



## Edwin L. Lewis, Jr.

May 30, 1925 - February 12, 2021

Graveside funeral services for Edwin Lee Lewis, Jr. of Tyler, Texas will be held on Sunday, February 28, 2021, at 2 PM at Rose Hill Cemetery (southeast corner) in Tyler, TX with Rev. John Glenn officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Rev. Lewis passed away Friday, February 12, 2021 in Lindale from long term effects of the Covid-19 virus. He was born May 30, 1925 in Sulphur, Louisiana to Edwin Lee Lewis, Sr. and Lucy Belle Lyons Lewis.

Rev. Lewis grew up in south Louisiana and Texas during the oil and sulfur boom, and the Great Depression. He served in the US Navy from 1943 to 1946, and was stationed on Guam when World War II ended. He graduated from Howard Payne University in Brownwood, TX and also Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, TX. After graduating from the seminary, he began a lifelong journey of pastoring churches in Alba, Franklin, Flint, Big Sandy, County Line (Teaselville), and Golden. When he left us, Edwin was a member of Golden Baptist Church.

Edwin was preceded in death by his wife of 63 years, Lydia Anne Lewis. He is survived by his son, Phil Lewis and wife, Denita of Spring Branch, TX and son, Barry Lewis and wife, Melinda from Irving, TX. He is also survived by five grandchildren, Shane Lewis and wife, Kari, Barrett Lewis and wife, Kathryn, Bethany Merriman and husband, Ryan, Lane Lewis and wife, Brittany and Jace Lewis. Great-grandchildren include Avery Lewis, Cade Lewis, Judson Lewis, Asher Lewis and Silas Merriman. He is also survived by sister-in-law,

Connie Lewis of San Antonio; nephew, Randy Pennington of Mesquite; niece, Marilyn Gifford of Allen; and niece, Tammy Grubaugh of San Antonio. Also survived by 9 nieces and 5 nephews from Anne's family in Tennessee. Special thanks to nieces, Phyllis Luttrell, Becky Babb, and Patricia Branham, and nephew, Rickey Stockton for staying in close contact with Anne and Edwin for many years.

Also survived by his special friend, Minion Bean, her daughter, Sheila and husband, Charlie Padon of Lindale.

Special thanks to the many staff members at Wesley House in Lindale who worked tirelessly to care for him in so many ways.

The family invites you to leave a message or memory at <https://www.stewartfamilyfuneral.com/obituaries/Edwin-Lewis-8/>.

If desired, memorials may be made to the Golden Baptist Church, 543 Co Rd 2940, Alba, TX 75410.

# Previous Events

## Burial

FEB **28**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Rose Hill Cemetery  
Tyler, TX

# Tribute Wall



“ *Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Edwin L. Lewis, Jr.*



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**Stewart Family Funeral Home** - March 01, 2021 at 11:10 AM

MH

“ *Bro. Edwin Lewis was my friend. I worked for Smith Baptist Association and was with him many times. I must say, "there was only one Ed Lewis". He loved our Lord and loved and served well all the churches he pastored. He was also a good friend for our Director of Missions, Dr. Robert Jenkins. Dr. Jenkins and Flo and Ed and Anne played 42 and enjoyed fun times together. God bless his family.*

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**Mable Hill** - February 28, 2021 at 08:39 PM

BL

“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



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**Barry S Lewis** - February 27, 2021 at 05:33 PM

BL

“ Some time last year, as I was asking my dad some questions about his past and our family history, he told me I should think about asking whatever questions I wanted answered, because he was afraid his memory was getting worse. I thought that over for a while, and realized at his age, I should make a stronger effort to do just that. I borrowed a page from my cousin Rickey's notebook. Rickey did a series of video interviews of my Aunt Belle and Uncle Fred in their later years, and they were a great keepsake. I didn't do video, but last year I conducted a series of recorded interviews with my dad. I had him talk about his life and experiences, and I not only recorded, but took a lot of notes. I promised him that I would eventually write it up in a little biography. He was very happy that I was interested, and he seemed to really enjoy those sessions. We talked about his early childhood (as much as he could remember) and his teenage years working in and around the ever growing sulfur mining boom taking place in south Louisiana and Texas at that time. I cut the interviews off when we got through his years in the Navy, so that I would have time to write and polish the final document, and give it to him as a Christmas present. It was intended as a work in progress, but it still turned out to be a pretty good biography of the first 21 years of his life. When he opened it at Christmas, sitting on Minion's porch, even though he was wearing a mask, I could see his face beaming.

