



Arnold T. Sikes

June 30, 1939 - January 15, 2018

Services for Arnold Talmadge Sikes, 78, of Tyler will be held Saturday, January 20, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at Stewart Family Funeral Home, Tyler, Texas. Rev. Dr. Stan Copeland, Senior Pastor of Lovers Lane United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas will officiate. A visitation is planned prior to the funeral at Stewart Family Funeral Home on Friday, January 19 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Arnold passed away Monday, January 15, 2018 from complications following heart surgery.

Arnold was born on June 30, 1939, in Coleman, Texas to the late Delilah May and Amos Talmadge Sikes. Arnold was the eldest of five siblings and is survived by two brothers (David and wife Patricia, Charles and wife Jan and sister, Mary Ann Sikes). He was preceded in death by his younger brother Jerry Wayne. Arnold is also survived by sons Brent Duane of Lewisville and Chad Wayne of Duluth, Minnesota. Arnold is also survived by and was always devoted to his loving wife Sharon of 56 years. Their love for each other was evident to all that met them.

Life was difficult in West Texas as a young boy due in large part to the drought of the 50's. Due to his Dad's health, Arnold had to take on the responsibilities of manhood in his early teens.

Arnold graduated from Abilene High School. After high school Arnold served in the Army Intelligence Agency as a courier. In the military he continued to aid his family, and yet, toured much of Europe by combining resources to make the best of his opportunities while there.

Arnold also graduated from Texas Tech University, where he earned a degree in accounting and later earned his CPA certificate. He practiced as a CPA in Midland, Texas until the lure of oil and gas fields called and that vocation soon became a passion. He was a successful independent oil man. He loved the oil and gas industry and valued the many relationships and friendships he made with investors, royalty owners, and industry service companies.

Together, Arnold and Sharon shared a vision of providing a ministry to families of stillborn infants. That vision became a reality in the form of Angel Layettes. They nurtured and grew this ministry and as a result, it has continued to flourish due to their dedicated efforts.

Arnold was a soft spoken gentleman with a persuasive nature. He knew how to build a team to accomplish a common goal. He was a calming agent in every situation in family and business situations.. He loved people and was dedicated to helping people all of his life.

Arnold loved to play golf and was an active member of the SMGA at Hollytree Country Club. He leaves behind a large circle of friends. To many of them, Arnold will be remembered as the best man they knew.

Pallbearers will be Hector Barrios, Rick Carnes, Kent Castagno, Billy Higginbotham, Richard (Rich) Lottman and Mark Mueller. Honorary pallbearers are the Board of Directors-Angel Layettes, Cristal Barrios, Sarah Campbell, Sandy Douglas, Megan Higginbotham, Robert E. and Mary Lee and the Tuesday Tigers-Hollytree Country Club.

The family would also like to extend their sincere appreciation to Arnold's caregivers at Owens Heart Hospital in Tyler. The doctors, nurses and staff cared for Arnold with compassion throughout his illness.

If desired, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Angel Layettes, PO Box 6618, Tyler, Texas 75711 (www.angellayettes.org).

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **19**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Service

JAN **20**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Arnold T. Sikes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - January 20, 2018 at 10:57 AM



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Arnold T. Sikes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - January 19, 2018 at 01:10 PM



“ Loretta Martinez lit a candle in memory of Arnold T. Sikes



Loretta martinez - April 21, 2018 at 12:52 AM

LM

I am so sorry for your los of a loved one may God bless you and your family

Loretta martinez - April 21, 2018 at 12:53 AM

PB

“ Doyle and I send our deepest sympathy to Sharon. We are so sorry to hear about Arnold. You are in our hearts.

Pat Boudreaux - January 19, 2018 at 05:57 PM



“ Bountiful Rose Basket was purchased for the family of Arnold T. Sikes.



January 19, 2018 at 03:26 PM



“ 64 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - January 19, 2018 at 12:08 PM

“My acquaintance with Arnold began several years ago on the golf course. I was invited to play with him and some of his friends and have continued to enjoy this time of fellowship with him and them until now. When I first met Arnold, we seemed to form an immediate bond. He and I graduated from high school the same year; he from Abilene High and I from a small school just outside of Abilene. In junior high and high school I ran track and had participated in meets at Bangs which is where Arnold lived during part of his growing-up years. Since he also ran track, we figured we had competed against one another those meany years ago.

Arnold was always a gentleman. Often I rode with him in the golf cart when we played. I was able to observe and talk to him for four hours while we played. I never heard him use any profanity nor tell an off-colored joke. When he hit a bad shot, his usual response was, “Aww Arnold!!,” but never any curse words. And he was generous. He always insisted on paying for everyone’s food when we ate together. He really wanted to do that. If you just insisted on paying for your own meal, he almost always left whatever money you gave him as an extra tip to the server. I once asked him why he was so generous with his tips, and he said, “I feel sorry for these people who are struggling to make it by serving us. I know they need the help.” More than once, I’ve seen him leave almost as much for the wait-staff as what the entire meal cost.

Arnold had an easy way about him that made me feel like I was his “best” friend. I know I wasn’t his best friend because we’ve only known each other for a few years. But he made me “feel” like I was his best friend. He was always interested in me, my family and what was going on in my life. It was just so easy to visit with him. I’m sure everyone who claimed him as a friend will tell you that when they were with him, they felt like they were his “best” friend, also. I’m sure Arnold had hundreds of “best” friends.

I’ll miss him. I’ll miss his friendship and the many fun times Wayne M, Robert, Don and I spent together on the golf course. I’ll miss the

kidding and poking fun at the terrible shots we all hit occasionally. I'll miss the meals we all shared where we talked about each one's family, and blamed the liberals for everything that's wrong with our world. But most of all, I'll just miss him. I liked him. I liked being around him. I liked being his friend.

My deepest condolences to Sharon and all his family.

—Wayne Berryman

Wayne Berryman - January 18, 2018 at 11:56 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Arnold T. Sikes.*



January 17, 2018 at 10:04 PM



“ *I only knew Arnold for a few years playing golf at HTCC . I had only taken up golf late and life and I remember how kind he was. He was a true gentleman. I pray that God will give his family the peace that only He can give.*

Jeff Jones - January 17, 2018 at 09:36 PM



“ *Charles and Jan Sikes family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Arnold T. Sikes.*



Charles and Jan Sikes family - January 17, 2018 at 09:34 PM

SC

“ SMGA @ Hollytree CC purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Arnold T. Sikes.



SMGA @ Hollytree CC - January 17, 2018 at 06:56 PM

WA

“ Arnold was my dear friend, We played golf together for the last 15 yrs i have never seen him angry one single time. He was the most generous. kind, caring person I have ever met, I will surely miss him. My prayers will continue to be with you Shron. Wayne Moses

waynemoses - January 17, 2018 at 02:25 PM

DE

I first met Arnold when he was living in Gresham. Later we played a lot of golf together at Hollytree. He was usually in my foursome on Saturday morning and sometimes on Sunday afternoon. Billy Higgingbotham usually provided the entertainment! He was a true gentleman! Earth now has a void but Heaven has gained a Saint. I will miss you. Praying for Sharon and the family.

Dale Eppler

Dale Eppler - January 18, 2018 at 01:13 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Arnold T. Sikes.



January 16, 2018 at 03:01 PM