



Barbara Craig

November 29, 1937 - September 5, 2005

Beloved wife, mother, daughter, sister, and grandmother, Barbara passed away unexpectedly Monday, September 5, 2005 from a brain hemorrhage. She was born November 29, 1937 in Teague, Texas to Geraldine "Jerry" Newsom Copeland and Dr. Kennard "Bill" Copeland. During World War II, she and her mother followed her dad from coast to coast during his state-side tour of duty. She often reflected on these trying times but was bonded ever close to her parents. She changed schools often due to her dad's travels, but spent her high school years in Texarkana and graduated from Mt. Vernon High School in 1955. During her time there she was a member of the band and was a majorette. She was also crowned first runner-up in the National Dr. Pepper basketball tournament beauty pageant. She attended Tyler Jr. College and was a two year member of the Apache Belles. She was a long time member of the Tyler Junior League and was active in the Children's Theater. She later obtained her real estate license and worked for Baker Lucas Realty, Wayne Jones Realty, and ERA Harris Realty. She was an active member of Marvin United Methodist Church, serving as an usher and greeter during the 8:45 Power Praise Service. She was a member of the Seekers Sunday School Class and Wednesday Night Bible study. Barbara was a resident of her beloved Tyler for 50 years. Although she had countless friends in her church and community, her family was her greatest pride and joy. There are not enough words to describe her: generous, compassionate, supportive, genuine, positive, optimistic, and an ideal role model. Her husband, Larry,

describes her as his "entire life" and her father, Bill, as his "living Angel". Her numerous pastimes included dance, gardening, hunting, reading, sewing, and needlework. She was described as the "neatest Granny", taking tap dance lesson after fifty years of age. She was predeceased by her mother, Mrs. Jerry Copeland. She is survived by her husband of 33 years Judge Larry Craig; her four sons, Claude Holley and wife Terry of Corpus Christi, Jim Holley of Tyler, Ken Holley and wife Judy of Tyler, and Bill Holley and wife Lydia of Frankston; daughter, Toni Halbrooks and husband Gary of Tyler; father, Dr. Kennard "Bill" Copeland of Tyler; brother, Dr. Kenneth Copeland and wife Lucia of Oklahoma City, OK; thirteen grandchildren: Susan Dees, Whitney Holley, Christopher Holley, Cameron Holley, Savannah Holley, Franklin Holley, Lindsey Holley, Craig Halbrooks, Barry Holley, Melissa Holley, Rebecca Holley, Carter Halbrooks and Carrie Halbrooks. The family will receive friends from 6:30-8:00 P.M. Tuesday at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy., south Tyler, 75703. Services are scheduled for 11:00 A.M., Wednesday, September 7, 2005, at Marvin United Methodist Church with Dr. Michael Dent officiating. Pallbearers are the grandchildren. Honorary Pallbearers are the Seekers Sunday School Class of Marvin U.M.C., Sheriff J. B. Smith, Dr. Walter Johnson, and A. D. Clark. Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery under direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home. Because of her deep concern for the victims of the recent hurricane, in lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial gifts be made to the Tyler Salvation Army, Katrina Hurricane Fund.

Tribute Wall

JJ

“ Larry and family,

Patsy and I extend our sympathy and you are in our prayers. Your great loss is our loss too. Barbara was an energetic and fun person and we have fond memories of many enjoyable outings with Barbara and you.

If we may help you, please call.

*May God bless you all,
Jay*

Jay and Patsy Johnson - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Larry:

Our thoughts are with you and your family. We'll be remembering you in our prayers.

Mel & Ruth

Mel & Ruth Charlton - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ Judge Craig: *I am so sorry for your loss. I am praying for you and your family. Love, Leigh Porter*

Leigh Porter - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ LARRY-----

MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AT THIS TIME.

BARBARA IS A VERY SPECIAL LADY, NOT ONLY TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY---BUT, TO ALL OF US WHO HAVE THE HONOR OF KNOWING HER.

GOD BLESS-----I'LL TALK TO YOU SOON.