Without a word, he held it up for Minion to see what it was, and I was so glad I had committed the time to get it done. At that time, he was already having significant coughing spells, and I already feared he may have contracted COVID-19. Sure enough, the week after that visit, he tested positive, and the final chapter of his life began.

Now that he is gone, I am so glad that I have the recordings and the document to hold onto. I only wish I had started a lot sooner, and been a lot more diligent to complete his entire life. But I will listen to those recordings for many years, and remember his voice, and his life. Thanks to him, my brother and I never went hungry, never suffered neglect, and made it through college without owing anyone a dime. In my mind, that's all anyone could ask for. Thanks for

*everything Daddy, and we will never forget you.*

*If anyone is interested in reading the biography, I will be happy to email it to you. Just contact me at [barrylewis108@gmail.com](mailto:barrylewis108@gmail.com).*

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**Barry S Lewis** - February 23, 2021 at 07:16 PM

AC

“AAA MDBA. Alla, Tiffany, Jacky, Al, Chuck purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Edwin L. Lewis, Jr..



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**AAA MDBA. Alla, Tiffany, Jacky, Al, Chuck** - February 23, 2021 at 10:32 AM

BB

“ Edwin was my Uncle.

*Growing up on a farm in rural East Tennessee, summers usually brought a lot of hard work and not much excitement except the summers that Edwin and Annie(as we knew her) brought the boys and came for a visit. Those are cherished memories.*

*One memory stands out in my mind. I had just started my nursing career and Edwin and I found ourselves sitting on the front porch of the farmhouse where we grew up telling stories. We were both very competitive and were trying to one up the other in our stories. I'm not sure which one of us won. Fortunately, though the years he and I got to repeat that scene many times. Each one a little more entertaining than the last.*

*While growing up, I remember he made each of us feel special by expressing an interest in what was important to us at the time. Then as adults if any of us was facing a major illness or life crisis we felt his love and prayers. He was a wonderful man. Our Aunt did good when she said yes to his marriage proposal. He will never be forgotten.*

*Phil and Barry: You have our love and support at this difficult time.*

*Cousin, Becky Babb*

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**Becky Babb** - February 22, 2021 at 07:30 PM

PL

“ During my final phone call with my Dad, I asked him a question to which he replied NO. I never got another word from him and had to hang up. Later I thought how fitting it was that the last word I heard from him was NO since I heard that word so many times growing up. He was in reasonably good health in December for a 95 year old until Covid struck and he never recovered. He was a tough guy but couldn't beat this one. He died peacefully in his sleep and for that I am thankful.

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**Phil Lewis** - February 22, 2021 at 05:50 PM

VS

We considered Bro Lewis a dear friend of ours for many years. We played 88 dominoes with him, Anne, Gwen and Roy until the Campbells died. Then with another couple until Anne died. We celebrated Bro Lewis and Jerry's birthdays together since they were a week apart with Bro Lewis being exactly 10 years older. They were married exactly 10 years longer than us. We considered them our dearest friends. He will be missed but never forgotten.

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**Vivian and Jerry Sanders** - February 23, 2021 at 11:50 AM

BG

“ Ed Lewis was my pastor and friend. I will miss calling him and hearing him talk about his family. I'm going to miss the encouragement he gave. Bruce and I will treasure in our hearts every moment we shared together. His jokes will always bring a smile. I will always be grateful that God allow this man to be a part of our lives.

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**Bruce & Kathy Grabill** - February 22, 2021 at 04:39 PM

PB

“ Edwin was married to my mother's sister Anne. Several summers growing up Edwin, Anne (or Aunt Annie as we called her in Tennessee), Phil and Barry would come for a visit. How we all enjoyed those visits! One of my favorite memories of Edwin is listening to his stories. They were wonderful! I always thought he should write a book about all the funny things that happened to him both as a pastor and his adventures in the Smoky Mountains.

A few years ago when I was recovering from an illness I was so deeply touched that he would call and check on me. I loved him even more.

I loved how he could laugh at himself and share his joy of living.

Cousins Phil and Barry, and the rest of the family, know that our hearts are with you. We send much love and prayers.

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**Patricia Branham** - February 22, 2021 at 04:30 PM