



## Herma Anne Spitzenberger

March 7, 1930 - November 13, 2018

Herma Anne (Bonnke) Spitzenberger, 88, of Giddings, Texas passed away peacefully on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 12:10 a.m. at Oakland Manor Nursing Home.

Memorial services are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 18, 2018 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings, Texas with Tim Pitts officiating. Visitation will be held on Sunday, November 18, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings.

Herma was born on March 7, 1930 to Wilhelm & Anni Bonnke in Bremerhaven, Germany. Herma grew up in a large, close knit family being the sixth out of nine children. She loved to share many stories of life growing up in a port city enjoying the ocean and also the cold snow and ice.

As a young teenager Herma's life was forever changed by the exposure of being in Germany during WWII. Her family was more fortunate than most because her papa worked in a hospital and therefore they were able to go to the hospital bunker when the sirens went off. They were in the bunker the night their home and most of their city was destroyed.

After the war Herma got a job as a switch board operator in an American Army Base. She was sixteen years old at the time. Her boss just happened to

be a good looking American Soldier named Eugene. He tried to enlist the help of her cousin and then won the favor of Herma's mama, before she finally realized he was the one! They were married in Germany on November 18, 1947 with all of Eugene's fellow soldiers taking care of all the wedding details, including the cake!

After the boat ride across the ocean they made their home and raised their family in Texas. Gene's Uncle Schubert picked them up from the bus and took them to Gene's parents house in Dime Box, Texas. They arrived in the middle of the night. Gene's daddy had just cleared the pasture and there were tree stumps everywhere. Schubert told Herma that those were tombstones and this was a graveyard. She didn't sleep all night. After a short period of time in Dime Box they moved to Giddings.

One of the many new experiences Herma had as a Texan was butchering a hog. Gene had rigged a motorized meat grinder that Herma was using when she decided to use her hand instead of a stuffer stick which is the cause of the loss of the tip of her middle finger.

Herma worked at various places through the years. Durrenberger Flowers, Prathos, Dr. Levine, Dr. Ugarte and finally Dr. Thompson's office. Through the years she loved to go on all field trips and take people wherever they needed to go. Her favorite job might be said to be a "Taxi Driver" for many. Her and Gene loved to travel and especially loved their many cruises. They loved being the life of the party.

She was a loving, caring and supporting mother, grandmother, great grandmother and great great grandmother. Together with Eugene, they raised four children, thirteen grandchildren, forty one great grandchildren and three great great grandchildren.

Herma is preceded in death by her parents, Wilhelm & Anni Bonnke; her husband, Eugene; two grandchildren, Kevin Eugene Moore and La Shelle Lynne Witte, and one son-in-law, Royce Witte.

She is survived by her 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, Stephen Bassett and his wife Audrey, Kathryn Moore and her husband Brian, Jonathan Bassett, Derrik Witte and his wife Michelle, Robyn Thompson and her husband Jeremy, Cameron Witte and his wife Heidi, Jennifer Fisher, and Michelle Preusse and her husband Tim; forty one 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, Katelynne Thibodeaux, Joshua Thompson, Hope Thompson, Garrett Witte, Nolan Witte, Aislynn Witte, Samantha 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, Keturah Bassett, Carlos Jimenez, Jorge Moncayo, Alexa Moncayo, Timothy Moore, Jessica Moore, Jace Preusse and Emalyn Preusse; three great great grandchildren, Liam Leopold, Gracie Leopold, and Mia Bailey; one brother-in-law, Glen Spitzenberger and his wife Marie; three sisters, Margot Brown, Meta Stepina and Karin Bade; one brother, Hans Bonnke and his wife Traudle, as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

The family would like to thank all the staff at Oakland Manor Nursing Home and Hospice Brazos Valley that have taken such good care of our loved one.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Giddings Athletic Booster Club Firework Fund in memory of Eugene and Herma Spitzenberger, P.O. Box 485, Giddings, Texas 78942, or to a charity of one's choice.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 18. 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

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

## Memorial Service

NOV 18. 1:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Giddings  
3950 East Austin St.  
Giddings, TX 78942  
(979) 542-3113  
phillipsluckey@yahoo.com  
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# Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Herma Anne Spitzenberger*



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**Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home** - November 14, 2018 at 06:31 PM

VM

*Dorothy, so sorry to hear of the passing of your sweet mama. May God be with you and your family in this hard time.*

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**Vera Mihr** - November 14, 2018 at 06:15 PM

VM

*The pictures were lovely. So glad I could see your family.*

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**Vera Mihr** - November 14, 2018 at 07:26 PM

