Lavern. We will miss both of them greatly. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the rest of the family, and also with James and his family.

Delores Roper - September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *Mr. James and the Copeland family I'm so sorry for y'all's loss. You all are in our prayers.* ”

Toni, Kenneth Baron - September 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM