



## John Eugene "Gene" McKee

May 30, 1923 - March 23, 2017

John Eugene (Gene) McKee, 93 of Rockdale, passed away Thursday, March 23, 2017 in the Cameron Nursing and Rehab Center. Visitation will be from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm on Monday, March 27 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home. Graveside service with military honors will be held at Minerva Cemetery at 9:30 am on Tuesday, March 28. Following Graveside, there will be a Memorial service held at First Presbyterian Church in Rockdale at 11:00 am.

Gene was born May 30, 1923 in Fort Worth, Texas. He was the second of three sons born to I.R. McKee and Antoinette Peters McKee. He graduated from Gainesville High School, Class of 1940. He graduated from North Texas Agricultural College (presently The University of Texas at Arlington) in 1942. He then joined the Army Air Corps and was a B-24 pilot.

After the war, Gene and his family moved to Austin where he attended The University of Texas. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering in 1950, working all the while to support his family. Soon afterward he became a registered Architect and Professional Engineer in Texas. Gene began private practice and designed and built numerous mid-century modern homes in Austin, Texas during the 50's and 60's. Later, he accepted the position of Director of Design and Construction for the Texas Department of Mental Health and Retardation. In 1970, he joined the BGR Architectural Firm and was in charge of the design of schools, electric

cooperatives, and churches in central and south Texas.

In 1988, Gene joined The University of Texas System Office of Facilities Planning and Construction. He managed the design and build of the Alkek Center and the Rotary House International Hotel for patients and families at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. He also managed the design and construction of UT projects at UT Medical Branch at Galveston.

Gene and Patricia retired in 1998 and moved to Georgetown, Texas and they moved to Rockdale in 2006. They enjoyed being with their families, gardening and traveling. Gene especially enjoyed fishing and pulled many a trout out of streams and lakes of Colorado and New Mexico.

Gene is survived by his wife of 32 years, Patricia Whiteley McKee; three daughters, Nancy McKee Hamill, Carolyn McKee Zimmermann and Linda McKee Wamsley (John); four step-sons, Jud Robinson (Debra), Daniel Robinson (Nena), Michael Robinson (Eunice), and Kevin Robinson (Jane); former wife, Marjorie Leiper McKee; thirteen grandchildren, Shelby Wamsley, Andrew Wamsley, John Zimmermann, Paul Zimmermann, Mark Zimmermann, Carmen Jeter (Joe), Shay Robinson (Katie), Zachary Robinson, Whitney Robinson, Logan Robinson, Cody Robinson (Jessica), Brandon Robinson, Jason Ivey (Erin), Devon Russo (Daniel), Michael Robinson II (Katie), Sarah Jane Milne (Caleb) and Colleen Robinson; and nine great grandchildren, Claire, Joseph, Ivan, Christopher Jaxon, Ashleigh, Jason Jerome, Jaxon David, Mariana and Leona.

He is preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Daniel Clark McKee and James Patrick McKee; and son-in-law, Michael Zimmermann.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to Minerva Cemetery Association % Eudie Hembrough. 405 San Jacinto Street. Rockdale, TX

76567.

# Cemetery Details

## Minerva Cemetery

761 County Road 232 Loop  
Minerva, TX 76567

# Previous Events

## Public Visitation

MAR 27. 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Rockdale  
1041 West Highway 79  
Rockdale, TX 76567  
(512) 446-5454  
phillips\_luckey@yahoo.com  
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

## Graveside Service

MAR 28. 9:30 AM (CT)

Minerva Cemetery  
761 County Road 232 Loop  
Minerva, TX 76567

## Memorial Service

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MAR **28**. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church  
1600 Alcoa Ave  
Rockdale, TX 76567

# Tribute Wall

SD

“ *Santa Fe ISD C & I and Special Services Dept purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John Eugene "Gene" McKee.*



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**Santa Fe ISD C & I and Special Services Dept** - March 27, 2017 at 10:46 AM

RP

“ *Robert and Peggy purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Eugene "Gene" McKee.*



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**Robert and Peggy** - March 26, 2017 at 09:28 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of John Eugene "Gene" McKee.*



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March 26, 2017 at 07:34 PM

TF

“ Tom and Donna Beach and family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of John Eugene "Gene" McKee.



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**Tom and Donna Beach and family** - March 26, 2017 at 03:47 PM

CC

“ So very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Bud and Charlotte

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**Charlotte Cebell** - March 26, 2017 at 11:51 AM



“ Amazing Arboricola was purchased for the family of John Eugene "Gene" McKee.



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March 25, 2017 at 09:56 PM

LC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Linda Cattanach** - March 25, 2017 at 08:46 PM

JD

“ I hired Gene at UT OFPC and that was one of the best decisions I ever made. He was an excellent architect and project manager and became an even better friend. Gene always had a smile and was upbeat no matter how difficult the situation was. He will be missed by all who knew him.  
John M. Davis, FAIA

John M. Davis - March 25, 2017 at 12:39 PM

SW

“ So many memories...Going crabbing at Port Aransas, fishing in Austin, Granddaddy picking me up from school and counting "bugs" (the old beetle cars) on the way home, working in the garden, cheating and eating some peanuts before dinner, butter pecan ice cream, helping him with his situps, and list goes on and on. Amazing man!!

Shelby Wamsley - March 24, 2017 at 02:14 PM



“ 35 files added to the album Life Tributes



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - March 24, 2017 at 12:05 PM