



## Cecil Jerl Roach

August 15, 1940 - July 19, 2018

Memorial services for Cecil Jerl Roach, 77, of Bullard, will be held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, July 23, 2018 at Green Acres Baptist Church under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home, with Rev. Scott Brown officiating. There will be a visitation one hour prior to the service.

Mr. Roach passed away at his home on Thursday, July 19, 2018. He was born August 15, 1940 in Lufkin to Mancel and Earline Roach.

Cecil attended Lufkin High School and SFA, playing football and running track. In 1962, he went to work for Massey and Brown Sporting Goods, which he later owned until 2000. He then opened Roach's Team Supply in 2003. Cecil loved his work and all the coaches that he called on throughout Texas. At the time of his death, he was employed by BSN Sports.

Cecil was preceded in death by his parents, infant sister and brother, Joe Roach. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Joetta Roach; son, Kyle Roach (Amy); daughter, Kelly Roach Nichols (Kyle) both of Bullard; grandchildren (his pride and joy), Kylee Nichols of Dallas, Walker Roach (April), Will Roach (Karrigan), Klint Nichols and Weston Roach, Bailey and Lainey Kurtz all of Bullard; great-grandson, Cayson Roach; brother, Kenneth Roach (Thelma) of Lufkin; sister-in-law, Pat Meriweather of Lufkin; brothers-in-law, Bob Root (Merna) of Bullard, Paul Root (Tamesha) of Lufkin and Jeff Root (Cindy) of Tulsa, OK, as well as many nieces and nephews and more friends than can be imagined.

Honorary pallbearers will be Charlie McGinty, Danny Palmer, Mike Owens,

Ardie Dixon, Mike Murphy and Jimmy Murphy.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Lufkin High School Alumni, 309 Medford Dr., Lufkin, TX 75901 and Stephen F. Austin Alumni, 1936 North Street, Nacogdoches, TX.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL **23**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Green Acres Baptist Church  
1607 Troup Hwy.  
Tyler, TX 75701

## Mem. Service

JUL **23**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Green Acres Baptist Church  
1607 Troup Hwy.  
Tyler, TX 75701

# Tribute Wall

PC

“ Hello, I remember Cecil even from the old M&B by Gary School....Great guy and great help to customers.

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**Phil Cole** - May 20, 2025 at 08:54 AM

KE

“ I'm blessed to have met Cecil and to call him a friend. I met him when I was working in Crockett years ago. It was always a treat when he came calling on us on a weekly basis. He had great stories and he really cared about us as coaches and friends. The High School Coaching Profession lost a true friend. He will be missed!! Love to the Roach Family.

*Keith Ellis*

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**Keith Ellis** - July 24, 2018 at 09:34 PM



“ Today I witnessed the largest gathering of friends, family, acquaintances and others, for Cecil Roach, that I have ever seen at a memorial service. The beautiful words that were spoken about this man and his family was uplifting by all. Joetta, Kyle, Kelly and all of their children and grandchildren should be very proud, knowing their husband, Daddy and Papa was so loved. The other thing I learned today was how much everyone who knew this family, loved them ALL, equally, not just Cecil, but them all. What a great family, great legacy Cecil has left us all and the most moving memorial I have attended. Roach, as the good coach said today, I know you are in heaven lobbying with St. Peter to let me in, and if he won't you will create a diversion for me. Love you and miss you, ROACH. Joetta, Kyle, Kelly, Walker, Will, Weston, Klint, Kylie, Cayson, our heart and everyone's heart is aching for your loss. We are all here for you and support you when you need us. Love you all.

*Uncle Jeff*

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**Jeff Root** - July 23, 2018 at 11:13 PM



“ After a long week of working on the road... we were his first stop before home. He had to stop by and hold his new baby grandson in his arms. He loved all of his grandchildren so very very much. A feeling he showed them with everything he did. We all loved him so much. We will never forget someone who gave us so much to remember.

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**Penny Reedy** - July 23, 2018 at 10:10 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes* was purchased for the family of Cecil Jerl Roach.



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July 23, 2018 at 12:13 AM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of Cecil Jerl Roach.



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July 22, 2018 at 11:14 PM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Cecil Jerl Roach.



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July 22, 2018 at 10:58 AM

BC

“ Texas trembled. I’ve often pondered how I’d like the rest of the world to view Texas. My list is selective and few ... The Gage Hotel in Marathon, sprawling ranches, model citizenry and Cecil. I came to know him when he wed the cousin I idolized, Barbara Joetta, who my father adored and for whom I’m named. Well, she found a fitting king in Cecil Roach. I’ll not soon forget his larger-than-life persona and welcoming generosity. Well-spent times with him included July fourth celebrations on the ranch, where Christmas seemed to last year-round, ice cold chests of Coca-Cola, watermelon, his flawless brisket, bumble bees chasing my eldest about the pool, Coco’s birthday bows, inspiring football stories for Ben, his sweetness with Abby, and bonding with Cindy in the front yard. Cecil’s love and provision for his bride and his pride in Kyle and Kelly was impeccable and inspiring, a model man for the ages. Cecil was, Cecil is, remarkable. I’ll not soon forget the fond memories he shared of working cattle with The Tyler Rose, Earl Campbell, only to sit down later to a fine meal prepared by Joetta. I’ll say, down in Houston, we feel the tremor of his loss. Heaven, as Meredith said, is a livelier place now ... and as my sister Charlene says, every day is holiday. Truly it is, having spent time and shared love with Cecil. I will miss him sorely, yet be inspired by his soaring spirit.

