

Eugene Henry Spitzenberger

November 30, 1927 - February 23, 2018

Eugene Henry Spitzenberger, 90, of Giddings, Texas passed away Friday, February 23, 2018 while having dinner with his daughter and a friend. To celebrate his life a visitation will be held from 8:00 A.M.- 8:00 P.M. on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings. Family will be present for visitation from 4:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. with a prayer service starting at 6:00 P.M.

Eugene Henry "Spitz" Spitzenberger was born on November 30, 1927 in Sandtown, Texas to Henry Emil & Dora Esther (Hannes) Spitzenberger. He was christened and confirmed in the Lutheran Faith.

While in school Eugene worked and raised enough money to purchase a horse. He rode that horse to school until his daddy sold the horse to buy their first automobile. He graduated early from Dime Box High School. He then was drafted into the United States Army where he served as a Sergeant in the capacity of a Communications Officer. It was while he was stationed in Bremerhaven, Germany that he met the love of his life. Herma Anne Bonnke worked the switchboard in his office, at first she would not give him the time of day but he was smart enough to get her family on his side and she finally agreed to leave her homeland and follow him to America.

They were united in marriage on November 18, 1947 in Bremerhaven with his fellow officers furnishing the cake with all the trimmings. After coming to

America they lived in Dime Box and then made their home, raised their children and made memories in Giddings.

The core that made Eugene the man that he was was making the most out of everything he did. He worked hard and tirelessly making sure that whoever he was working for or with knew they could count on him. He was a man of his word.

Starting his family he held down several jobs (three at a time) before starting his career at IGC. He worked at IGC in Rockdale, Texas for 30 years, coming up through the ranks from the power plant boiler room employee to an Electrician Apprentice Supervisor, upon retirement.

Eugene has a deep passion for spending time at his pasture, enjoying time with his cattle, building fishing tanks, spending many hours of enjoying seining and trout line fishing. Most of all he loved spending time gardening and being in his fields; he was a true farmer at heart. After retirement he enjoyed traveling, taking many cruises, going to Country Music Monday, and going to endless dances with his wife and many wonderful friends. Anyone that knew Eugene knows how much he loved watching the Giddings sporting events, both girls and boys teams knew they had Mr. Gene's support and love.

In 1985 Eugene sustained a head injury that caused him to have brain surgery and lengthy hospital stay. In 2015 he suffered a stroke and life changed forever. He remained determined and strong at heart till the very end. Eugene was happy to see anyone, and never complained about anything. Eugene was a friend to all and a stranger to none.

He was a loving, caring and supporting husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and great great grandfather. Together they raised four children, thirteen grandchildren, thirty eight great grandchildren and three great great

grandchildren.

Eugene is preceded in death by his parents, Henry & Dora Spitzenberger; two grandchildren, Kevin Eugene Moore and La Shelle Lynne Witte, and one son in law, Royce Witte.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years Herma Anne (Bonnke)Spitzenberger; four children, Dorothy Ann Falke and her husband Charles, Karen Jo Bassett and her husband Larry, Rose Marie Witte, and Larry Spitzenberger and his wife Judy; thirteen grandchildren, Sherri Gool and her husband Randy, Sean Moore, Amy Barth and her husband Joe, Laurie Bassett, Mark Bassett and his wife Charity, Steven Bassett and his wife Audrey, Katherine Rose Moore and her husband Brian, Jonathan Bassett, Derrik Witte and fiancée Michelle Thibodeaux, Robyn Thompson and her husband Jeremy, Cameron Witte and his wife Heidi, Jennifer Fischer, and Michelle Preusse and her husband Tim; thirty eight great grandchildren, Kassidy Leopold and her husband Jeremy, Evan Gool, Harrison Gool, Kelsey Bailey and her husband Garrick, Lauren Moore, Tanner Moore, Mikala Moore, Alyssa Witte, Joshua Thompson, Hope Thompson, Garrett Witte, Nolan Witte, Aislynn Witte, Racheal Barth, Katelyn Barth, Abigail Barth, Amy Joy Barth, Hannah Barth, Ezekiel Barth, Stephanie Barth, Caleb Barth, Trevor Barth, Jason Barth, Joshua Bassett, Jeffery Bassett, Charis Bassett, Travis Bassett, Troy Bassett, Marshal Bassett, Carrie Rose Bassett, Chloe Bassett, Katurah Bassett, Carlos Jimenez, Jorge Moncayo, Alexa Moncayo, Timothy Moore, Jessica Moore and Jace Preusse; three great great grandchildren, Liam Leopold, Gracie Leopold, and Mia Bailey; one brother, Glen Spitzenberger and his wife Marie; three sisters-in-law, Margot Brown, Meta Stepina and Karin Bade; one brother-in-law, Hans Bonnke and his wife Traudle as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

