



# **Dr. John Elton Petty**

DEC 27, 1950 - JUL 13, 2014



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FUNERAL HOMES  
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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## **Dr. John Elton Petty**

DEC 27, 1950 - JUL 13, 2014

**H**umanitarian, Adventurer, Chiropractor, Nature Lover, World Traveler, Photographer, Farmer & Rancher, Bee Keeper, Marathon Runner, Yogi, Wood Worker, Rotarian, Christian, Businessman, Practical Joker, Church and Community Volunteer, Husband, Father, Grandfather...One of a Kind.

John Elton Petty was born in Gilmer, Texas on December 27, 1950 to Elton Gaston Petty and Frances Elizabeth Crawford Petty. He grew up on a farm with his brother and quickly became a student of nature. John graduated from Gilmer High School in 1969. He married his beloved wife, Linda Beene, on July 17, 1971. John attended Kilgore Junior College and San Jacinto College, and obtained his Doctor of Chiropractic Degree from Texas Chiropractic College in 1974. Upon graduation, he opened his chiropractic practice and treated patients for the balance of his life.

John is survived by his wife of 43 years, Linda Beene Petty, son Robert John Petty, daughter and son-in-law Robin and Kyle Adams, and daughter and son-in-law Laura and Brett Miller. He was known as Papa John by his six grandchildren: Tanner and Camille Petty, Anna and Isaac Adams, and Evelyn and Margot Miller. Also surviving him are his brother and sister-in-law, Jim and Cheryl Petty, his aunt, Tirzah Petty, his mother-in-law, Frances Imogene Beene, his sister-in-law, Sue Marrs and her husband, Steve, his nephews Michael Petty, Keith McKinley, Josh Marrs, and Michael Marrs, his niece, Stacey Tomlin, and his former daughter-in-law, Renee Stewart.

John is also survived by his many life-long friends; his long-time assistants, Judy Luttrell and Kelley Lindsay; his C-Max employees; and his professional colleagues. He leaves behind the many friends in his community groups, including the Downtown Rotary Club, the Gilmer High School Class of 1969, his running buddies, fellow yogis, the Longview Museum of Fine Arts, Houston Underwater Photography Society, Great Texas Balloon Race, and countless others.

John truly lived life to the fullest, never wasting a minute of the day. He was driven and inspired by the beauty of God's creation, a passion he drew from his early days on the farm. John inspired



## Obituary

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so many and his absence will be profound. His family wishes to express their deep gratitude for the overwhelming concern, prayers, and support from friends and the community.

Though John's earthly adventures have ceased, his Heavenly adventures have just begun! A memorial service will be held Saturday, July 19th at 2:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church Longview, with a reception to follow at the Longview Museum of Fine Arts.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund or Polio Plus Fund at P.O. Box 2244, Longview, TX 75606, Attn: Rotary Foundation Director, Longview Museum of Fine Arts at 215 East Tyler Street, Longview, TX 75606, or The Junior League of Longview Scholarship Fund at P.O. Box 866, Longview, TX 75606, Attn: Scholarship Fund.




## Events


**Dr. John Elton Petty**

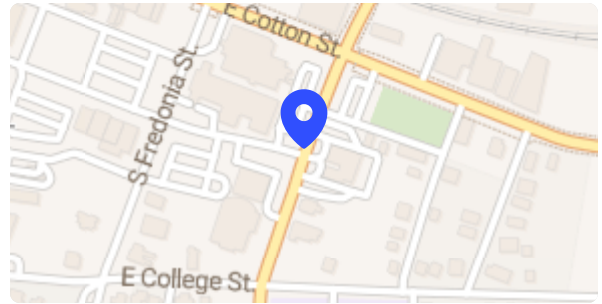
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### Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, July 19, 2014

 2:00 PM CT

 **First Baptist Church**  
South at Green, Longview TX





## Tribute Wall

**Dr. John Elton Petty**

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BS

**Brenda Saladino** lit a candle in honor of John.

July 19 at 6:04 PM



DE

**Debbie** lit a candle in honor of John.

July 19 at 5:43 PM



DE

**Debbie** posted:

Dr. Petty became our families chiropractor so many years ago and continued treating my family like his family. He got my middle son out of braces on his legs as well as treated my now ex husband for years with his back problems. My prayers are with his family and he will truly be missed in our community. Prayers up and may you all find peace and I only wish I could live the type of peace he lived here on this earth.