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**Barbara Root Corrington** - July 22, 2018 at 01:02 AM

AT

“ Ray and I extend our deepest Sympathy & Heartfelt Prayers to the Family & All loved ones of Cecil Roach. When I think of Cecil Roach, I think of a man who worked hard, I think of an athlete and one who loved sports, as a participant and as a fan and great supporter of all, I think of a philanthropist and as one who helped others, I think of a family man ( A Great Husband, Father, Grandfather and Friend!) My fondest memories of Cecil shall always be how much healthy laughter HE GAVE TO OTHERS. He seemed to love life and all the Coaches and Clients that he called on!!! So many People know Cecil And loved him ... And ... All Agree... That... Cecil was so FUNNY!!!! He ALWAYS "LEFT 'EM LAUGHING!!!" My Prayer is that each and every family member, loved one & friend will focus on their fondest memory of Cecil & their most treasured moments with him ... And... That it will keep their Hearts Smiling Always !!! He leaves a great Legacy for his children & his grandchildren to follow!!! Cecil will be missed tremendously! We all have been blessed in knowing him. Sincerely, Arlene and Ray Todd; Tyler, Texas

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**Arlene and Ray Todd** - July 21, 2018 at 10:02 PM

Jeff  
Root

“ *What can you say about this man that has not been said? He was an and IS an ICON in his industry. NO ONE could hold a candle to his expertise and finesse with his customers of over 50+ years. That is unheard of in today's world. That tells you the MAN was a man of his word, always did what was best for the customer or his FAMILY and anyone else who needed help. Cecil was one of the most giving individuals I have ever known and I have known him for over 55 years. He always gave you a smile, a hug, a big handshake or whatever greeting he felt was appropriate at the moment. You were always welcome at their home. His humor was over the top. It didn't matter what time of day, he always had something to say that made you laugh out loud. Many times "ROACH" would have the family for gatherings at his and Joetta's home. Many of those times it was not only family but friends that wanted to be with his family and ours. What great times we had with "ROACH". We will all miss him but not as much as Joetta and his family.*

*"ROACH", here's to you my friend and brother. LOVE YOU and will miss you greatly.*

*Your brother in law, Jeff.*

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**Jeff Root** - July 21, 2018 at 08:08 PM

VM

“ *We are so sad to hear of Cecil's passing. We've had many fun times with him and his sweet family. Peyton and I send our love and prayers.*



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**Vicki Mullins** - July 21, 2018 at 05:30 PM

JD

“ *Joetta,  
Cecil was a guy near and dear to my heart. When he was your friend, he was a friend for life! He will be missed. May God wrap his arms around you and give you comfort as you grieve your loss, sweet friend. All my love, Judy Almon DuPuy*

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**Judy DuPuy** - July 21, 2018 at 12:42 PM

JR

“ *Joetta, I'm so sorry to hear about Cecil. Just wanted you to know that I'm thinking of you and have you and your family in my heart and prayers.  
Jane Bell Remmert*

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**Jane Remmert** - July 21, 2018 at 12:32 AM

LI

“ *Dear Joetta and Family, Didn't we all love Cecil (and you)! He was a character with a bluster tho' kind heart. We had so much fun at our reunions. We will miss him while being grateful for knowing him.  
Linda Lang Andrews*

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**Linda** - July 20, 2018 at 08:41 PM

RR

*Joetta: you know how I felt about Cecil. I hold told my boy, if they ever had a problem, and couldn't contact family, to call Cecil. I love you and will miss him.  
Ronny*

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**ronny redd** - July 20, 2018 at 10:44 PM

WR

“ *Joetta,  
What fun memories I have of Cecil. We will all miss him. My prayers  
are for you and your family to be surrounded with God's peace.*  
*Bill Royle*

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**William Royle** - July 20, 2018 at 07:44 PM

HW

*This old coach, Henry Whittlesey, remembers all the good visits he had  
with "Roach" as Henry called him. Roach served the San Augustine  
athletic programs for many years., as well as our youth baseball  
program. He always said, Get what you need and pay when you can  
during the hard times". We always paid. Mary and I are praying for the  
family. Cecil will be missed.*  
*Henry Whittlesey*

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**Henry Whittlesey** - July 20, 2018 at 07:59 PM

FS

*Joetta, I am sorry for your loss. May God comfort you and your family  
during this time. My prayers are with you.*  
*Fran Williams Sanchez*

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**Fran Williams Sanchez** - July 20, 2018 at 08:05 PM

MG

*Joetta, Kyle and Kelly my thoughts and prayers are with you during this  
time. Cecil was one in a million! All of you are part of my memories of  
my time as the Athletic Trainer at Robert. E. Lee. Can only imagine  
how many of us laughed ,loved and respected Cecil! Friend to all who  
Will be missed . God Bless You All*  
*Mark Gilbert*

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**Mark Gilbert** - July 21, 2018 at 02:17 PM

 Cindy  
Shultz

*There has and always will be a special place in my heart for Cecil! I  
worked at Massey and Brown over 30 years ago and STILL tell stories  
about him and can hear his booming voice!*

*Cindy Shine Shultz*

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**Cindy Shultz** - July 22, 2018 at 10:59 AM

LM

*Joetta and family. Oh how to you make it without the Roach ever present. What a guy. I still loved him after knowing him 50 plus years. I have been very ill and will not be able to attend but my spirit,love and thoughts are there for you. A void in East Texas and a hole in my heart.  
Linda Huggins-Martin*

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**linda martin** - July 22, 2018 at 05:49 PM

T1

*My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. May your memories of a wonderful husband and father bring you comfort in the days ahead.*

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**Tommie Cassels Major/LHS 1959** - July 22, 2018 at 11:09 PM