



# Wendell Wayne "Deak" Deakins

JUN 2, 1939 - MAY 7, 2022



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FUNERAL HOMES  
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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# Wendell Wayne "Deak" Deakins

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Wayne Deakins, a prince of a man and much-loved by so many, was born on June 2, 1939, in Lubbock, Texas to Alton and Madie Deakins. He passed away on May 7 after a lengthy illness. Moving to Longview in 1957, he lived and worked with his Uncle Homer on Deakins Ranch in Hallsville. Soon after, he met Carolyn Wright, a good-looking Kilgore Rangerette, falling hard for her. Married only three months later, they grew in the love that would carry them through sixty-three years together. Eventually, Teresa and Sheri arrived, thus completing their close-knit family. As a father, he always put his "girls" before anything else, even worrying in his final, frail days that they might need him and he wouldn't be there. An ideal dad, he was forever kind, warm, loving, generous, and always encouraging.

An avid fisherman and deer hunter, Wayne enjoyed being outdoors more than anything. He hunted with his brothers-in-law and son-in-law all over Texas, with South Texas and the Hill Country his two favorite places in the world. And while he loved hunting, his favorite part was the camaraderie of story-telling around a camp fire with his fellow deer hunters. He continued sharing vivid hunting and fishing stories right up to the end of his life. He loved being in his yard with Carolyn, usually working on some sort of garden project together, but sometimes just sitting on the patio. Dad was also something of an inventor, and he designed several hunting devices that could've made him a millionaire had he been so inclined for that life. He cleverly rigged his riding lawn mower to accommodate his physical limitations, and it was all the talk in his neighborhood. In recent years he designed a cane holder for his walker, which made for great conversation anywhere he went.

"Deak" worked at Texas Eastman for 30 years, then retired and worked for Hallsville ISD for 20 years until he retired a second time at 75. His great joy was his fellow workers, and his years at HISD were some of the happiest in his life. Dad also touched many young people's lives while at HISD, mentoring them like a father. In



## Obituary

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fact, his greatest roles were husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He loved nothing more than big family get-togethers over fried fish, cold beer, and fun times shared.

He is survived by his wife Carolyn; daughters, Teresa Read (Tommy) and Sheri Burlingame (Bill); grandchildren, Andrew McWhorter, Ashley Powell (Vic), Caroline Burlingame, Katherine Burlingame, Abby Read; great-grandchildren, Ava Powell, Lydia Powell, Deakin Powell and many nieces and nephews who adored their Papa D and Uncle Wayne. Special sisters-in-law, Loretta Barnes, Sue Wright, and Dorothy Wright were truly like sisters to him. He leaves behind many people who will miss him deeply and will never get used to his being gone. Preceding him in death are his parents, Sonny Deakins (his older brother); Agnes Wright, Willard Wright, Jeanette Wright, Little Wayne Wright, Bill Barnes, Larry Wright, Willard Wright, Jr., and Jerry Wright—all who adored him and are happy to see him again. Special heartfelt thanks go to the many close friends, nurses, and aides at Heartsway Hospice, who visited dad countless times in the last months and were a blessing to the entire family. Finally, we are forever grateful for Missy Mitchell, who is an "Angel" from God, who tenderly cared for him during the last months of his life and has become a member of the Deakins family. Between mom's and Missy's loving care, dad was able to stay comfortably at home until his death. He is now telling Jesus hunting and fishing stories!

Wayne's Memorial Service will be at St. Michael and All Angels' Episcopal Church, 909 Reel Road, Longview, where he and Carolyn have been members since 1978. The service will be held on Saturday, May 14 starting at 1:00 p.m. with a Visitation/Reception following in the Fellowship Hall.




