



# **Billy Mack Arnold Sr.**

FEB 10, 1928 - DEC 8, 2010



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FUNERAL HOMES  
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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## **Billy Mack Arnold Sr.**

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**F**uneral services for Billy Mack Arnold, Sr. will be at the Chapel of Rader Funeral in Longview, Texas on Saturday December 11, 2010 at 1:30PM. He passed away on December 8, 2010. His Christian burial will be at Memory Park Cemetery, alongside one of his deceased sons, Gavin Glenn Arnold.

Mr. Arnold was born February 10, 1928 in Corinth, Mississippi. As a bleach white curly haired blue eyed skinny child called "Cotton Top", he spent his childhood years growing up in McAlister, Oklahoma during the economic depression era with a family of poor means and with one brother and five sisters to care for. Contrary to the limited resources made available to him at the time, he graduated from McAlister High School in 1948 with a very high class ranking and honors. Starting in 1948 and until 1950, he proudly served as a Lieutenant and Company Commander in Japan with the 4th Army Division Signal Corp and later attained the rank of Captain and was awarded with the WWII Victory and the Army Japan Occupation medals. After his two years of honorable service, he attended Oklahoma State University and was awarded a BS Geology degree in 1954. He continued his education at the University of Oklahoma and was awarded a MS Geology degree in 1956.

Mr. Arnold was recruited by Gulf Oil Corporation in 1955 for employment as a petroleum geologist to be active in the Gulf Coast region, which included off shore operations in Morgan City, Louisiana and onshore operations in Shreveport, Louisiana and Tyler, Texas.

After seven years of employment with Gulf in Tyler, he embarked on a career as an independent petroleum geologist and as a independent oil operator. In 1965, Mr. Arnold suffered physical disabilities from a major car accident that rendered him professionally unemployable. Despite his difficult physical challenges afforded him time, Mr. Arnold managed to continue a career in the East Texas Oil and Gas industry that included ownership and participation in countless oil and gas exploration success stories such as the following; the successful drilling and completion of approximately 700 East Texas Basin oil and gas wells where he was the geological guiding vision, the geological discovery of multiple East Texas Basin oil and gas fields including fields including



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the Roy Clark Mel Tillis Oil Field in 1983 and the exploitative of many East Texas major gas reservoirs in Oak Hill, in the Tatum and in the Minden Cotton Valley Gas Fields. During the 1970's and 1980's, he was professionally distinguished and noted in multiple press releases as one of the few promoters or "Wildcatters" for exploration and exploitation of East Texas Deep Cotton Valley reservoirs. As a child called "Cotton Top", again "Cotton" would be associated with Mr. Arnold's life as when the press referenced him on occasion as "Cotton Valley Bill". Mr. Arnold was a registered professional geologist and a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the American Institute of Professional Geologists.

Aside from happy memories with his family and his friends or those close in the "Oil Patch", Mr. Arnold's most memorable memories are those associated with the local Gregg Counties Veterans Association team efforts in early 1980's while being a part in the planning, funding, construction and the placement of the Veteran's Soldier Bronze Statue that is currently located in front of the Gregg County Court House that honors all of our soldiers that have fallen during the time of war. His other happiest memories are those of his dedicated services provided by the soldiers he commanded in the US 4th Army Signal Corp company while they assisted the distressed Japanese people during the reconstruction of certain city infrastructures within Japan during the period following the end of WWII.

Mr. Arnold is survived by a wife of his previous marriage, Norma Elaine Arnold, a son, Billy Mack Arnold, Jr., a grandson, Andrew Bryan Arnold and his wife Rebecca, a Great grandson, Stephen Arnold and by three great granddaughters, Andrea, Stephanie, and Petra Arnold. Mr. Arnold's sister's two sons, John Arnold and Dennis Teagarten. Great appreciation if forwarded by the Arnold family to his attending physicians Dr. Kiser and D. Huffman, the staff at the Clairmont, the staff at hospice of Texas and all those providing medical care the Good Shepard Hospital.



# Tribute Wall

**Billy Mack Arnold Sr.**

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**Rader Funeral Home** shared a photo to the **Tribute Album** album.



September 13 at 11:51 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

I met Mr. Arnold in 1983 and enjoyed his company many times before I moved in 1991. He was a caring man and I will cherish our friendship. My condolences to his family until we meet again curly top.##imported-begin##Charli##imported-end##

December 10 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Thanks for giving me a job when I was 19. I enjoyed working for you and it helped me learn a lot in the oil patch. I will see you on that drilling rig in the sky someday. Rest in peace.##imported-begin##Theron McConnell##imported-end##

December 10 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

I knew Billy and he was such a positive man. I am so glad we crossed paths. I won't forget all the positiveness and confidence you had in me. God Bless You my friend.##imported-begin##Edward McDade##imported-end##

December 9 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Billy was a good and longtime friend. I will miss him. So sorry for your family loss. May Billy rest in peace.##imported-begin##Jim Couch##imported-end##

December 9 at 7:00 PM



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**Anonymous** posted:

I was so sorry to read of the passing of Mr. Arnold, Sr. He was such a gracious man who loved with his whole heart. My children and I loved him dearly and he will always be in our thoughts and so thankful for the memories he gave us. This family will continue to be in my prayers.##imported-begin##Misty Davidson##imported-end##

December 9 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Sorry to hear of Billy's passing##imported-begin##Jim Morrow##imported-end##

December 9 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Hey, Mack! So sorry for the loss of your father. Seems like he was a true man of character. Take care.##imported-begin##Marilyn Martin##imported-end##

December 9 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Thanks for allowing us at Texas Home Health Hospice to care for Mr.Billy Arnold . Our thoughts and prayers will be with you in the days and weeks ahead. May you find the peace and comfort that only comes from our Father in Heaven .Susan L. Hill RNTexas Home Health Hospice##imported-begin##Susan L. Hill ##imported-end##

December 8 at 7:00 PM



## Media

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# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Billy by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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