July 19 at 5:43 PM

DW

**Daniel Weaver** posted:

I thought that the memorial today was beautiful tribute to an absolutely incredible man. It has all been said already, and I have expressed my admiration for John and deep-felt sorrow for his loss in several ways already, but I wanted to let the family know how special he was to me. He had very small but profound influences on me. For example every morning when he would drive up for a run I would notice that he was listening to Christian music in Spanish. Every time. Feeding his spirit and practicing a second language at the same time. He was always prepared on runs, like a good Boy Scout. The inside of his vehicle was always clean, never cluttered and messy like mine...There are many other little things like that I will remember about this man. He always had a great attitude. In my personal life, I have been taught to keep my little dial set on 5. Never too low never too high. John Petty did that perfectly! He was a great example. I am an international educator and I am heading back to Vietnam to teach for another year and then after that probably somewhere else on this wonderful planet. I plan to take John Petty's spirit with me on these journeys. So although I have not met you all in person, know that John really did touch my life and will indirectly touch the students I teach. I am so very thankful for having known him and may God bless each of you. Kindest regards, Daniel Weaver Tatum, Texas and Saigon Viet Nam

July 19 at 4:17 PM



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BB

**Brandi Byers** posted:

I was only a patient of Dr. Pettys for a few months but it was an honor to know him. He had a passion for everything in life and always shared stories of his adventures. Heaven has gained a great man! My thought and prayers are with his family and friends.

July 19 at 11:44 AM

TS

**Tammie Setliff** lit a candle in honor of John.



July 19 at 11:41 AM



**Kathy Bessey** posted:

Although I only knew Dr. Petty in a professional manner, I considered him a friend and will miss his humor and general good nature. My heart felt condolences to his family as they say their goodbyes.

July 19 at 7:29 AM

MT

**Mary Taylor** posted:

I consider myself honored to have had the opportunity to know Dr. Petty. What a blessing he was to the lives of those he touched. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of his family and friends. Mary Taylor

July 19 at 4:46 AM

PW

**Pam Woolley** posted:

Praying for all Dr. Petty's precious family. I have known this family for over thirty years, and had the privilege of working for this outstanding man. He was one of the most tenderhearted, caring Christian man, that I had the pleasure of knowing. Countless memories I will always cherish. Your day was always brighter, and filled with laughter when around this man. I will always be thankful for the years as his employee, but mostly for knowing this fine family, and calling them friends. Praying for peace, and comfort for all of you. I will be forever grateful for knowing you.Pam Woolley

July 19 at 4:15 AM



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LB

**Lane Butler** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with you??Lane Butler

July 19 at 3:20 AM

WE

**Wendy King Edney** posted:

Praying for you all during this time. My heart goes out to you.

July 19 at 1:15 AM

SB

**Sue Blake** posted:

I became one of Dr. Petty's patients in January of this year and discovered what an amazing man he was. From talking to him in the office I learned so much of his interests outside of the chiropractic field. I had been aware previously of his awesome photography. He loved his family and others. He will be missed by so many. My prayer is that God will bring peace and comfort to his family, friends, patients and those who loved and admired his photographs. Heaven welcomed an angel home this week. Thank you, God, that you shared Dr. Petty with all who knew him for a time.

July 19 at 12:54 AM

LD

**Laura Deiterman** posted:

Linda, My thoughts and prayers are with your family.Laura Shrum Deiterman

July 18 at 4:00 PM

VS

**Valencia Smotherman** lit a candle in honor of John.

July 18 at 2:24 PM





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LP

**Lori Puckett** posted:

Dr. Petty was one in a million. He was a wonderful man and someone I greatly admired. I was a patient of his since the age of 12, along with other members of my family. It was always a great pleasure to go into his office to visit with him and I would often go in to say hello when I was in Longview since moving to Alaska. I send my condolences and prayers to his family and pray God will give you comfort during this difficult time.