DON

DON F. PEYTON - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. We've enjoyed some great conferences together. We will hold you and your family up in our prayers. Thanking of you at this time. Dallas Brewer, Yoakum County Judge*

Gary Streit - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ *Larry, I'm so sorry to here about Barbara. She was a very sweet person to be around. She always was very friendly to me and made me feel comfortable wherever we might be. I will be remembering you and your family in my prayers. Toni Jones, Yoakum County*

Toni Jones - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ I was so saddened to hear of Barbara's passing.

My heartfelt prayers go out to you and all of your family.

It warmed my heart to read the long list of family mentioned in the obit. What a beautiful legacy! She was truly a woman of riches.

God Bless you and may the Great Comforter hold all of you up and close in the days to come.

*Your friend,
Mitchell*

Judge Mitchell G. Davenport - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ I loved Barbara very much. We shared my daughter Terry and her son Claude and three wonderful grandchildren. We shared many good times together and I will miss her. My prayers and thoughts are with her family at this sad time.

Jo Ann Snyder - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ *Runnels County Commissioners Court expresses its sympathy and condolences.*

Marilyn Egan - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Judge Craig,
I just wanted to extend my heartfelt sympathy to you and your family on the loss of your wife. You will be in our prayers. May the good Lord wrap you in His loving arms and give you comfort and peace during this most difficult time.
Judge Mark Stroehler
Gillespie County

Judge Mark Stroehler - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ I am so sorry. I know that there is nothing I can do or say that will make any of this go away or be bearable. Just know that our hearts and prayers are with you.

Stan Reid - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Larry,
Our thoughts and prayer are with you and your family. May God bless you.
Carolyn and Howard

Carolyn & Howard Cornelius - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ Larry and family - I am so sorry for your very sudden loss. Barbara was an amazing lady. As the obituary said, there are not really words to describe her giving attitude and zest for life.
I will pray for you often in the very difficult days ahead. Much love,
Peggy

Peggy Holly - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ Larry,
My prayers are with you and your family.
I am just up on the corner if you need anything now or after your
family goes home. Having been in the position you now find
yourself, I know your heartbreak. May God bless and keep you.

Deana John - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Hold on to your memories, and let them guide you during this time
of sadness.

Betty Sue Roberts Gates - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

HL

“ May God be with you and comfort you. We are so sorry for the loss
of one so dear to so many.

Henry and Gloria Loran - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ We are so saddened at the loss of Barbara. Even our three girls
(whom take dance classes at Dance & Drill) remember her and
what a wonderful soul she was. She will be missed by our whole
family.

Our thoughts & prayers are with you...

Denning, Jan, Frances, Katy & Sarah

Denning & Jan Key - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MO

“ I am so sorry about your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Melinda OQuinn - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Dear Judge Craig & Family:

Our hearts go out to all of you, in your deep sadness and loss of one so dear.

May the Lord bless each of you, you are in our hearts and prayers.

With our love and caring,

Ada Lee & Jim McDonough, Nick, Mark, and families.

Ada Lee & Jim McDonough & Family - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *Larry, We are so sorry to hear of Barbara's passing. Our prayers go out to you and your family in this time of great loss. We are just across the street if you need anything.*

Tommy Berry - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all!*

Merigale M. Pyron - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KJ

“ *Our hearts are heavy to hear of the loss of Barbara. I will always cherish the memories of the years we spent time together with you all & my Dad (Wayne Jones). We will keep you in our prayers!*

Ken, Suzanne & Jessica Jones - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ Wev'e lost a great mother, wife, grandmother, deer hunter, and above all a friend to all.

Larry and family,

I do not have words to express the great sympathy i have for each of you.

Barbara was a true lady.

Pete Thompson - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *My heart goes out to you and your family. I will keep you in my prayers. I am so sorry!*

In His Name - Charlotte

Charlotte Ray - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ *Larry,
Patsy and I will keep you and your family in our prayers. If there is anything I can do, don't hesitate to call.*

We'll miss Barbara.

With Christian Love.