The family would like to thank all the nurses, therapists, caregivers and doctors that have taken such good care of our loved one.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to a charity of one's choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 27. 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Giddings
3950 East Austin St.
Giddings, TX 78942
(979) 542-3113
phillipsluckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Family Present for Visitation

FEB 27. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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Prayer Service

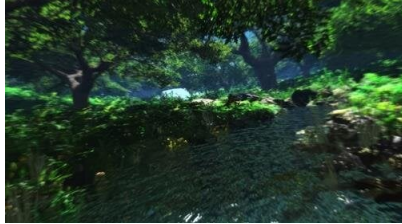
FEB 27. 6:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - February 25, 2018 at 12:03 PM

KA

*Dear Grandpa you left us a legacy of treasured memories!
I'll always love you and count it an honor to be your granddaughter!*

Kathryn - February 27, 2018 at 09:06 PM

LK

“ *I am sorry for the loss of Mr. Spitzenberger. I met him and his lovely bride so many years ago at dances at Industry Hall when I worked in the bar. He was such a delight and I never missed an opportunity for a hug or dance. He referred to me as his "girlfriend" and Ms. Herma always called me that. Prayers of comfort to all of you in the days ahead.*



Lori (Kuehn) Krchnak

Lori (Kuehn) Krchnak - March 05, 2018 at 01:46 PM

PK

“ I worked for Spitz at IGC. He taught me a lot, and was hard to keep up with. Man, that guy could work. I will always remember Spitz. He taught us helpers to always carry a small roll of electrical tape for those hard to get to spots. To this day, I always have a "Spitz's roll" in my tool bag.

*Paul Knox
Glen Rose, Texas*

Paul Knox - March 02, 2018 at 01:59 AM

WM

“ Sorry to hear about your father. We are remembering you in our prayers.

*Sincerely ,
Wilfrid and Ditsey Meister*

Wilfrid and Ditsey Meister - February 28, 2018 at 12:45 PM

GI

“ Our prayer's go out to the entire family at your time of loss.



Gary and Beverly Iseltg - February 27, 2018 at 05:54 PM

 Max
Spitzenbe

“ Even though I am unable to be there in person, I hold Eugene and all of my extended Spitzenberger family in my thoughts and prayers and send everyone all my love and support.

Randy Spitzenberger

Max Spitzenberger - February 27, 2018 at 12:33 PM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger.*



February 27, 2018 at 10:57 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger.*



February 27, 2018 at 09:44 AM



“ *A wonderful man has left this world to greet His Lord & Savior! May the LORD surround each of you with love and peace and bless you with wonderful memories.*

Michael & Deborah Beisert - February 27, 2018 at 09:41 AM



“ *Sincerest sympathy to the Spitzenberger family. May the Lord give you comfort at this time of your loss.*

Jo Ann (Mgebhoff) Nelson



Jo Ann Nelson - February 27, 2018 at 09:29 AM

GJ

“ Garry & Darlene Jenke lit a candle in memory of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger



Garry & Darlene Jenke - February 27, 2018 at 08:37 AM

SH

“ Sandra Harzke lit a candle in memory of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger



Sandra Harzke - February 26, 2018 at 09:13 PM

DH

“ Sincere sympathy, Dorothy, Karen, Rose and Larry, at this difficult time. May God hold you in the palm of His hand and give you peace.

Larry and Dolly Hoeinghaus



Dolly Hoeinghaus - February 26, 2018 at 04:16 PM

KP

“ Kathy Pfeiffer lit a candle in memory of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger



Kathy Pfeiffer - February 26, 2018 at 03:24 PM

JB

“ *Jarvis & Roberta Boriack lit a candle in memory of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger*



Jarvis & Roberta Boriack - February 26, 2018 at 02:03 PM

AJ

“ *all our love and care. Brian, katherine, timmy, & jessica. purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger.*



all our love and care. Brian, katherine, timmy, & jessica. -
February 26, 2018 at 12:34 PM

LG

“ *Lynn Gunter lit a candle in memory of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger*



Lynn Gunter - February 26, 2018 at 10:48 AM

AM

“ *When I think of Eugene, I always think of his friendly smile and what a great person he truly was. We had many fun times together and he will be in my heart forever. I was always glad to see him because he was never in a bad mood. He was always positive and in a cheerful, playful mood. What a wonderful life he was able to experience on earth and now he is with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I will miss you Eugene!*

Andy Masek - February 26, 2018 at 10:26 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger.*



February 26, 2018 at 10:03 AM



“ *I didn't know you but I know your daughter Dorothy, a loving and giving person. Sounds as though you were her inspiration.*

