



Joseph "Joe" Slusher

March 19, 1936 - April 10, 2018

Memorial service for Joseph Chester Slusher, age 82 of Rockdale will be held 4:00 p.m. Thursday April 26, 2018 in St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rockdale.

Joe was born March 19, 1936 in Middletown, Ohio to Harmon and Molly Collette (Cox) Slusher. He attended school in a one room school house in Kentucky until the age of 16. At that time, he left school and began working for Pennsylvania Railroad in Ohio, telling them he was 21. They hired him as a straw boss. He attended Blackwood Business College in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma taught by Dale Carnegie. He then went to San Antonio where his brother Jim was living. While there, he worked various jobs. He worked for Tyce Engineering in the tool and die area while living in Chula Vista, California. Joe and Jim moved to Port Arthur where they co-owned Slusher Motors selling used cars. In 1960 they came to Rockdale where they were co-owners of Harmony Motor Lodge and Restaurant in Rockdale. This is where he met his soon to be wife. On December 5, 1960, he and Judith Lumpkins were married in Taylor. 50 years later, they renewed their wedding vows in St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rockdale.

From 1961 to 1963 he was owner/operator/mechanic at Mobile Oil in Rockdale. They left Rockdale for Las Vegas, Nevada where Joe worked at Desert Motors in the new car get ready area. He also was on the Chrysler racing team for driver Bill Vukovich at Indianapolis 500. Leaving Nevada, they

moved to Denver, Colorado where he was service manager on five different floors with Downtown Chrysler. In Fresno, California, he was owner/operator/mechanic at his Arco station. He then owned Slusher Motors also in Fresno where they sold Subaru and Peugeot vehicles. In 1973, they returned to Rockdale where Joe worked 17 years with Gaither Motor Company. He retired in 1989 to work cattle on the J & J & Sons Ranch and owned rental properties including Steel Magnolias.

Joe was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rockdale and was a co-owner in the Rockdale Gun Club. He passed away Tuesday, April 10, 2018 in the Scott & White Hospital in Temple. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, James Harmon "Jim" Slusher.

Surviving are his wife Judith Lumpkins Slusher of Rockdale; two sons, Ronald Harmon Slusher and wife Robin of League City and Michael Joseph Slusher and wife Wendy of Crosby; four grandchildren, Alisha Ann Slusher, Travis Joseph Slusher, Makayla Rene Slusher and Regan Elise Slusher; five great-grandchildren, Brantley Buck Slusher, Bralynne Grace Slusher, Kinsley Carter Slusher-Birch, Kamden Michael Slusher and Raeleigh Jo Slusher.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to American Heart Association, P.O. Box 8411125, Dallas, Texas 75284-1125.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR **26**. 4:00 PM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
234 San Gabriel St.
Rockdale, TX 76567

Tribute Wall



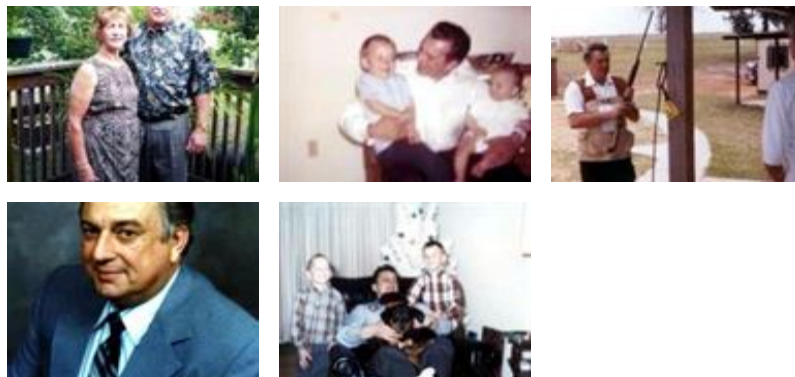
“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Joseph "Joe" Slusher*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - April 25, 2018 at 04:26 PM



“ *30 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - April 25, 2018 at 03:09 PM

BH

“ Judy, my sincere condolences to you and the family on the passing of Joe. I was not aware of any serious health issues he had and was shocked when I read of his death. I always enjoyed talking with Joe on the farm and in town and will remember him as a good neighbor and friend of the land.

Bruce Holliman

Bruce Holliman - April 19, 2018 at 10:27 AM

RT

I only meant you once. My name is Roy Eugene Thomas I'm related from my Father Roy Thomas and came across this post. My Condolences. 509-770-5075

Roy thomas - January 15, 2023 at 08:57 AM

JY

“ Judy York lit a candle in memory of Joseph "Joe" Slusher



Judy York - April 12, 2018 at 08:57 AM