



Gabrial Clayton Matcek

November 27, 1932 - March 27, 2025

Gabrial Clayton Matcek, 92, of Caldwell passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 surrounded by family. A public visitation will be held on Friday, April 4, 2025 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm in the chapel at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Caldwell, Texas. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 pm on Saturday, April 5, 2025 also at Phillips & Luckey, Caldwell.

Gabrial Clayton Matcek ('Gable' or 'Gabe' to those who knew him) was a loving husband, father, grandfather (papa), little brother, uncle, great uncle, friend, veteran, musician, spinner of words, teller of tales, and all around cool cat. He was born on Nov 27, 1932, the youngest of 8 children. He grew up in the rural community of Harmony in Burleson County, Texas, attended Caldwell High School and graduated in 1949 at the age of 16.

Gabe served in the United States Army during the Korean War, spending a duration of his tour in Japan. It was there that his interest in photography grew, leading to a degree from The University of Houston. Photography also brought him to the Dude Ranch Camp in Lake Wales, Florida where he met Lynne Carlton, who was acting as the camp's Waterski Instructor. They married in 1962 and moved to Pasadena, Texas, where their family grew with the birth of 3 sons.

Gable was employed by The Texas Employment Commission for 25 years,

working his way up to District Manager. Upon retiring in 1987, he oversaw the building of his dream home on the same land he was born on. The family moved there in 1989 and quickly became part of the Caldwell, Texas community.

Surrounded by family and friends, Gabe spent his later years concentrating on music. He released 3 full length albums (recorded in his home studio, 'Bug's Studio') and performed constantly at various festivals, churches, bars, BBQ's, VFW and SPJST halls around Central Texas. He also became an avid gardener, known far and wide for his legendary cucumbers, tomatoes and watermelons.

Gabe was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Sophie Matcek. Sisters: Leona and husband Elmer Mitchell, Isabel and husband Willie Elsik, Frances and husband Earl Scarborough and Sophie and husband Johnnie Machann; brothers, Frank and wife Mary Matcek, Jody Matcek and Clinton and wife Betty Matcek as well as his beautiful wife, Lynne Camilla Carlton Matcek.

He is survived by sons, Trevin of Los Angeles, California, Thane and wife Autumn and their children, Ayla, Sayer and Isolde of Round Rock, Texas, and Tyron and wife Rachel and their children, Lillian, Tyron, Jr., Trent and Camilla of Caldwell; sister-in-law, Faith Ward of Caldwell; a brother-in-law, Glenn Carlton and his wife Jean of Brandon, Florida; and numerous nephews and nieces.

In Lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to The American Brain Foundation in honor of Gabe.

<https://www.americanbrainfoundation.org>.

Express condolences at PhillipsandLuckey.com.

Previous Events

Public Visitation

APR 4. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home
404 Buck St.
Caldwell, TX 77836

Funeral Service

APR 5. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home
404 Buck St.
Caldwell, TX 77836

Interment

APR 5. 3:15 PM (CT)

Caldwell Masonic Cemetery
1411 W. Buck St.
Caldwell, TX

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Gabriel Clayton Matcek*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - April 10, 2025 at 09:54 AM

PK

So many beautiful photos, thank you! Missing my Great Uncle Gable this morning, he inspired me to sing and play guitar

Peggy Kirk - November 13, 2025 at 05:03 AM

NF

“ *I'll always remember Gabe, aka. "Trevin's dad" from my time spent hanging out (probably too much) at his house as a teenager. He always had the best "dad vibe" going, and to be honest, I was a bit envious of that as a friend of his sons. They were lucky to have been raised by a man like him.*

NF - April 03, 2025 at 02:21 PM

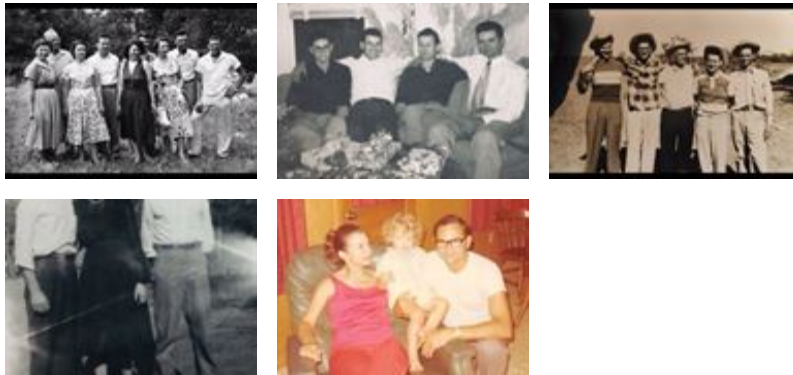
PK

“ *Uncle Gable was so troubled by his loss of "finding the words" in the last year (aphasia). A contribution to The American Brain Foundation has been made in the name of our dear Great Uncle Gabriel, from the Mitchell Family, with Fondest Memories. Our grandmother Leona Matcek Mitchell was the eldest Matcek child, to Gable's being the youngest of the eight.*