Mickey & Patsy West

Judge Mickey & Patsy West - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ Larry and family,
We are thinking of you and praying for your family. Everett is forever grateful of your thoughtfulness and friendship.
We love you,
Kelley Uzzell and family

Lynda Anderson - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Judge Craig,

I was so saddened by the loss of your lovely wife. I only met you & your wife once in Tyler & once at the TAC open house several years ago but you were both so kind to me. She was such a beautiful, vibrant lady. My condolences to you & your family.

*Cindy Strait
TAC Med Audit Unit*

Joyce Francis - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ I am so sorry to hear about Mrs. Craig's passing. I'll pray for your family.

Mary Ann Saenz - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Today is Tuesday, September 6, 2005. How I was looking forward to the first night of tap class this evening. This would have been the start of the 17th year of Tuesday night tap class with Barbara. I cannot believe she won't be there any more. I am sadder than sad. Barbara, with the beautiful legs, the bright smile, and a kind word, always. The stories she told of her family were always a welcomed aside to the triple-timestep we were trying to master. It was so clear that she loved her family more than anything. She adored Larry and appreciated the wonderful life they had made together. She was proud of her children and loved them all. She worshiped her grandchildren and loved to tell stories about them. Barbara had a remarkable life and enjoyed it to the fullest. Tap class will never be the same without her -- but we'll go on tapping in her memory, every Tuesday night.

Judith Guthrie - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ We send our deepest sympathy to all of Barbara's family. She was indeed a loving person. She will be missed by all of her friends and family. We send our love to all.

LaNelle Livezey & Anne Livezey Wester - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Dear Larry:

I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Love,

Alan Bristol

Judge Alan Bristol - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Having been relatively new members at Marvin UMC, we only knew Barbara through the Power Praise service. Her love and compassion was obvious in her care of everyone at the service(especially the elderly). It was also obvious that Barbara was the love of Judge Craig's life. We offer our heartfelt condolences to the entire Craig family.

Mike and JoAnn Dixon - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ Larry,
Although no words of sympathy can ease the pain or loss you bear,
may you find comfort in the thought that we care.
We will have you and your family in our prayers.
God Bless,
Gene & Lowdean Greer

Gene & Lowdean Greer - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

YJ

“ My deepest sympathy to you and your family. The obituary in the paper was very lovely. The "neatest Grandmother " was so sweet.
God bless.

Yvonne C. Jackson - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

HH

“ Larry, so sorry for your loss. Our deepest sympathy.

Hoss and Gail Huggins - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BV

“ God Bless. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Bonnie Varner - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Our love and prayers are with you and your family. We know Barbara touched many lives and that her legacy will live on in her children, grandchildren, and her many friends for generations to come. She dances still, though now before the throne.

Royce & Heather Hallock - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Dear Larry and family,

Your family is in our thoughts and prayers at this time. As we were reading the lovely tribute in the paper, we couldn't help but laugh and remember the times Barbara jokingly said that it was looking as though she would never have any grandchildren.... how blessed she was to have her thirteen. She was so proud of her beautiful family.

Dianne and Wayne Hellen - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ We are so sorry for your loss. She sounded like she was a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother. I know that it is a difficult time for the whole family and we are praying the the Lord will hold you all close during this hard time.

Ricardo and Carol Martinez - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time of unspeakable loss, Judge Craig. Barbara was your soulmate and that was evident, wherever one was the other was also. I am sure that your precious niece, Kim, met her with a hug and they have had a precious reunion in Heaven. My heart hurts for you though. You and Barbara, even though we didn't see each other often, have been very special people to me. May God wrap his care around you and hold you at this time of such sorrow.
Carol Harris

Carol Harris - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Larry, we were so sorry to hear about your loss and our hearts and prayers are with you and the family.

Doug & Vergie Meigs - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Larry
Rae and I are so sorry to hear of your loss. Barbara was such a beautiful and intelligent lady. I know how much you and your family will miss her. You and your family are in our prayers.

Judge Bill and Rae Freeman - September 05, 2005 at 12:00 AM