



Thomas Luther Goodnight Jr

May 20, 1936 - May 18, 2019

Thomas (Tom) Luther Goodnight died at home Saturday, May 18, 2019, in Caldwell, Texas. Tom was 82 years and 364 days old. Visitation will take place 5 - 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Caldwell, Texas. Funeral services will be at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 23, 2019, at Phillips & Luckey. Burial will immediately follow at Masonic Cemetery in Caldwell, Texas.

Tom was born to Dr. Thomas Luther (T. L.) and Laurinda Goodnight in Houston, Texas on May 20, 1936. After his father's death, Tom helped his Mother manage and operate the family ranch in Caldwell. He graduated from Caldwell High School in 1955 and graduated from Baylor University in Waco, Texas with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1960.

Following college, Tom taught Science at several schools before becoming the Director of Special Education at Lexington, Texas, where he implemented several forward-thinking programs. With a growing family, Tom began working for Burleson County as a Police Dispatcher. He then became a jailer and retired from Burleson County as a Probation Officer. Tom focused on the ranch and horse breeding and training throughout his life.

Tom volunteered at Giddings State School on Sundays for over 35 years. He was also an active member of the Warren #56 AF & AM Masonic Lodge in Caldwell, Texas.

He loved God, his family, and his friends beyond measure. He was a masterful horseman, passionate teacher, generous friend, and eager storyteller.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dr. T. L. and Laurinda Goodnight; his infant sister, Laurinda Goodnight; and his infant son, Thomas Goodnight, III.

He is survived by his wife and best friend, Elizabeth (Betsy) Allen Perkins Goodnight; his daughter Lonnedra Faye Arnett and husband, Clint Taylor Arnett; his grandchildren Benton Thomas Arnett, Lacey Jane Arnett. Step-daughters, Sarah Edith Witt-Bird and husband, Leon Bird, and Martha Elizabeth Perkins; step-grandchildren, Hallie Anne-Marie Villanueva, Tye Jordan Villanueva, and Levi Reese Villanueva; numerous extended family members; the many friends who loved him; and the countless students and associates whose lives he touched.

Cemetery Details

Caldwell Masonic Cemetery

1411 W. Buck St.
Caldwell, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 22. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Caldwell
404 W. Buck St.
Caldwell, TX 77836
(979) 567-3232
phillipsandluckeyfh@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Chapel Service

MAY 23. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Caldwell
404 W. Buck St.
Caldwell, TX 77836
(979) 567-3232
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Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Thomas Luther Goodnight Jr*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - May 22, 2019 at 03:54 PM

AS

Mr. Goodnight you have impacted many lives. As a young officer I learned a great deal from you. RIP my friend you will be missed.

Andrew Samarripa - May 22, 2019 at 09:54 PM

L(

♥. *He will be missed.*

Lonneda Arnett (daughter) - May 28, 2019 at 12:35 PM

CA

Tom Goodnight was a good friend of my Father Napoleon Weaver. Although my Father has been gone for over 40 years, we remember what a good friend Tom was to him. The Weaver family sends sincere condolences to his family.
Carolyn Weaver Adams

Carolyn Weaver Adams - June 18, 2019 at 09:06 PM

CK

“ So sad to hear of Tom's passing. I am a Baylor graduate also and I was at Baylor at the same time as Tom. The lady that he boarded with was a dear family friend of my family and we often shared a meal at her table. Tom was always fun and kind. May he rest in peace. Carolyn Kelly, Baylor 61'

Carolyn Kelly - May 23, 2019 at 01:35 PM

L(

Thank you for the kind words and sharing of memories.

Lonneda Arnett (daughter) - May 28, 2019 at 11:56 AM

LB

“ I worked with Tom when I was a Burleson County dispatcher and he was a jailer, both of us on the late night shift. When he was done with his rounds, he would come up to dispatch and fascinate me with stories about his family. He remained a friend and I always loved talking to him. The last time I saw him, he came to my dad, Lyle Wolz' funeral and I could not hug him enough. I will never forget Tom and he will be missed dearly.

Linda Bowman - May 22, 2019 at 04:03 PM

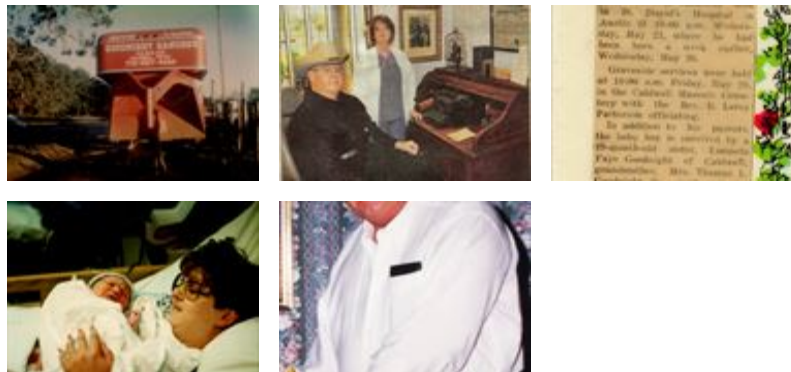
L(

Linda thank you so much for sharing that memory. It is the memories that will carry us through ❤️

Lonneda Arnett (daughter) - May 28, 2019 at 11:58 AM



“ 92 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - May 22, 2019 at 02:45 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden* was purchased for the family of *Thomas Luther Goodnight Jr.*



May 21, 2019 at 11:04 PM



“ *Dennis and Ann Cherry* purchased the *Basket Full of Wishes* for the family of *Thomas Luther Goodnight Jr.*



Dennis and Ann Cherry - May 21, 2019 at 04:44 PM