Peggy Kirk - April 02, 2025 at 11:44 AM



“ 10 files added to the album Life Tributes



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - April 01, 2025 at 02:10 PM



“ Gabe, to me... Mr. Matcek, was far more than just my best friend's father. He became a second father to me, welcoming me into his home and treating me as one of his own. During a particularly challenging period in my life, he and Mrs Matcek offered unconditional support, guidance and love. Mr. Matcek embodied the qualities of a true gentleman, a romantic and devoted husband to Mrs. Matcek, a patient and wise teacher to his children, caring and compassionate to me and everyone he encountered. He was instrumental in shaping me into the man I am today. You will be missed and you are loved. Thank you Mr Matcek for being a part of my life.

Chad Goodwin - April 01, 2025 at 08:34 AM



“ 25 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - March 31, 2025 at 05:58 PM

JC

Mr Marcel was not only a neighbor before he moved back to Caldwell. He welcomed my son during a very difficult period in my son's life being the seasoned of father of his sons

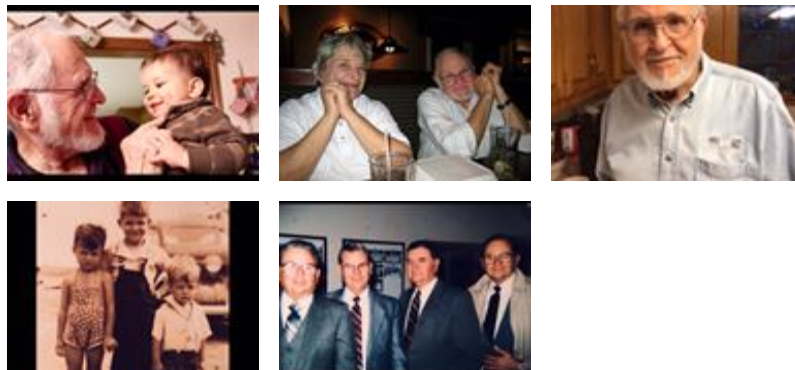
He shared his experience as a father in supporting Chad by demonstrating what a true man offers to sons. I've been eternally grateful for all he gave by simply being a loving, caring family man devoted to Mrs Matcek & their boys. Thank you Gabe for being you living the best life everyday

You will be missed

Janna Cospers - April 02, 2025 at 05:55 AM



“ 7 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - March 31, 2025 at 04:41 PM



“ Gabe... to me as Mr. Matcek, was far more than just my best friend's father. He became a second father to me, welcoming me into his home and treating me as one of his own. During a particularly challenging period in my life, he offered unwavering support and guidance. Mr. Matcek embodied the qualities of a true gentleman, a romantic to Mrs. Matcek, a patient and wise teacher to his children (my friends), and compassionate and caring to me and everyone he encountered. His influence was instrumental in shaping me into the man I am today. Thank you, Mr. Matcek.

Chad Goodwin - March 31, 2025 at 01:08 PM

PK

“ I was 6 when I remember meeting my Great Uncle Gable with Lynne. He played guitar and they sang “Don’t Think Twice” for us. Thus I was bitten by the music bug. Gabe also had given my dad, his nephew Jim (but just a year different in age) his first guitar. When we drove away from that visit, Uncle Gable stopped at the driveway edge and picked a Marigold- and gave it to me! But the flower I will remember him for is one I saw this century, near Lynne’s sewing hut. He said his mother called the flower “Gabrial’s Trumpets”. I love that she gave him that... and certainly he’s hearing those trumpets now.

Peggy Kirk - March 31, 2025 at 10:14 AM

GM

“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute to Gabe*



gary matcek - March 29, 2025 at 07:21 PM

KA

“ My great-uncle Gable was also my godfather. He, and especially his music, always gave so much joy to our whole family. We will miss him very much.

Kathleen Arends - March 29, 2025 at 05:05 PM



“ 43 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - March 28, 2025 at 12:37 PM