



Floyd Wilson Francis

September 23, 1912 - August 10, 2010

Funeral services for Floyd Wilson Francis, 97, of Henderson, will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, August 14, 2010 at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Glen Ketchum, Rev. Gene Kimbrell, & Rev. Bruce Bailey officiating. Interment will be in Lakewood Memorial Park under the direction of Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home in Henderson. The family visitation will be held from 6-8 p.m. Friday, August 13, 2010 at the funeral home. Mr. Francis passed away Tuesday, August 10, 2010 peacefully at ETMC in Henderson, talking of seeing his Savior soon. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 67 years, Mable Francis, in 2005; his parents, Alexander (Alec) and Sally Francis, 1959 and 1938 respectively; nine brothers, one sister, and several nieces and nephews. Survivors include: one son, Hardy Lynn Francis and wife Alice of Coldspring; daughter, Darleen Francis Davis of Henderson; sister-in-law, Helen Kimbrell of Mesquite; grandchildren, Stephen Anthony Francis and wife Dana of Madisonville, Randall Wayne Francis and wife Mariana of Henderson, Joseph Eric Francis and wife Grissell of Austin, Brian Kelly Davis and wife Ashley of Vincenza, Italy, and Michael Craig Davis and wife Anna of Denver, CO.; great-grandchildren, Chelsea, Lindsey, Daniel, Joshua, Sophia, Isabella, and Guilianna Francis, Poli Davis of Moscow Russia, Alexandria Davis of Henderson, and Sienna Davis of Vincenza, Italy. Mr. Francis was born September 23, 1912 in LeFleur County, Oklahoma, moving to Tigertown, TX in 1918, thereby taking his first train ride at age six with his mother, one sister, and two brothers, and separately his father and two brothers driving a covered

wagon with stock, cows, mules, and horses, where the family continued as farmers of cotton and corn. Some of his memories in Tigertown were the year of the "world flu" and everyone in his family had the flu except his sister, Mable, and he stated that it was "awful". Mr. Francis recently talked often to a great-granddaughter of his school days in Tigertown remembering starting in the "primer", which he told her that primer meant "the start". He happily told her of the seats in the school accommodating three people in one seat, and sharing a pencil- meaning the family could only afford one, breaking it in half in order to share with his youngest brother, Otis. Other memories were about the taste of his first Coca Cola in Tigertown when he was about seven, telling us that it "tasted good", but it "threw him" when taking his "first swig", because it was so strong. He also talked about his first hamburger (noting the prices in current times), saying it was "so good", with the emphasis being that it was about the best thing he had ever tasted (his exact wording) and cost ten cents. The family moved to Colorado City, TX in 1925 traveling in a Model T Ford, where they continued to farm cotton and maize. He attended school in Payne, TX. The Francis family then moved to East Texas in 1936 and Floyd worked for Beacon Oil Company for one year, plus helping with the care of his mother, who was very ill dying one week after the New London School explosion and never being told about the death of two grandchildren in the horrible accident. Mr. Francis was instrumental in participating in the clean up after the explosion, and "oh what a sad event" were his words. Floyd was driving a 1934 Plymouth when he went to Selman City Church of God Church one night and met Mable Higginbotham, and they were united in marriage on July 23, 1938. They moved to Denver City, TX, where he worked for Gibbins and Heasley and Continental Oil Company for two years each. From there they moved to Kilgore in 1944 where he worked for Tidewater Oil Company/Getty Oil Company retiring in 1974 after thirty years of employment. They moved to Henderson in 1954 with Mr. Francis traveling to work in between Kilgore and Laird Hill daily until his retirement. Floyd Francis and his wife Mable were devout Christians and devoted their lives to the Lord, to the

church, and to their families, with attitudes like no other- meaning love of God and helping others along the way, and always sharing his faith in God and love of the family. Mr. Francis was a member of Calvary Assembly of God Church and very active in church work until his later years when he became somewhat limited in hearing, seeing, and walking and was unable to attend church, however, always welcoming members who called and ones who dropped in to visit him in person. He was an extraordinary husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather, uncle and loved by the church, and many friends and family. Special thanks go to Janet Lovil and Jeana Wallace for their devout devotion and love in checking in on their uncle Floyd weekly throughout the years, and also to the homecare facility, At Home Healthcare, with extra thanks to Wanda Lambeth and Helen Snitker who tended to his many needs with love and care for the elderly. He indeed appreciated their kindness and care. Pallbearers will be grandsons and great-grandsons, Brian K. Davis, Steve, Randy, Eric, Daniel, and Josh Francis. Condolences may be made at www.crawfordacrim.com.