July 18 at 12:47 PM

LP

**Lori Puckett** lit a candle in honor of John.



July 18 at 12:42 PM

LS

**Lana Snider** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time of your loss. May God wrap you in His tender arms and give you peace and comfort. Dr. Petty was such a special man. When I would go to his office, we would always talk about Neal McCoy and ETAN. Sure gonna miss him. Lana Snider

July 18 at 11:48 AM

MH

**Michael Hanes** posted:

GONE BUT WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN He took care of us for 25+yrs Thoughts and Prayers go out to this GREAT MAN'S FAMILY . Jim & Elsie Smith Michael Hanes

July 18 at 11:41 AM

RB

**Reggie And Linda Bowers** posted:

Many years ago John asked to place a couple of bee hives on our property to our mutual benefit ... honey for him and clover pollination for us. After the season he gifted us with a couple of jars of honey. Afterward, I would occasionally get see and talk to him in the early mornings at the athletic club where we were both members. He always struck me as a remarkable and kind man. May God be with him and his family. Reggie and Linda Bowers Longview, TX

July 18 at 11:34 AM



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DW

**Dony Watts** posted:

Dr. Petty was my chiropractor and did an excellent job. I always enjoyed talking with him about his many adventures. He was a great photographer, and showed me many of his photos. Although John is not with us in the physical body now, he is very much alive in his spiritual body. There will be many rewards for John in Heaven for the many good deeds he did on this earth. God Bless one of the best citizens Longview ever had. Dony and Maria Watts Longview, Tx

July 18 at 11:16 AM

BB

**Brenda Bolton** posted:

Our prayers are with you in your loss of such a great man. I am so sorry for your loss and the loss of the community. He was one of a kind!

July 18 at 11:07 AM

SN

**Stacey Nolen** posted:

Our prayers are lifted for you. Stacey Fowler Nolen & family

July 18 at 10:38 AM

MC

**Melanie Elrod Canant** posted:

One of a kind he most certainly was and forever missed

July 18 at 10:17 AM

VN

**Vicky Nowels** posted:

Praying for your comfort. Dr. Petty was our chiropractor for 20+ years. He will be missed by all. Roger and Vicky Nowels

July 18 at 9:07 AM



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CC

**Cynthia Chappell** posted:

Linda and family, My husband and I knew Dr. Petty for 35 years. I worked for him when I was only 18 years old in the office on the Loop. What a wonderful, kind boss he was. We were privileged to call him our friend all these years. You and Dr. Petty actually came to our wedding 34 years ago in Ore City. One of my favorite memories of him was when ya'll took the office staff and spouses to Six Flags and then to Spaghetti Warehouse. Those were fun times. I cannot adequately express my sorrow at his loss. Just know that we are thinking and praying for you and your lovely family during this terrible time. Love, Michael and Cindy Chappell

July 18 at 9:05 AM

CC

**Cynthia Chappell** lit a candle in honor of John.



July 18 at 9:00 AM

KJ

**Kathy Jones** posted:

Linda and Family, Dr. Petty has been my doc for 20 years. I LOVED going to his office to see what new photos he had taken. He is my inspiration for taking nature photos myself. I will truly miss him, his tales of his journeys, where he would be headed next, and his healing hands. You all are in my thoughts and prayers at this time. May Lord Jesus keep his loving arms around you as you mourn the loss of this wonderful man. Kathy Jones

July 18 at 7:31 AM

SM

**Sharon McAfee** posted:

Linda and Family, My thoughts & prayers are with you during this very difficult time. May precious memories bring you peace and comfort. Sharon Ronzello McAfee

July 18 at 7:18 AM

AW

**Annette Wallace** posted:

May God send each of you comfort at this time of your lost, of such a wonderful man. Dr. Petty was one of a kind and treated everyone he came in contact with as if he had known them for years. He touched many lives and all of us have been Blessed to have known and or be treated by him.

July 18 at 7:09 AM



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AW

**Annette Wallace** lit a candle in honor of John.

July 18 at 7:02 AM



MG

**Marysue Garey** lit a candle in honor of John.

The wonderful man will be missed by so many. Every life he has come in contact with he has touched, I will miss him dearly. Love, with my thoughts and prayers to each and every one of his family members. Marysue Garey

July 18 at 5:43 AM



AH

**Amy Hill** posted:

Linda and family, Grieving with you. You are much in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Amy Hill

July 18 at 12:21 AM

MM

**Maurita Myers** posted:

John will truly be missed. He was a kind, caring and fun loving individual. Everyone that he met felt an immediate bond and friendship with him. He was our friend and chiropractor for many years. May the Lord comfort you during this very difficult time. Troy and Maurita Myers

July 17 at 11:51 AM

JH

**Jeannine Howard** July 18 at 3:58 AM

Linda and family, Praying to The Lord for the comfort and peace that only He can give you at this time in your lives! Jeannine Dugger Howard



## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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