HE

“ *In loving memory of "meine liebe Tante Herma".....forever in our thoughts and hearts*



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**Heidi** - November 13, 2019 at 07:33 AM

KA

“ *Best. Nana. Ever.*



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**kassi** - November 18, 2018 at 10:08 PM

RG

“ *Randy Gool lit a candle in memory of Herma Anne Spitzenberger*



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**Randy Gool** - November 17, 2018 at 05:16 PM

KG

“ *Memories flood our minds of time spent with the Spitzenbergers at their home, at dances and on a fun-filled cruise where Herma got on stage and entertained everyone. These wonderful people will surely be missed and we feel the void in our hearts. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to all of you. We loved Herma and Gene very much. God bless you at this sad time. We miss you all.*  
*Wanda and Jim Godso*



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**Kenneth Godso** - November 16, 2018 at 08:51 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Herma Anne Spitzenberger.*



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November 16, 2018 at 08:35 PM



“ *Beverly Johnson purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Herma Anne Spitzenberger.*



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**Beverly Johnson** - November 16, 2018 at 10:59 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss.*



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**sShirley Foehr Cantrell** - November 15, 2018 at 05:49 PM



“ *Patsy Steglich lit a candle in memory of Herma Anne Spitzenberger*



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**Patsy Steglich** - November 15, 2018 at 10:42 AM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Dorothy Falke - November 15, 2018 at 08:51 AM



“ Kim Russell lit a candle in memory of Herma Anne Spitzenberger



Kim Russell - November 14, 2018 at 08:14 PM



“ 71 files added to the album Life Tributes



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - November 14, 2018 at 05:24 PM

CF

“ So sorry for your loss. I remember your Mother, but it has been a long time. I always loved her German accent. She and your Dad were very sweet. Know that they are both with their Lord and Savior.

*Carolyn(Loewe) and Jerry Faske*

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**Carolyn Faske** - November 14, 2018 at 01:37 PM

BP

“ My sympathy to all of Mrs. Spitzenberger's family on your loss of a beautiful lady. When I worked at Orsag's it was so pleasing to see them come in & shop & visit, Mr.& Mrs. Spitzenberger were so friendly & kind, I instantly loved them. Prayers, thoughts & love to all of the family.

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**Betty Pohler** - November 14, 2018 at 09:47 AM

LW

“ Linda Ward lit a candle in memory of Herma Anne Spitzenberger



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**Linda Ward** - November 14, 2018 at 09:36 AM

MS

“ Michelle M Schuetz lit a candle in memory of Herma Anne Spitzenberger



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**Michelle M Schuetz** - November 14, 2018 at 07:37 AM

DH

“ Larry, Dorothy and Karen, so very sorry for your loss. May your faith sustain you through this difficult time and may God give you peace.



**Dolly Droemer Hoeinghaus** - November 13, 2018 at 08:59 PM

EM

“ We had many pleasant visits with this sweet lady and her husband. Condolences to the family, love you all, Edna and Keiffer Meyers



**Edna Meyers** - November 13, 2018 at 06:32 PM

GI

“ Prayer's for the entire family at this time.



**Gary and Beverly Iselt** - November 13, 2018 at 06:24 PM

TG

“ Travis And Lynn Gunter lit a candle in memory of Herma Anne Spitzenberger



**Travis and Lynn Gunter** - November 13, 2018 at 11:02 AM

SH

“ *Sandra Harzke lit a candle in memory of Herma Anne Spitzenberger*



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**Sandra Harzke** - November 13, 2018 at 10:50 AM

LC

“ *Linda Cook lit a candle in memory of Herma Anne Spitzenberger*



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**Linda Cook** - November 13, 2018 at 10:20 AM

EL

“ *My heart felt condolences and prayers to the family. Herma was an amazing woman and will truly be missed tremendously.*



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**Emilie & Joey Lucio** - November 13, 2018 at 10:09 AM

JH

“ Your mom so sweet and loved talking German with her at the nursing home. She made the best popcorn and shared at the football game of which we enjoyed.  
She is now with your dad in heaven and happy to be with your dad. Sympathy to all and know you will all cherish the memories.

*Joyce Hinze,*

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**Joyce Hinze** - November 13, 2018 at 09:39 AM

DF

“ Our Thoughts and Prayers are with you all at this time. May God grant each of you peace. She will be missed.



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**Darlene Jenke & Family** - November 13, 2018 at 09:36 AM

KA

“ We talked about her life in Germany and how she met her husband and her wedding day. She did her best to take care of my Mom. We will miss her.

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**Kathy** - November 13, 2018 at 09:34 AM