Previous Events

visitation

AUG 13. 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

SF

“ If ever there was a man that not only talked the talk, but also, walked the walk, it was Grandpa. You didnâ??t have to wonder about his faith, or where he stood spiritually - it was evident in his walk. We have so many wonderful memories of him & Grandma through the years. Grandpa loved for the family to get together and share a good meal - always anticipating dessert! I think he looked at life kind of that way...enjoying the activities of life and loving his family, but living each day knowing that the â??dessertâ?? was still to come. We know that Grandpa is now with our Heavenly Father, along with Grandma and others that were waiting. Itâ??s not hard to imagine him sitting in the corner, just taking it all in, with that grin on his face! We loved him and surely were sad to see him go, but excited for him to begin his new life!

Steve & Dana Francis - August 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SD

“*Mr..Francis was our neighbor & friend for 50yrs. The "Price Street Pioneers". Always there if anyone needed him. When I married and moved to West Tx he knew we lived on a farm and raised cotton & cattle. Everytime I went home e was always interested in "How Things were in West Tx" because he used to live there in 1925. A young man working the oil patdh. I got to see him again May, 2010 and sure enough we got to visit once again about "How the cotton was in West Tx this year". I wish he could have seen it. Just beautiful & best crop ever. He was an amazing,fine,sweet,intelligent man for his age. Even remembered names of people he knew that my in-laws talked of that was there of 80 yrs. ago. It is wonderful he lived a long time and to be so happy and have his daughter and great grand there with him and know love and happiness til God called him home. I can just see him swinging & smiling and peacefully waiting for all of us to join him there. Blessings and Comfort to his family. I am glad he touched my life.*

Shirley Mashburn Dunn - August 22, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ I will never forget you teaching me about faith. It is so undefineable yet you lived it and tried to instill it others. The talk you had with me 20 years ago still stays with me, perhaps that is the legacy you leave me with or perhaps it is of a gentleman who lived his life without false pride or prejudice or envy or jealousy. A man confident that he had done the right thing throughout his life and will accept the rewards of the afterlife but yet want to share them with others. I also remember the man who got out of a speeding ticket by claiming his new shoes were too heavy, or me and you breaking into the front window of your house because Grandma had the house keys at church and all 6 Henderson cops showed up and asked "what are you doing Mr. Francis?" Most of all I remember you saying that you loved me in the last few years and it bringing tears to my eyes everytime as it does when I write this. You made me happy, I hope you finally are with the one you love.

Kelly Davis - August 21, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ I miss you very much. Your strength kept me going many times when I could have given up. You loved me and let me be a part of your life and I am so grateful. You never judged me for anything but made me feel like I was the most important person when I called to say hi or when I came to see you. Thank you for making Christmas and Thanksgiving a special time at our house. You will always be "my" Uncle Floyd.

Jeana Wallace - August 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ Dear family, because of age and bad health we were not able to attend the celebration of Brother Frances'going to be with his Lord.For several years Brother Floyd was my prayer partner with The Men of Henderson Prayer Group.He and his wife would attend the church services held at the nursing home before her death.I pray the Comforter will comfort all who knew him.

Leon & Lonnie White - August 15, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ I first met Mr. Francis when Mrs. Mable and I worked together at Wal-Mart.I was reaquainted with him a couple of years ago when I would take our great-granddaughter to Lake Forrest Park. Mr. Francis was offer there as well with his daughter and great-granddaughter.My life is richer for having known him and Mrs. Mable.

