



## William "Bill" Hester Dowdy, Jr.

December 20, 1922 - July 28, 2016

Funeral services for William "Bill" Dowdy Jr., 93, of Lexington, Texas, are scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 30, 2016 at First Baptist Church in Lexington with Rev. Chris Bruce and Alonzo Wood officiating. Burial will follow in the Lexington Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Friday, July 29, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and on Saturday, July 30, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings.

William Hester Dowdy Jr. was born on December 20, 1922 in Lexington, Texas, the son of William Hester Dowdy Sr. and Bertha (Freeman) Dowdy. He grew up on the family cattle ranch near Lexington and graduated from Lexington High School in 1939. He decided it was in his best interests to pursue a degree in agriculture and business administration and he enrolled in Southwest Texas University in San Marcos. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Bill joined the United States Navy on December 30, 1941. He received his Honorable Discharge on October 10, 1945 having obtained the rank of Pharmacist's Mate First Class and earning the nickname of "Doc" Dowdy. Bill was united in marriage to Jean Hartfield on August 29, 1949 in Brenham, Texas. Music entered Bill's life around the age of 12 when his father taught him to play the guitar. He and two classmates, Jimmy Hester and Bill Brademan formed a trio and played for local events. Through the years he played with the Hepcats, the Melody Kings, Bigley's Band, Murski's Band, Tommy Thompson and All the Boys, Howard Wusterhausen and the Lone Star

Ramblers, the La Grange, Texas Band, the Texas Valley Boys and the Texas Pioneers. He made numerous recordings and played on several radio programs. After "retiring" from music, Bill continued to play at the Lexington Senior Citizens Center with the Down Home Country Band and joined the house band of the Giddings Rotary Club's Country Music Monday/Lone Star Opry for many years. He was a lifelong stock farmer rancher in the Lexington area. He enjoyed taking care of his cattle, bird and deer hunting and spending time with his family. Bill was a member of the American Legion Post #6 in Lexington. He passed away the afternoon of Thursday, July 28, 2016 in Lexington.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, W.H. Dowdy Sr. and Bertha Dowdy.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Jean Dowdy of Lexington; three children, Arlene Wiederhold & her husband LeeRoy of Dime Box, Mickey Milburn & her husband, Donnie of Lexington and William Dowdy & his wife, Kim of Lexington; eight grandchildren, Trey Wiederhold & his wife Dora and their children, Beatrice & Elizabeth, Amber Inberg & her daughter, Olivia, Amanda Foley & her husband, Daniel & their children, Sadie, Molly and Clara, Will Wiederhold & his wife, Annie & their children, Wyatt & Beckham, Michael Milburn & his wife, Stephanie & their children, Jake, Preslie & Ben, Jonathan Milburn & his fiance', Tammy Wachsmann & his son, Joseph, Kayla Stanley & her husband, Wes & their children, Meadow & Harper and Sterling Dowdy.

Serving as pallbearers will be Sterling Dowdy, Michael Milburn, Jonathan Milburn, Trey Wiederhold and Will Wiederhold. Honorary pallbearers will be Wes Stanley and Daniel Foley.

Memorials may be made to the American Legion Post 6 in Lexington or to the charity of one's choice.



# Cemetery Details

## Lexington Cemetery

5900 County Road 326  
Lexington, TX 78947

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL **29**. 5:00 PM - 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/>

## Visitation

JUL **30**. 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM (CT)

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

## Church Service

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JUL **30**. 5:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church - Lexington  
221 Third Street  
Lexington, TX 78947

# Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William "Bill" Hester Dowdy, Jr.*



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**Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home** - July 29, 2016 at 12:31 PM

BF

“ *Thoughts and prayers are with your family. David, Joanne Tally and Samuel Bergsten of Bowie, Maryland*



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**Bergsten Family** - August 03, 2016 at 03:35 AM

GI

“ *Mickey, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I still recall what a kind man your dad was when we were children playing on his cattle ranch. God bless you all, and may he rest in peace. Gina Mundy*



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**Gina** - August 01, 2016 at 12:40 PM

DM

“ So sorry for your loss. Bill was a good man & a good friend of mine. Another WWII veteran gone! RIP Bill.

*Dud Morris*

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**Dud Morris** - July 31, 2016 at 12:43 PM

GI

“ Gary Iselt lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Hester Dowdy, Jr.



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**Gary Iselt** - July 30, 2016 at 05:08 PM

GI

“ We are sorry for your loss. The family is in our prayers.

*Beverly and Gary Iselt*

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**Gary Iselt** - July 30, 2016 at 05:07 PM

TB

“ Tom, Angela, and the Wrinkle Boys purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of William "Bill" Hester Dowdy, Jr..



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**Tom, Angela, and the Wrinkle Boys** - July 30, 2016 at 11:58 AM

BH

“ Always "Mr. Dowdy" to me, he was a kind and gentle man. A good friend, always. A giant among musicians, everybody recognized his great talent. I was privileged to share the bandstand with him. I will miss him.

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**Bud Harger** - July 30, 2016 at 10:41 AM

LB

“ Donnie, Mickey, and family-  
We are so saddened at the loss of Mr. Dowdy. Please know y'all are in our prayers! Love y'all!

Love,  
The Blankenburgs

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**Leigh Blankenburg** - July 30, 2016 at 08:25 AM

CS

“ Jean, I am so saddened to hear of this. My thoughts and my prayers are with you and your children. I will let Gina know about this as well, Mickey, I know she will be thinking of you. Many years have passed since we shared so much fun with our children. God bless you and your lovely family.....prayers coming your way.

Love,  
Carrie

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**Carrie Shea** - July 29, 2016 at 08:54 PM



“ 61 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - July 29, 2016 at 12:17 PM

JS

*Bill Dowdy will surely be missed. But while we mourn the loss of Bill we must also celebrate his very long and wildly successful 93 years of life.*

Jim Stanley - July 30, 2016 at 01:35 PM

JF

“ Jeff & Marcy Markert and Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of William "Bill" Hester Dowdy, Jr..



Jeff & Marcy Markert and Family - July 29, 2016 at 12:12 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Hester Dowdy, Jr..



July 29, 2016 at 10:06 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Hester Dowdy, Jr..*



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July 29, 2016 at 09:10 AM



“ *Thank you Mr, Bill for all the great music. May the Lord rest your soul.  
You and Joe Boyd can play the Lord a tune together.  
We'll see you again.*

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**Alan & Ann Spence** - July 28, 2016 at 08:08 PM