



Leonard Symmank

August 19, 1928 - November 14, 2014

A service celebrating the life of Leonard Symmank, 86 of Giddings, is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Monday, November 17, 2014 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings with Rev. Robert Tiner officiating. Burial will immediately follow in the Giddings City Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Sunday, November 16, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and on Monday, November 17, 2014 from 7:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings. The family will be present for visitation Sunday evening from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. A prayer service will be held Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

Marvin Leonard Symmank was born on August 19, 1928 in Giddings, Texas to O.W. "Bill" Symmank and Erna (nee Vahrenkamp) Symmank. He was baptized at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings by Rev. G.W. Fischer on September 2, 1928 and confirmed by Rev. G.W. Fischer on April 6, 1941 making him a member of Pastor Fischer's last confirmation class. His confirmation verse was Titus 2:11-12, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." Leonard attended Immanuel Lutheran School and graduated from Giddings High School in May of 1945. While in high school, he participated in football, softball, track, band and choir. He received an Associates in Arts Degree from Blinn College in February of 1948. While attending Blinn, he

sang in the school choir. He attended Sam Houston State Teachers College and received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Education in May of 1949, and received his Masters in Education from the University of Houston in June of 1952. Leonard taught and coached at Lexington and Wharton high schools before joining his father in the Humble Oil Company distributorship business in June of 1953. He took over the business following the death of his father in July of 1958. He was united in marriage to Marilyn Rose Birnbaum on August 23, 1959 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Vernon, Texas by Marilyn's father, Rev. J.A. Birnbaum. Their marriage was blessed with two children, Samuel Glenn and Rachel Lynn.

Leonard continued to own and operate the fuel distributorship business until selling it in October of 1981 to E.T. Stubbs. He obtained his real estate license in 1985 and worked with Keaghey Real Estate, Century 21 and Westfall Real Estate until officially retiring in March of 2007. Leonard also owned and operated Circle Plus Hereford Farm in Giddings. He was an active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings where he had taught Sunday school and youth bible classes for many years, served as Sunday school superintendent, conducted adult evening Bible studies, served as congressional chairman of the Mission Board, Evangelism Board, School Board and the Ebenezer Synodical fund drive for the Missouri Synod in the Post Oak Circuit. He also served on the Missions Board, the Caring Ministry, Board of Finance, Board of Elders, was a youth counselor and was president of the Post Oak Circuit Sunday School Teachers Association. He drove a school bus for Immanuel Lutheran School and volunteered with the Braille Center for over 25 years. Leonard was always active in his community. He served as a City Commissioner, president of the Giddings Chamber of Commerce, president of the Giddings Noon Lions Club, was a director with the Lee County Recreation Association, was chairman of the board of directors of Lee Memorial Hospital and served as chairman of various fund drives including the Red Cross, Salvation Army, March of Dimes, and the Boy

Scouts where he served on the Executive Board and was an Assistant Troop Leader for Boy Scout Troop 143. He served on the Giddings Independent School District's Board of Directors for 12 years with 9 years as chairman. During the 58 years he was a member of Giddings Noon Lions Club, he served at various times as tail twister, lion tamer, membership chairman and on the board of directors. He was the coordinator and director of the Boy's Little League and Pony League Baseball programs until they joined the National Little League program. Leonard's greatest joys were raising Hereford cattle, farming and the time he was able to spend enjoying his grandchildren.

Leonard passed away peacefully on Friday, November 14, 2014 at his home in Giddings.

He was preceded in death by his parents, O.W. & Erna Symmank; his wife of 51 years, Marilyn Symmank; his parents-in-law, Rev. J.A. & Rosa Birnbaum; three brothers-in-law and one sister-in-law.

Leonard is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Sammy & Erin Symmank of McKinney and their three children, Taylor, Jared and Gabrielle; his daughter and son-in-law, Rachel & Tim Langham of Giddings and their daughter, Riley Rose; his brother, Douglas Symmank & his wife, Pearl of Giddings; two sisters-in-law, Eugenia Graf of Vernon and Jeanette Birnbaum of Stockton, California as well as a number of nieces and nephews.

