



# Stephen Peru Cole Jr

NOV 29, 1927 - JAN 14, 2021



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FUNERAL HOMES  
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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## **Stephen Peru Cole Jr**

NOV 29, 1927 - JAN 14, 2021

**S**tephen Peru Cole Jr. of Longview, Tx. passed away Thursday, January 14, 2021 at the age of 93.

Steve was born on November 29, 1927 in Minden, Louisiana to Willie Lee and Stephen P. Cole Sr. He grew up in a tough era and was proud of his Louisiana heritage. He graduated from Minden High School in 1945 and soon after enlisted in the U.S. Navy at the age of 17. Like many men of his time, he returned home and eventually attended college on the G.I. Bill. He attended Northwestern State College in Natchitoches, La, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance in 1951. It was in college where Steve met the love of his life, Babe. They married in 1950 and soon after started their family.

After graduation, Steve and Babe moved back to Minden where he went to work for the Minden Bank & Trust Co. He also taught night school at the local trade school to vets returning from military service, sold insurance, umpired and refereed local sporting events in his spare time to make ends meet. Very active in community and church, Steve could be found flipping pancakes for the Lions Club or filling a church pew with his growing family. In 1966, Steve took the opportunity to further his education and graduated from the LSU School of Banking with a degree in Applied Banking. Shortly thereafter in 1967, opportunity came knocking on his doorstep. Steve moved his family to Longview, Tx. where he went to work for Longview National Bank. Again, Steve and Babe became very active in the community and their beloved First United Methodist Church and the Henry Foster Sunday School Class.

Professionally, Steve spent his entire 42-year career in the banking business. He took great pride in developing relationships and serving his customers, whether it was helping those starting a new business or customers trying to stay in business. Paying forward the acts of those individuals which assisted and guided him in his life was



## Obituary

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key. He was a great “storyteller” often speaking of those who impacted his life. Some of his favorite times occurred at his lake house on Lake Cherokee, where he could be found with a pole in his hand, or as the “pit master” of family BBQ’s and champion of all fish fry gatherings. He continued to support his alma mater NSU, attending numerous football and basketball games for 70 years. He was very active in his children’s Lobo Booster clubs and was the Lobo Football Booster President in 1972. Steve also served Pinecrest Country Club as President in 1976. He loved watching and attending Dallas Cowboy games and continued to support Longview Lobo sports for 40+ years after his children had graduated from LHS. But most of all, Steve LOVED his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, attending their special events or just being a part of their lives as “Poppow”.

Steve is survived by the following: his daughter Debbie and husband Loy Roberson of Lubbock, Tx; daughter-in-law Carol Cole of Charlotte, NC; daughter Libby and husband Jim Teigen of Abilene, Tx; son Scott Cole and wife Lindsay of Lake Cherokee (Longview); son Jeff Cole and wife Sandy of El Paso, Tx. He is also survived by his brother Dr. George David Cole of Northport, Al., 16 loving grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren and numerous nephews and nieces. Steve was preceded in death by his parents, his beautiful wife Marjie E. (Babe) Cole and his oldest son Stephen D. Cole.

Special thanks to Debbie Wilson, the staff at LifeCare and Parkview on Hollybrook for their love and care.

Visitation will be held Friday, January 22, 2021. A private memorial service will be on Saturday, January 23, 2021 at Rosewood Park.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions be made to the American Cancer Society, MD Anderson Cancer Center or a charity of your choice.

Fork'em Demons !!




## Events


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### Viewing

 **Friday**, January 22, 2021

 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM CT

 **Rader Funeral Home**  
1617 Judson Rd., Longview TX 75601





## Tribute Wall

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MM

**Margaret B Mallory** posted:

I will surely miss this kind, gentleman. He and Babe were always fun to be with. Their fun competition between their Purple Team and Arliss Orange Bearkats carried us through many football seasons. Babe and Steve were truly devoted to each other and their growing family. They were devoted to Gods purpose and always trusted in prayer. With love and appreciation for this Gentle Man.Peggy Mallory

January 23 at 11:21 AM

LC

**Leland And Trudye Camp** posted:

Trudye and I have now lost two great friends, and I a super co-worker in the banking business. I know God will bless them both because they were the best. Now they are teamed again. Our love goes out for Steve and Babe.Leland and Trudye Camp

January 22 at 8:03 AM

MW

**Mary Wallin** posted:

Debbie, Libby, Scott, & Jeff: My heart is sad at learning of your dad's and my Uncle Steve's death. I hope that the days to come will be filled with memories of good times shared with family and friends. I'll recall afternoons of flag football with all us kids and your dad and mine at Grandmother Harriet's on Lake Murvail.My heartfelt sympathies, Mary Wallin

January 21 at 5:44 PM

NB

**Nell Raper Boren** posted:

Scott and family -- So sorry to see you have lost your Dad. Will always remember Steve -- he was my first Banker when we moved to Lake Cherokee. I became his real estate Agent at the lake, and sold them the place over in the NF section, and worked with him through the years, handling real estate activities at Cherokee for the Bank. Steve was a "straight shooter" and as they say, "you could take it to the bank" on whatever he told you.His earthly journey is over, but his life will be an inspiring legacy to his family and friends.Praying you find comfort in memories of a life well lived.In sympathy,Nell Raper BorenFormerly Lake Cherokee

January 21 at 8:56 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Cole family.

January 21 at 8:28 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Sacred Duty Spray to the Cole family.

January 21 at 8:12 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Cole family.

January 21 at 6:03 AM



**Sally H Brown** posted:

My father, Bill Hewell, served on the Board at Longview National Bank. Over the years, he developed a "keen" friendship with Steve. Steve always called him Mr. Hewell. Steve was a gentleman's banker and he cared about his customers. The Hewell family extends our deepest sympathy.Sally Hewell Brown

January 20 at 11:05 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Cole family.

January 19 at 5:15 PM



**Karen Cole** posted:

Uncle Steve, I miss you so much! Because of you and Aunt Babe, the Alabama Cole Family will cherish the sweet memories of our loving families forever! Lym,Karen Anne

January 19 at 4:27 PM



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

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



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