



## David Irby,

August 25, 1952 - November 4, 2007

On Sunday, November 4, 2007, David M. Irby, Sr. was called to his Savior's side. Born in Tyler, Texas on August 25, 1952, David entered eternity from his home in Bullard, Texas. He attended Robert E. Lee High School and entered the United States Air Force, later becoming an entrepreneur. During his career, David owned several businesses, including East Texas Fence Company and most recently Tract Research and Acquisition Company of Texas, Incorporated (TRACT, Inc.). Far surpassing these achievements, David was a cherished husband, father and son. He was adored by many and touched more lives than can be counted. He lived his life by Romans 13:8 "Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law." In his tireless pursuit of this mission, David was an active participant in the ministries of Grace Fellowship Church of Flint, Texas. Here he led Sunday School, Children's Church and a single's Bible study group, which was particularly dear to his heart. As part of his legacy of love, David is survived by his beloved wife of 27 years, Mary Irby; his three children, Lori Sellers and Julie, Tony Sellers and wife, Amy, and David Irby, Jr. and wife, Sandy; parents, Margaret and Aubrey Irby, Sr.; brother, Earl Irby and wife, Kay Lynn; sister, Cindy Dunlop and husband, Jim; and granddaughters, Jessica Hammon and Kathryn Sellers. Services will be held on Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at 1:00 PM at Grace Fellowship Church, 18802 FM 2493, Flint with Rev. Robert Burkett and Rev. Steve Comer officiating. Burial will follow at Boren-Conner/Bullard Memorial

Cemetery in Bullard under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home. Pallbearers will be Jerry Cruse, Ray Hodge, Rob Love, David Ross, Hub Parrott, Cameron Cook, David Wooddell, and Chris Sparks. Honorary pallbearers will be the Single Adult Class of Grace Fellowship Church. Visitation is scheduled for 6:00-8:00 PM on Tuesday, November 6, 2007 at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway, Tyler, Texas 75703.

# Tribute Wall

MD

“ Dear Mary and family,

*We are praying for you all at this difficult time. David was a good friend for 10+ years and brother for 7+ years. He took a chance on me and I am where I am today because of him. I am grateful for his influence in my life and his friendship. His life and attitude have impacted me and many others in a great way and I will miss him.*

*with Love from above,*

*Mark DeCordova and family.*

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**Mark DeCordova** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Words cannot express our sorrow for you and the kids. Just remember to let your family and friends help you and lean on them and most of all Jesus Christ for support. You will be in our thoughts and prayers!

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**Carla and Mike Bacica** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CV

“ David Irby was a wonderful man. He will be remembered for being the love of Aunt Mary's life, an amazing father to Tony, Lori and David, a Godly man anyone could count on, a brilliant business person and entrepreneur. It will be said by many that David Irby was a good man. I have been blessed to have been able to call him family.

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**Carol Verhey** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ *My sincerest condolences on the loss of David. I remember him when he was a youngster hanging around the radio station. May he rest in peace.*

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**Stanley Waghalter** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MV

“ *When I think about Uncle David it makes me smile. He never met a stranger or if he did it did not stay that way very long. You could see his passion for Christ and his family radiate from him. Aunt Mary, Toni, David, and Lori I am very sorry for your loss. Just sitting here writing this just seems wrong. You will all be in my prayers and thoughts. Uncle David has touched so many lives and lefted a stamp or impact on people without him even knowing it. I love you and he will be truly missed.*

*Sincerely,  
Melissa*

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**Melissa Verhey-Drager** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ David was my friend and mentor. I met David, at the 7-11 on Fifth st. in 1978, he was buying a Mountain Dew. He gave me a job working in his janitorial business and within months he had taught me to run the labor end of the business. The following year he taught me the fence business. But what I learned the most from David were lessons in life. I learned to look to the inside not the outside when meeting someone for the first time. I learned to give others a chance to prove themselves and not to prejudge others. I learned to share life and happiness with others. If you looked up family man in the dictionary there would be a picture of David there. David was truly a good man, friend, husband, father, son of Christ and MENTOR! A lot of who I am today is due to the positive influence that David was to me. I will miss David but I will never forget him.

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**Kent Basinger** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SI

“ With deepest sympathy in the loss of your brother. May you find strength and comfort to help you and your entire family through this time of sorrow.

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**Smith Barney Inc.** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ I work with Mrs. Donna, and she has told me many good things about David. I feel I know him just by he wonderful things Donna has told me, he will be missed tremendously. I want to send my condolences and let you know you and your family are in my prayers.