Serving as pallbearers will be Taylor Symmank, Jared Symmank, Tim Langham, Terry Graf, Randall Graf and Tobin Symmank. Honorary pallbearers will be Clarence Buck, Paul Fischer, Curtis Frosch, Rev. Leo Symmank, Curtis Urban and Calvin Vahrenkamp.

Memorials may be made to the Caring Ministry or the School Tuition

Assistance Fund at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 300 North Grimes Street,
Giddings, Texas 78942 or to the Jesus is Lord Mission, P.O. Box 11, Walburg,
TX 78673.

Cemetery Details

Giddings City Cemetery

900 West Austin Street
Giddings, TX 78942

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 16. 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM (CT)

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

Prayer Service

NOV 16. 7:00 PM (CT)

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Visitation

NOV 17. 7:00 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

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Church Service

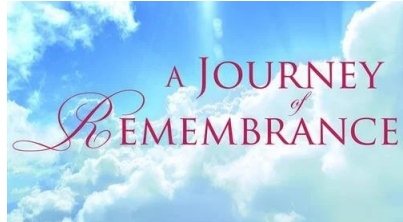
NOV 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church
300 North Grimes Street
Giddings, TX 78942

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Leonard Symmank*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - November 15, 2014 at 08:15 PM

JB

“ *Leonard was a delightful and loving friend and 'relative'. We always enjoyed visiting with him and second cousin, Marilyn, whom we loved dearly! Never did we see him without his infectious smile, no matter his physical condition.*



Friends and family will miss him on this earth - but heaven rejoices as a new resident of heaven with Jesus, Marilyn and all our other relatives and loved ones.

God bless you, dear family of Leonard!

John and Mary Ann Goeke Brown

John and Mary Ann Goeke Brown - November 17, 2014 at 10:02 AM

MS

“ *Michelle M Schuetz lit a candle in memory of Leonard Symmank*



Michelle M Schuetz - November 17, 2014 at 09:06 AM

MS

Rachel, I'm sorry so to here about your dad. You and your family are all in our thoughts and prayers. May God continue to wrap his arms around all of you, give you comfort, strength and peace.

Michelle M Schuetz - November 17, 2014 at 09:09 AM

PH

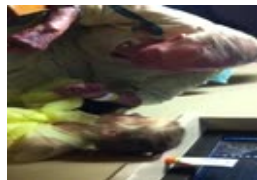
“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home - November 17, 2014 at 08:53 AM

PH

“ *1 file added to the album The Bible Tells Me So*



Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home - November 16, 2014 at 02:28 PM

JC

“ Condolences to his family. I didn't know Mr Symmank very well, but remember him for his kind service at our Post Office. I didn't realize that he drove a bus for Immanuel. This we had in common , since I drove a bus for for GISD for 13 yrs. RIP Mr Symmank for you will be remembered by everyone with kindness... Never forgotten ..Joy Cowman

Joy Cowman - November 15, 2014 at 10:42 PM

CD

“ What a special friend to all. Always greeted everyone with a smile and kind word. Great memories of both Leonard and that precious wife Marilyn. Rachel and Sammy keep your eye on the sparrow.



Connie Davis - November 15, 2014 at 09:44 AM

LC

“ Rachel & Family, I am so sorry to hear of the loss. Although I didn't know Leonard well, but I know his daughter and that alone tells me what an amazing man he was. My love and sympathy are with you.

Lara Chapman & Family



Lara Chapman - November 15, 2014 at 08:05 AM

AP

“ *Mr Symmank was me and my brothers bus driver when we first moved to Giddings and attended Immanuel. He always had a smile on his face and would drive the little bus to our cattle guard from the main road especially when it was raining or cold. He will truly be missed RIP Mr. Symmank. Till we all meet again. -Amy (Arltdt) Poncik*

Amy Poncik - November 14, 2014 at 07:53 PM