



James Leroy Whatley

November 23, 1946 - September 14, 2023

James Leroy Whatley, 76, of Caldwell, Texas passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family. A public visitation will be held in the chapel at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home from 9:00 -10:00 am on Tuesday September 19, 2023, followed by funeral services at 10:00 am. Interment will be at the Snook Cemetery.

On Saturday, November 23, 1946, sixth generation Texan, James Leroy Whatley was born in Conroe, Texas to Albert James (Cotton) and Lillian Lord (Billie) Whatley, joining sister Diana of the family home in Friendswood, Texas. His father worked for Humble Oil Refining Co, and the family was soon transferred to Tomball, Texas.

Leroy attended Tomball schools from kindergarten through graduation in 1966. He was baptized and confirmed at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Tomball, Texas. Joining the United States Army after high school, he served as a Tech Specialist 4 and was stationed in Germany. Soon after receiving an honorable discharge, he began working for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.

Leroy married Billie Ann Fritcher in 1999, and in 2004 they permanently moved to Caldwell after his retirement from AT&T after 36 years of service. Leroy had varied interests which he shared with Billie Ann. These included

cruising, gold mining (from Texas to Alaska), dancing, RVing and camping, including trail rides. He seldom met a stranger and had a prodigious memory especially for western music of the 50-60-70's and movies. He enjoyed playing cards with Texas Hold'em being his favorite.

Leroy is Preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Billie Ann, son Darrin, and his wife Kimberly; granddaughter Kate; his son Kell, wife Kerry and granddaughters Mykala Whatley, Jenna Martinez, and Brooke Foret; sister Diana (Whatley) Braziel, niece Markaye (Braziel) Rothman and nephew J. Derek Braziel. He is also survived by Billie Ann's sons Floyd Fritcher, Jr., wife Amy and granddaughter Grace, and Clay Fritcher, wife Candy, granddaughter Hayley and grandson Braxton and other members of her extended family. In addition to his parents, he is predeceased by Patsi (Van Landingham) Whatley, the mother of his sons and by his brother-in-law Jim Braziel.

The family wishes to give special thanks to Caldwell EMS and Brazos Valley Hospice. Gifts in honor may be directed to either organization or to the Caldwell Brethren Church.

Express condolences at PhillipsandLuckey.com.

Cemetery Details

Snook Cemetery

Snook , TX

Previous Events

Public Visitation

SEP 19. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

SEP 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

Interment

SEP 19. 12:30 PM.

Snook Cemetery
Snook , TX

Tribute Wall

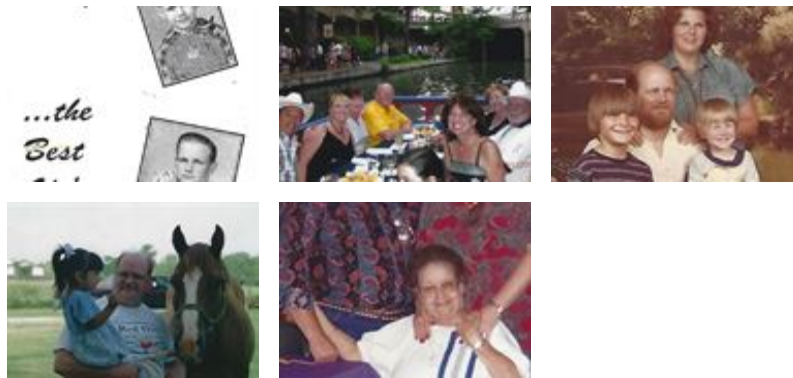
LG

“ *Leroy and I shared a common memory of attending school at Tomball from Kindergarten through Graduation. We rode the same school bus and played in the band. I was deeply saddened to hear of his passing as he was a special friend. I would like to extend my condolences to his family. I know he will be missed by all of you.*
Linda (Seber) Goodson

Linda Goodson - September 23, 2023 at 06:01 PM



“ *68 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - September 18, 2023 at 03:54 PM

DB

*Linda, how kind of you to remember Leroy - he was proud of "being from Tomball" as it was a wonderful hometown. Thank you for caring -
Diana Whatley Braziel*

Diana W Braziel - September 26, 2023 at 03:12 PM

KW

*My husband Billy R. Jordan and I loved dancing . I met Leroy back in the days of our Country Western Dancing . He was part of our wedding party on August 24, 1973. I often thought about him and had lost touch! So sorry to find this! He was a great dancer and I loved waltzing and polka dancing with him. Great Memories I'm so sorry for you loss ! God bless, I'm a widow myself now .
Karen Jordan West , College Station, Tx*

Karen Jordan West - October 24, 2023 at 01:03 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James Leroy Whatley.

September 18, 2023 at 09:23 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of James Leroy Whatley.



September 18, 2023 at 09:23 AM

GW

“ *You will be greatly missed!!! You raised two amazing boys!!! Mykala hit the jackpot with you being her grandad. Love all of you!!
Love, Gina and Brock*

Gina Warren - September 16, 2023 at 10:35 PM

DB

Gina - your kindness is so appreciated. Love to you. Aunt Diana

Diana W Braziel - September 26, 2023 at 03:16 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of James Leroy Whatley.*



September 16, 2023 at 10:00 PM



“ *A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James Leroy Whatley.*

September 16, 2023 at 05:19 PM