Barbara Behler

Member of The Woodlands Area Quilt Guild and the Creative Memories Quilt Guild

Barbara Behler - February 26, 2018 at 07:10 AM



“ *Michelle M Schuetz lit a candle in memory of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger*



Michelle M Schuetz - February 25, 2018 at 08:14 PM



“ *Keiffer and I spent many happy times with this very special man. We will remember him as a loving and gentle man. Keiffer and Edna Meyers*

Keiffer and Edna Meyers - February 25, 2018 at 04:31 PM

DN

“ *My sincere sympathy to the family. May God bless and keep your family and all those you hold dear in tender care. I remember well how your mom stopped in the stores I worked at on her way from Invader when I was in high school, and seeing your dad at various events. They were always pleasant. Your dad will also be long remembered for his dedication to sports at GHS....fireworks and all.*

Dwight Nittsche

Dwight Nittsche - February 25, 2018 at 03:52 PM

SP

“ *Shirley Kessel Paschal lit a candle in memory of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger*



Shirley Kessel Paschal - February 25, 2018 at 03:36 PM

LC

“ *Linda Cook lit a candle in memory of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger*



Linda Cook - February 25, 2018 at 02:15 PM



“ 71 files added to the album Life Tributes



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - February 25, 2018 at 10:54 AM

RS

“ When my cousin Eugene and I were kids, we used to go out into the woods and pick and eat wild persimmons, and Gene showed my brother and I how to tell if the fruit was ripe. If the tree was too tall, he would shimmy up the tree like a squirrel and drop handfuls for us to catch. Such fun-filled times in the good old days of childhood! He was always a kind and caring person! Ray Spitzenberger

Ray Spitzenberger - February 24, 2018 at 10:53 PM

LN

“ Truly, I was SHOCKED to receive the news from Rosie. . . I'd worked with you the day before. . . played, actually. Rummikub ~ how superbly adept you are. . . . were. You, in fact, beat me, 3 of 4 games ! Your smile would always make my day ! Others will share your skill at 42, not my forte, I think you'd have enjoyed it more than the Rummikub. More often than not, you'd be playing solitaire on your iPad as I prepped supper. (Your brain always alert and working. . . Staying young, and NOT wearing out. . . more, the Energizer Bunny, you ~)

I thank your girls for inviting me to work with you when things began changing up at home. Your Herma spending time at the nursing home across the way necessitated assistance for you. I've been blessed by your acquaintance. . . Thank you Lord, and thank you Mr. Spitzenberger.

Thanking God you rarely indicated having pain. What a blessing! Others out there don't enjoy their later years so much for suffering ~ Missing your Herma has been most difficult recently. This is so telling as to your love and devotion for her. My prayers are for her understanding and strength as she'll miss her soldier boy. My prayers are with your family. . . They are especially blessed to know your passing is, in fact, a "win, win situation. . . . your greatest gift to them all is your Christianity. . . . They WILL see you again ~

In the meantime, Auf Wiedersehen, my friend.

Linda Newcomb

Linda Newcomb - February 24, 2018 at 10:53 PM

LC

“ Linda Cook lit a candle in memory of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger



Linda Cook - February 24, 2018 at 10:46 PM

Kim
Russell

“ *Kim Russell lit a candle in memory of Eugene Henry Spitzenberger*



Kim Russell - February 24, 2018 at 09:03 PM

KA

“ *My Grandpa was an amazing man. He was an awesome husband. Before the car accident, & after retirement he would still work from sun up to sun down. He loved candy, root beer, & Blue Bell. He ate Blue Bell every night & liked lucky charm cereal. In the mornings he used to love to do the crosswords with Nana watch & read the paper. If you needed a nickel and he only had a penny he would give you a dollar and figure the rest out later. In 33 years I never heard him say anything bad about anyone. He made the best BBQ chicken and fried fish. His BBQ sauce could have been sold for a profit. He loved his wife like a millennial loves their phone. Their love story was so similar to the Notebook. They were married 70 years & he turned 90 last year. I am so proud of this man and to be blessed to be related to such greatness. He IS already missed.*



kassidy - February 24, 2018 at 07:35 PM

LN

This is sooo special, Kassidy ~

Linda Newcomb - February 27, 2018 at 11:21 AM

MJ

“*Truely a selfless part of a “dymanic duo” ! He always made time for everybody. He met his wife serving his country, then provided a wonderful life for his family. They don’t make them like him anymore. He will truely be missed. I have been blessed to know you Sir. RIP.*

Mark D. Johnson - February 24, 2018 at 07:13 PM

BF

“*Our thoughts and prayers are with Larry and Judy and the rest of the family. David, Joanne Tally, and Samuel Bergsten*



Bergsten Family - February 24, 2018 at 07:01 PM