## Events


## Wendell Wayne "Deak" Deakins

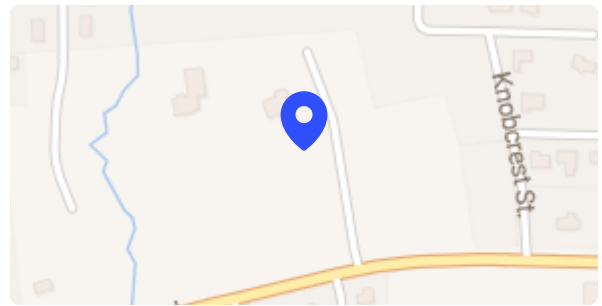
JUN 2, 1939 - MAY 7, 2022

### Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, May 14, 2022

 1:00 PM CT

 **St Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church**  
909 Reel Road, Longview TX





## Tribute Wall

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**Lexie Wright Osburn** posted:

Uncle Wayne will be missed by all the Wright kids. He wasn't just the sweetest man I've ever known... but the sweetest person. A good man for everyone to look up to. Beautiful service on Saturday.

May 16 at 7:21 AM



**Victor Benson** lit a candle in honor of Wendell Wayne.

Mr. Wayne is a very good and decent man. So sorry for the loss. He will be remembered never forgotten always loved. Victor Benson

May 14 at 10:40 AM



**Robin Newton** posted:

Carolyn, Teresa, and Sheri, we are so sorry for the loss of Wayne. He was such a good man. Some of the best times in our lives were being neighbors and our moms and dads co-parenting the five of us. Back and forth between houses, your mom cooking fancy meals and hostess of so many events with your dad working in the background to help make them happen, your dad going over every inch of the house, yard, and vehicles, maintaining perfection. Your dad was always a patient, gentle, constant presence for us all. So thankful he is healed and will spend eternity in heaven. Praying you all find peace. Love and miss you ladies.

May 14 at 9:22 AM



**Barbara Stevens** posted:

I really loved when Wayne work on the grounds crew at Hallsville schools. When he was working at the Pre K campus we had a good visit. He was such a sweet caring gentleman. He always had a good story or some words of wisdom. You will missed. Barbara Stevens

May 14 at 8:26 AM



**Amy Blalock** posted:

Mr. Deak's kind smile for ALL people in all circumstances will be missed, but also remembered. He models for us how to age with grace and compassion. He will be missed. Prayers for God's consoling grace for all his family and friends

May 13 at 2:40 AM



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**Shanon Clark-Small** posted:

I have the sweetest memories of Mr. Deakins-all those times in the summer when he'd load up a bunch of us kids into the back of his pickup truck and take us to the Ramada Inn so that we could swim, the hours spent playing make-believe in the adorable playhouse he had built for his girls, his irrepressible humor and his easy laugh. Wayne Deakins was a good man who loved his family deeply, and it was an honor to have known him for all those many years.

May 12 at 5:20 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Deakins family.



May 12 at 4:58 PM



**Tom Moore** posted:

Worked with Wayne at Texas Eastman for many years. Wayne had a personality that was outstanding. I always enjoyed being around him. What a great likable guy he was. GOD BLESS the family.

May 12 at 4:03 PM



**Charlotte Stewart** May 14 at 9:49 AM

The best word I have to describe Mr. Deakins is decent. He is the model of what a decent man should be. What a blessing it is to have had such a decent man at the church, in our schools, in our community, and generally in the world. May God continue to bless Carolyn, and the rest of the family. Charlotte Stewart



**Anonymous** sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Deakins family.



May 12 at 3:03 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful Dreams to the Deakins family.



May 11 at 5:05 PM



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**Steve Deakins** posted:

I was so blessed to have Uncle Wayne in my life. He was a model for me to live by. He became a symbol of what I would like to be and an inspiration for all. He lived by the four guides which I can aspire to have: honor, integrity, courage and faith. He will be missed by many but I can take solace that there was a special place in heaven for him. A well deserved place that rewards living a glorious life worth living.