Betty Mullens - August 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ On behalf of all of the staff at Heartsway Hospice, I extend condolences to the family of Floyd Francis. May God give you strength for this difficult time, consoling you with good memories and the comfort of unshakable faith. Our prayers are with you. God bless.

Chaplain Larry Tyler - August 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ God saw you getting tired and a cure was not to be. So He put His arms around you and whispered "come to me." Although we loved you dearly, we could not make you stay. A golden heart stopped beating, hardworking hands at rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best. We Love and will miss you Grandpa.

Randy & Marina Francis - August 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PA

“ ONCE AGAIN SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. MY THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU.

PATRICIA ALLRED - August 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ *Mr. Francis you will be greatly missed by all of your neighbors that are still here. Now my sons will have another angel watching them from above while they serve our country, just like you watched over them as they road their bikes up and down the street. Most of all you are with your beloved of all those years once again and that is the best comfort anyone of us could wish for you on this earth. God be with all the family memebers that are coming in and our hearts and prayers are with all of you. Sincerely, David and Rita Guin*

David and Rita Guin - August 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ What a sweetheart Uncle Floyd was, every time we were together there was a smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye. I have been blessed in my life to have role models like Uncle Floyd, Uncle JT and my sweet Papaw, your Uncle Louis. These wonderful men of God have served their churches, their families and their friends faithfully and shown me what true faithful men look like in today's world. I don't remember Uncle Floyd ever speaking an unkind word about anyone, raising his voice at anyone or not presenting that shoulder to lean on for anyone. The last time I was able to really spend time with him was in Texarkana at the family reunion Merle got together. It was a lovely day and we all sat outside in lawn chairs and the elder circle was the best place to be to hear the family stories and laugh together. What a wonderful day it will be when we can sit together again once we are all on the other side and share our victory stories of our life on this earth. Praise the Lord, the Alpha and the Omega, for He has welcomed Uncle Floyd and he and Aunt Mable are together again, waiting for us. Give everyone a hug for us, we will be flying to North Carolina for our family vacation but you will all be in our thoughts and prayers. We love you!

Tim and Shanna Whitley - August 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ I only met Mr Francis once -- in the pick-up lane of the elementary school while he and Darleen were waiting for Alex as I awaited my daughter Jessica. He was very cordial, and I was very honored to meet the man I had heard so much about at gymnastic team workouts (Alex and Jess are both on the team and are in the same grade at school). Darleen and Alex's love and devotion to Mr Francis was clear and profound. He was undoubtedly a very special, treasured man. My sympathy and prayers go out to the family of Mr Francis especially to Darleen and Alex who I know will miss him in their daily lives but will forever carry him in their hearts.

Dana Goad - August 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ My Dad left this world peacefully with me holding his hand. Many family members and friends saw him the weeks and days prior to his death getting to say their farewells. Everyone who knew him were aware that he was a faithful and devout Christian and supporter of the church and missions and childrens home. I had the honor of living with him with my 7 year old granddaughter, Alex, for 4 years, moving from Denver, because he did not want to go to a nursing home. He loved all the people who dropped in to see him throughout his last years. He loved the Lord and Alex and I prayed for his journey to Heaven to be with the Lord, his wife, my mother, and many others. I know he is smiling down on us now. Alex and I loved him dearly. His daughter Darleen Francis Davis.

Darleen Francis Davis - August 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ I've been married to Keith Armstrong for over 8 years, I first met Uncle Floyd and Aunt Mable the first year we married at the Armstrong Family reunion in Hooks, Texas. Uncle Floyd was such a kinda and gentle man. I was fortunate enough to see him, Alex, and Darleen a few times since. Uncle Floyd was always in great spirits and his usual kind and gentle self. I will, as everyone else will, miss him dearly. Carolyn S. Armstrong

Carolyn and Keith Armstrong - August 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

WL

“ Mr Francis was a remarkable gentleman ,he loved to tell stories of his life ,he was a very special person that always treated me with respect he loved to joke and tease me .Alex and Darlene My thoughts and prayers are with the family at your loss of your loved one

Wanda Lambeth - August 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM