



George Harry "Toke" Young Jr.

December 12, 1927 - May 19, 2021

George Harry (Toke) Young Jr. was born December 12, 1927 to George Harry Young Sr. and Alta Lee Guess Young. He was the youngest of two children born to the couple. The family lived in the Tracy community in the northwestern part of Milam County where George Sr. was a farmer and rancher.

As a young child Dad had trouble pronouncing the word "toad frog" instead saying "toke frog." Toke stuck as his nickname for the rest of his life as all of his friends called him Toke. Dad attended school at the former Duncan Community school located at the intersection of County Road 412 and FM 486 in northwestern Milam County. He later attended Sharp school in Sharp where he played football for the Mustangs. He graduated Sharp school in 1945 and got a job for Milam County, driving a dump truck.

On October 6, 1945 Dad met the love of his life, Alice Geneva Kornegay at a local movie theater. He offered her a ride home from the movie and the two were inseparable thereafter. Mother lived in Minerva and Dad often joked that he had to "swing in on a grapevine" to get to her house.

However, their courtship was interrupted by World War II. Dad joined the Army in 1946 and was promptly shipped to Japan where he was stationed for the duration of his tour. Upon discharge, Dad returned to Seattle by ship where he

caught a slow train to Taylor. Upon arrival at Taylor, he hitched a ride to Tracy. His parents had no phone and were surprised to see him walking down the road upon his return.

The two married in Houston, Texas on February 15, 1948, and their love story lasted 67 years. He worked for the Southern Pacific Railroad as a telegrapher/clerk for over 40 years. Dad enjoyed the railroad, but he truly loved to farm and ranch at his place in the San Gabriel River bottom in the Tracy community. His railroad job required shift work and he would often work all night at the railroad, come home and work most of the day on his place. Although exhausted, he enjoyed being outside improving the place and raising livestock.

Dad and Mother lived in Rockdale most of their lives where Dad was active in St. John's United Methodist Church and the Rockdale Masonic Lodge. When Mother was stricken with Alzheimer's, Dad inspired us all by the way he lovingly took care of her every need.

A gentleman always, Dad was raised in the Depression and he knew and instilled in his children the value of hard work. He was pragmatic, frugal, humble, and determined...He was fiercely independent throughout his life. He was a patient man with self-taught mechanical skills who could fix just about anything, but a man who had to do things his way. Dad fought his twenty-year battle with cancer with courage and dignity. He never gave up.

Dad passed away peacefully on May 19, 2021 with his family by his side. He is survived by his children, Steve Young and his wife, Lynn, of Tracy, Judy Brown of Dime Box; five grandchildren, Jenna Brown Mayfield, Matthew Brown, Michael Brown, Lindsey Witte and Walker Young, and seven great-grandchildren. Dad was the steadfast "rock" of our family and was always there for wise, pragmatic counsel and support. He was predeceased by his

parents, sister Vivian Fields, and son-in-law David Brown.

Visitation will be Saturday, May 22, 2021 at St. John's United Methodist Church, 1700 Hillcrest Drive, Rockdale at 2:00 p.m. followed by a service at 3:00 p.m., conducted by Dr. Gregory Nichols. Interment will be at the I.O.O.F. cemetery in Rockdale following the service.

He was the embodiment of a life well-lived; a man of integrity with a quiet sense of purpose. He will be profoundly missed in so many ways, but he leaves an enduring legacy of wise guidance and unconditional love. We will always love and cherish the days we spent with him and the important values of life he instilled in us.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. John's United Methodist Church, P O Box 168, Rockdale TX 76567. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home, Rockdale, Texas.

Cemetery Details

I.O.O.F. Cemetery

850 N. Main St.
Rockdale, TX 76567

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 22. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

St. John's United Methodist Church
1700 Hillcrest Dr
Rockdale, TX 76567

Funeral Service

MAY 22. 3:00 PM (CT)

St. John's United Methodist Church
1700 Hillcrest Dr
Rockdale, TX 76567

Tribute Wall

TD

“ *Toke, you were a very special person, always welcoming, never judgmental. You will be missed. Join Don in heaven. Our love to your whole family. Tommie Duncan*

Tommie Duncan - May 22, 2021 at 10:17 AM

BD

“ *If you ever met him you immediately loved him. He was one of the nicest people you ever met. He had a quiet manner about him and I do believe a heart of gold. He will be missed by all. RIP Toke* 🙏

Barbara Laffere Dietrich - May 21, 2021 at 11:51 PM

BJ

“ *I worked as a telegrapher on the Victoria division from '60 to 62', as well as on the San Antonio division. I can't recall ever meeting Mr. Young, although we may have passed somewhere along the way. If he enjoyed the profession as much as I did, then I can guarantee that he never 'worked' a day in his life. God bless Mr. Young and his family.*

Benjamin Janca - May 21, 2021 at 12:38 PM

CH

“ *Deepest sympathies for the loss of your father. No matter how long and full the life, it is always hard to lose a loved one. Ironically, as I read his obit, I learned he and my mother went to high school together. Unfortunately she passed away over 20 years ago, so I can't ask her if she remembers him. I hope you keep all your fond memories of him at the forefront of your thoughts.*

*Sincerely,
Carolyn Henderson*

Carolyn Henderson - May 21, 2021 at 10:20 AM



“ *Red, White & Blue Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of George Harry "Toke" Young Jr..*



May 21, 2021 at 01:02 AM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of George Harry "Toke" Young Jr..*



May 20, 2021 at 09:36 PM

SW

“ *Mr. Young was my favorite feed customer when I worked at McVoy's. Always very nice and polite, always a gentleman. When I would see him in the other stores he always had a hug for me. I know when he walked through Heaven's gate, Mrs. Young was there waiting. RIP Sweet Man.*



Sheila Wadlington - May 20, 2021 at 08:22 PM

CB

“ *The sweetest, kindest gentleman we ever knew. Praying for comfort and strength during this difficult time. God Bless you all.*

Charles and Gaye Bland - May 20, 2021 at 05:38 PM

RA

“ *I was so sorry to hear that George passed away. He was the kindest and most gentle man I ever worked with at Southern Pacific. He taught me so much as a telegrapher when I hired out in 1971 working at the old Hearne G depot and later at Caldwell depot. He will surely be missed and I will never forget him. May God bless his family at this sad time.*

Richard Acebo - May 20, 2021 at 05:14 PM