



Hon. John L. "Jack" Placke

February 14, 1935 - November 21, 2023

Funeral service for Hon. John L. "Jack" Placke, 88 of Giddings, Texas, are scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at Immanuel Lutheran with Pastor Robert Tiner and Pastor Josh Hahn officiating. Burial will follow in the Giddings City Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Monday, November 27, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. and on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 from 7:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings. The family will be present on Monday, November 27, 2023 from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home.

John Lehmann "Jack" Placke was born on Valentines Day in 1935 to parents Fred and Bertha "Bertie" Placke in Giddings, Texas. He was baptized at Immanuel Lutheran Church on March 24, 1935 and confirmed at Immanuel on April 10, 1949. He had an older brother, Fred, and a younger brother, Billy. Jack attended Giddings public schools and as a junior was the quarterback for the 1951 Giddings High School state championship football team. He earned a football scholarship to the University of Texas at Austin and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education and Social Studies. He taught and coached at the Travis State School while attending UT law school. He met Mary Sue Pace in Austin, and they married in 1963.

Jack began his legal career by serving as a briefing attorney at the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals for Judges Tom McDonald and Jack Onion, then

worked as a prosecutor for the Travis County Attorney and District Attorney's offices under Tom Blackwell. In 1968 Jack and Sue returned to Giddings where he practiced law with Michael Simmang. He was elected Justice of the Peace in Lee County in 1970. In 1972 he won a contested race for 21 st Judicial District Attorney for Lee, Bastrop, Burleson, and Washington Counties. In 1975, Jack was appointed 21 st Judicial District Judge by Governor Dolph Briscoe for the 21 st Judicial District again covering Lee, Bastrop, Burleson, and Washington counties. He was re-elected without opposition for six consecutive four-year terms until he retired in 2000. He served as a Senior District Judge for a number of years thereafter.

He served in active duty with the U.S. Army and then as a member of the Texas Army National Guard until his honorable discharge in 1966. Judge Placke enjoyed spending time with his family, traveling, running, checking his cows, reading, barbecuing, playing handball and tennis. He made many friends in his 30 plus years of public service. Over the years he gave back to his Lee County community including time as a member of the Giddings Volunteer Fire Department, Lee County Bar Association, Giddings Chamber of Commerce, Giddings Lions Club, Citizens State Bank Board of Directors, and Board of Education at Immanuel Lutheran School.

Judge Placke is preceded in death by his parents, his wife of 58 years Sue Placke, his brother Fred, and his nephew Freddie. He is survived by daughter Jennifer Placke Gault and husband Charles of Seabrook, son Martin Placke and wife Jennifer of Giddings, daughter Abigail Placke of Weatherford, and two granddaughters Anna Placke Holland and husband Anthony of Georgetown and Laura Kate Placke and husband Jordan Dedear of Georgetown. He is also survived by his brother William Placke and wife Dottie of Katy, sister-in-law Ruth Placke of Giddings, brother-in-law J.B. Pace of Georgetown, nieces Linda Placke and Gretchen Placke, and nephews George Placke and Derek Placke. Jack passed away in his home on November 21st.

The family would like to thank Jack's trusted companion Charles Pohorelsky and also Charlene Mutschink, Brittany Behrens, and the staff of A Perfect Way Home Health Care for their loving and exceptional care of Judge.

Memorials may be made to the Immanuel Lutheran School, Giddings Food Pantry, or the charity of one's choice.

Arrangements made by Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings.

Cemetery Details

Giddings City Cemetery (Section C)

900 West Austin Street
Giddings, TX 78942

Previous Events

Public Visitation

NOV 27. 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Family Present for Visitation

NOV 27. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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Public Visitation

NOV **28**. 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

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Funeral Service

NOV **28**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church
300 North Grimes Street
Giddings, TX 78942

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Hon. John L. "Jack" Placke*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - November 26, 2023 at 03:29 PM

CB

“ *The Judge was an outstanding leader leaving his community in far better shape than he found it as he made countless contributions in services to the people in his district. He will be missed and remembered by all. As a judge he was exceptionally fair as a dedicated jurist. He worked tirelessly to help the less fortunate get a renewed start in life. Ruthie and I are very proud to have known and worked with the Judge over the course of 25 years. May God Bless his beautiful soul and bring peace and tranquility to his family.*

Carey & Ruthie Boethel - November 29, 2023 at 10:55 PM

BG

“ *I send my condolences to the family .thoughts & Prayers*



Brandy Gunter - November 28, 2023 at 10:44 PM

AP

“ Prayers to the Placke family. He was a wonderful man and judge. May he Rest In Peace.