May 11 at 2:28 PM



**Debbie Harrison** May 12 at 10:07 AM

Hi, Teresa! This is Debbie! I am so sorry your Dad has passed away, but, he will forever be in all of our hearts. He was a beautiful and loving soul and I will forever miss him. I love you all! ❤️



**Teresa Read** May 11 at 5:55 PM

Hey cousin! This is Teresa! That was beautiful ! Daddy was a Prince of a Man! I love and miss you!!!



**Teresa Read** May 11 at 5:53 PM

Hey cousin! This is Teresa! That was beautiful ! Daddy was a Prince of a Man! I love and miss you!!! ❤️



**Linda, Karen, Skip & Wesley** sent a Dawn of Remembrance Basket to the Deakins family.



May 11 at 9:31 AM



**Nicole Lang** posted:

WOW - what a story of a beautiful full life!!! Amazing that they met after 3 months. A true love story....FOR ALL! I love this family! May peace be with you at this time.

May 10 at 5:26 PM



**Nicole Lang** May 10 at 5:26 PM

I meant married after 3 months.



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JC

**Jerry Ann Clark** posted:

My family lived by Wayne and Carolyn for 30 years. Our children were so little when we met. Every weekend I would see Wayne washing their cars and wondered if he was leaving any paint. Wayne was such a kind man and always ready to help everyone. We had so many good times together and we could not have asked for better neighbors. Our families blended and our love for them and their precious girls grew and grew. Wayne was one of the hardest working men I have ever known and kept their yard looking like a showplace. He will be missed by all who knew him and especially by the Clark family.

May 10 at 4:11 PM

JP

**Jerri Purifoy** May 12 at 7:03 AM

We were neighbors to Wayne and Carolyn. I remember sitting on their patio while our girls served us mud pies. Happy days. See you in heaven soon

JC

**Jerry Ann Clark** May 11 at 4:40 AM

We love yall too! ❤️

TR

**Teresa Read** May 10 at 5:21 PM

Mrs Clark when y'all moved it was never the same. I can still see the school bus in the driveway ! I miss my childhood so much ! I wish we could go back in time . Those were the best years of our lives!!! We miss all of you !!! We love you!!! ☐

WK

**William Keese** posted:

I loved Wayne so much. I was president of his fan club.

May 10 at 2:01 PM

JC

**Jordan Collard** posted:

We'll miss you Papa D! I've never met another person that was always so invested in how I was doing with school, and we weren't even related! Papa D was one of the sweetest people I've ever met, and I will always miss him while celebrating holidays with the Burlingames. -Jordan :)

May 10 at 12:13 PM

TR

**Teresa Read** May 10 at 5:25 PM

Awe! Jordan our daddy was the best! He was always talking to the kids at Hallsville about their education . He just always wanted the best for young people ! I still can't believe my daddy is gone! Our hearts are so broken ! ❤️



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**Anonymous** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Deakins family.



May 10 at 11:39 AM



**Michele Bach** posted:

Sweet Papa D! I was so honored to be in attendance at his and Carolyn's anniversary party that the girls threw for them in the summer of 2019. So many people there to celebrate this couple. I'm so thankful I came to visit my bestie, Sheri, last December and I got to hug Wayne. I enjoyed hearing him speak of stories of his grandchildren with his beautiful southern accent. I could listen to him all day. I remember when Sheri and I went to their home the day before I left in and Wayne hugging me and saying "Come back anytime, we'd love to have you". Such an incredible gentleman. God bless you awesome man - love you Michele Bach

May 10 at 11:22 AM



**John Collard** posted:

Papa D was truly an inspiration to me . He coached me not to retire and keep working as long as you can. His advise and stories will be with me forever. Truly a Blessing to have known him. I am certain that he is putting in a good word for me even today. Thanks for all that you did for me and my family ,over the last few years. John C.

May 10 at 10:11 AM



**Teresa Read** May 10 at 5:39 PM

Thank you John!!!



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

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



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