



Billy Thomas Criner

July 27, 1946 - August 31, 2015

Billy T. Criner, 69, of New Caney passed away Monday, August 31, 2015 at his residence. Funeral services are set for 2:00 p.m. Saturday, September 5, 2015 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Rockdale. Burial will follow at the Liberty Cemetery near Milano with Mr. Tony Martinez will officiating. Visitation will be Saturday, September 5th, from 12 Noon until service time at 2:00 p.m.

Billy Criner was born July 27, 1946 in Houston, Texas to Roy Howard and Evelyn Louise Cotten-Smith. He spent his childhood in Houston, Texas. His mother moved to Milano when Billy was 16, and bill soon followed. Billy graduated from Milano High School in 1963 and later he enlisted in the US Army until he was honorably discharged in 1973. Billy was very proud of his military career. He always supported his mother and his siblings because he found great joy in providing for his family. Billy didn't know how to not work. During this time he went to work for the railroad as a heavy equipment operator until he retired. During that time, he Billy married Sybil and started a family where he built a home in New Caney, Texas. Billy was a believer in Christ, and he molded a servant's heart. He never let an opportunity pass to help someone down on their luck. He dearly loved his children and grandchildren as well as his numerous nieces and nephews.

As much as Billy enjoyed his family, he enjoyed working in the woods just as much and worked the past 13 years as an independent logger. He also had a

passion for collecting old tractors and as you couple probably imagine, his favorite color was Case Yellow. He could work on any piece of machinery and enjoyed flipping old junk into another man's treasure. Billy also loved to raise chickens. He loved to take his grandchildren, who affectionately referred to him as "Paw Paw", out to check out just how many new biddies he had. If Billy wasn't working, you could find him playing shuffleboard or dancing and if you knew Billy, you knew that he was stubborn as an old mule, but he had a heart of gold and would give you the shirt off his back. He was definitely a mans man. These short few sentences cannot really express the type of man and father we knew he was, but he was a generous giver and had the heart of a servant. We all loved him as unconditionally as he did us.

He is preceded in death by his father, Roy Howard Criner; mother, Evelyn Louise Cotten-Smith; brother, Marvin Criner; sister, Tammie Searcy; and granddaughter, Lindsey Willis.

Survivors include son, B.J. Criner of New Caney; daughters, Yvonne Villanueva and husband Genaro of Kingwood, and Holly Cole and husband Roger of Magnolia; grandchildren, Cydney, Jacob, Aubrie and Hannah; mother of his children, Sybil Criner; brothers, Donald Criner of Cleveland and Joe Criner and wife Debbie of Lyons; sister, Pam Perry and husband Sam of Caldwell; as well as a number of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Active pallbearers are Roger Cole, Sam Perry, Robert Criner, B.J. Criner, Joe Criner and Genaro Villanueva

Honorary pallbearers are Jacob Willis, Mike Hannes and Lewis Stracner

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 5. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Rockdale
1041 West Highway 79
Rockdale, TX 76567
(512) 446-5454
phillips_luckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Chapel Service

SEP 5. 2:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Billy Thomas Criner.*



September 04, 2015 at 05:49 PM



“ *GINA JATZLAU lit a candle in memory of Billy Thomas Criner*



GINA JATZLAU - September 03, 2015 at 02:40 PM



thoughts and prayers to the whole family

GINA JATZLAU - September 03, 2015 at 02:45 PM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Roger and Holly Cole - September 03, 2015 at 01:57 PM