Amy Arldt Poncik - November 28, 2023 at 05:38 PM

MS

“ Michelle Schuetz lit a candle in memory of John Placke



Michelle Schuetz - November 28, 2023 at 12:57 PM

MS

“ Michelle Schuetz lit a candle in memory of John Placke



Michelle Schuetz - November 28, 2023 at 11:56 AM



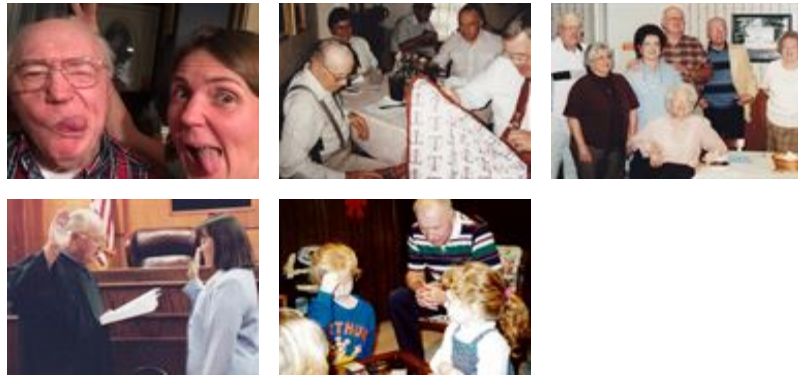
“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Hon. John L. "Jack" Placke.



November 27, 2023 at 10:47 PM



“ 16 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - November 27, 2023 at 04:52 PM



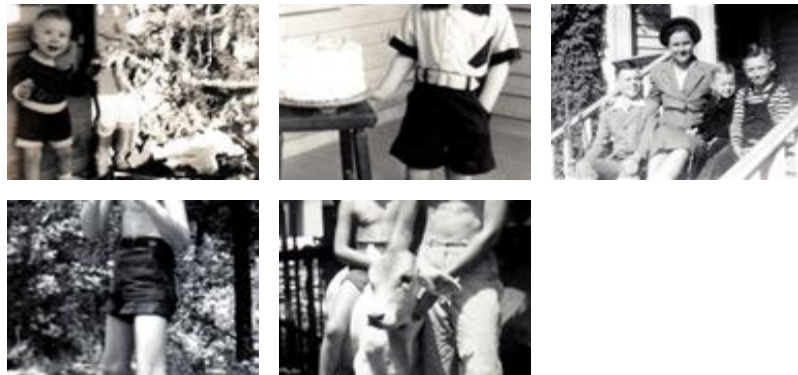
“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Hon. John L. "Jack" Placke.



November 27, 2023 at 10:08 AM



“ 61 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - November 26, 2023 at 03:22 PM

TM

“ Teresa Muniz lit a candle in memory of John Placke



Teresa Muniz - November 26, 2023 at 02:47 PM

PS

“ Patsy Steglich lit a candle in memory of John Placke



Patsy Steglich - November 26, 2023 at 12:24 PM

RS

“ You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Rebecca Sherrill - November 24, 2023 at 06:43 PM

VF

“ Violet Frosch lit a candle in memory of John Placke



Violet Frosch - November 24, 2023 at 06:32 PM

JH

“ *Janis/Calvin Hannes lit a candle in memory of John Placke*



Janis/Calvin Hannes - November 24, 2023 at 01:21 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Hon. John L. "Jack" Placke.*



November 23, 2023 at 08:40 AM

PS

“ *Patsy Steglich lit a candle in memory of John Placke*



Patsy Steglich - November 23, 2023 at 08:32 AM



“ *One of the smartest and most protective men who ever lived, and one of my Father's heroes.*

Steve Davis - November 22, 2023 at 10:23 PM

HM

“ Judge Placke was a great man. I tried my first cases in front of him. He was always fair and reasonable and unbiased. He served justice in this area wonderfully. I was trying a jury trial and had a chance to go to a deer lease to hunt the next morning which was Saturday. I asked Judge Placke if we could quit early that day. He said he would think about it. Early that afternoon he told the jury he was recessing the trial until Monday. He said he thought people needed to feed their animals and the like. I was so happy. My condolences to his family for their loss.

Hal Moorman - November 22, 2023 at 09:01 AM

DM

“ My sincere and heartfelt prayers for this amazing family of the best magistrate I ever worked for in my 42 years of law enforcement. Judge was one of a kind and I am quite sure he is on the bench in Heaven. I have so many great memories of him. I want to thank the family for sharing this jewel with our great state. May God bless him And each of you knowing the impact he made on so many💙🙏💙

David Mohr - November 21, 2023 at 07:35 PM