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**Megan Frohock** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ All our love, prayers and thoughts are with you as you go through this difficult time. Aunt Mary, I remember you telling me a few years back about Uncle David being shocked and so very happy the first time I called him "Uncle". I believe my reply to you was, if he's good enough for you to love then he's good enough for me to call uncle. I'm not sure if I was the first to refer to him in that way, but it is truly a priviledge to know how much that meant to him, especially now. Praise God that's the kind of wonderful family we are so blessed to be apart of, where everyone is welcome and loved. I hope you lean on all of us at anytime in the days to come. I know us "Waco" folks would love to see you come for a visit. Always know I love you and am here for you day or night, Tam

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**Tammy Hyde-Martinez** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TO

“ Mr. Irby was always such a kind and generous man. I will always remember his big smile and boisterous laughter. May God be with his wonderful family during this difficult time.

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**Tonya Campbell Oliver** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ Dear Lori & family,  
We didn't know your father, but our hearts go out to each & every one of you. It is so hard when things like this happen to those you (most) cherish and love. It will be difficult (to say the least) in the near future. We know, as we (both) have lost our pasrents, but take comfort in those you love & know that we and others are praying for you. You have our deepest sympathy!

Love,  
Aunt Susie Uncle Al

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**Al & Susie Jamison** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ I only met Mr. Irby a few months ago in connection with work he was doing through our office. He was always so kind, and his Godly faith radiated from him. He was a "good" man, the way he talked to others and me, and the friendliness he expressed. He always told me, don't schedule anything on Friday afternoons, I've got to get home to my family and my church activities. I can only imagine the shock and sadness his family and friends are suffering at his loss. I only knew him in a small way, but he made a large impression on me and I pray that God ease his family's sadness and that they be comforted with wonderful memories. Thanks, Mr. Irby, for being such a nice guy! I will miss talking with you. Susan

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**Susan Mitchell** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ In the 17 years that I worked at the bank in Gresham I must have had at least 100 great debates with Daddy Dave. He was truly a quality christian steward that I always had alot of respect for him. He will be greatly missed among his family, friends and business associates.

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**Steve Langford** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Sorry I can't be there but all of you are in my thoughts and David will be greatly missed.  
Love to all,  
Cathi & Craig Henderson  
Heather,Chris & Caden Dryman  
Justin & Mandi Henderson

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**Cathryn C Henderson** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ I had the privelege of working with and geting to know David over the past 3 years as we handled condemnation lawsuits together for Barnett Gathering. I soon learned that David was my "go to" man anytime I needed help on a case, and he always got me what I needed quickly to we could sucesfully hanlde the cases. More importantly, I got to know David with his million dollar smile and that great sense of humor. I can still hear his familair laugh that erupted so many times as we worked together. He made hard work fun and will be greatly miised.

*May God grant peace and comfort at this time of loss to his family and all those fiends who loved him.*

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**Richard Wiseman** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ David was such a welcoming person. You knew he would always be there to welcome you with a smiling face. He was truly someone special. My heart and prayers go out to the entire family. David will be greatly missed because he was so greatly loved.

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**Andrea Tremor** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ To the family of David Irby Sr.  
My heart goes out to you guys. I am very sorry to hear about your loss. I am sorry I could not be with you Mary during this time. You are in my prayers. David was a wonderful person and you are blessed. Remmeber to hold on to the word and stay in the word. Psalm 23. God will never leave or forsake you and he is with you even in your darkest hours. Dont give mary I love you and Jesus loves you. Take care and God bless you.  
Melanie

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**Melanie Shirley** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *Family!*

*Mom called today to tell me about David. I am so sadden by this news and my thoughts are with you all as I know how much he was loved by you. What I remember most was his great BIG BEAR HUG! I wish I could have one right now. I really hate it took this for me to contact you all. Life moves to fast for all of us. Please know you have been in my thoughts alot. I often think about Lori and how she is doing. I saw on my space she had a baby. But of course do not know how to get my own space to contact her. I often think about "little David" and how grown he must be. I remember like yesterday him being in the back seat of Lori's little car and reading to us. God, I love you and miss you all greatly. Please know even though I did not see David for many years I thought of him and still love him very much. I am rambling but when something like this happens there is just not words to express how you really feel. Love you all ALWAYS!*

*Melissa "Missy Hughes" Brod*

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**Melissa Brod** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ I know that all who knew Papa Irby, will have a special place in their heart that will constantly ache. To say he will be missed is such an understatement. Just I, alone am having difficulty with the day to day. I wonder why he has not called & then I remember that he is in heaven & improving on the accomodations there. I just know that when we get there, there is going to be a glorious hall in his honor. I am so blessed for the time I was able to spend with him. He taught me how to think, pray, study the word, love unconditionally, slow my anger, patience, & just how to be. I hope that someday I will be that person he saw in me. I am blessed to say that I am heartbroken because He is not here, I can not hear him, & he has not called, but I am comforted in I know he has not the time to think of me. I pray that he is not able to look down on us all mourning still for him. I hope that we all will soon learn how to pick back up our cross & continue on, not forgetting our purpose. Love, Tina Marie

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**Tina Marie** - November 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM