



## Frank Perkins

May 20, 1934 - October 1, 2017

Frank Perkins 83, of Flint passed away at his home with his family on Sunday, October 1, 2017. Services will be held on Friday, October 6, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. at Stewart Family Funeral Home with Scott Fossey and Brady Shirley officiating. Burial will follow at Myrtle Springs Cemetery in Cherokee County Texas under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Franklin Roosevelt Perkins was born May 20, 1934 on the family farm in Ponta, TX to Onnimus Right Perkins and Berta Dotson Perkins the youngest of 11 children. He graduated from Rusk High School in Rusk and attended Harding College and Stephen F. Austin State University. Frank was preceded in death by his parents, Onnimus and Berta Perkins; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Vern and Connie Fountain; brothers, Augustus, Valentine, Tennyson, Edward, O. R., and Terry; sisters, Dorothy Burton and Diamond Sewell; sisters-in-law, Mary Perkins and Dorothy Perkins; and brothers-in law, Aulma Burton, Harvell Sewell and Dean Fountain.

He is survived by his loving family including wife, Melba Jean Fountain Perkins; children, Debbie Fontenot and husband Roy, David Perkins and Don Perkins and wife Jessie; brother, John Perkins and wife Teena; sister, Daisy Masch and husband Johnny; sisters-in-law, Alleene and Elna Perkins and brother-in-law, Bill Fountain and wife Judy; grandsons, Taylor Perkins and wife Kaitlyn, Brian Fontenot, Steven Fontenot, and Jason Fontenot; his "favorite"

granddaughter Jo Beth Perkins and newly arrived great-grandson Henry James Perkins.

For most of his adult life, Frank was a rancher and raised quarter horses. Frank did work in the advertising department of the Tyler Morning Telegraph until he made the decision in 1959 to raise horses full time. He determined he needed to sell a horse every day to provide for his growing family and business and by the end of the year he sold 386 horses. At Loop 323 and Hwy 64 he had a small western store in the barn, sold and trained horses, rented horses to ride on the weekends and taught many Tylerites to ride. Frank hosted the first American Quarter Horse Association registered horse show in Tyler and was a founder of the Tyler Saddle Club and East Texas Horse Show Association.

He started breeding registered quarter horses in 1962 and in 1980 began a breeding program of double bred Poco Bueno quarter horses that became known world-wide. Over the years, Frank would promote his horses by holding over 50 production sales at the ranch. His horse breeding program produced multiple world champions, event and circuit champions, and money earners of over a million dollars. Frank was recently honored by the AQHA with the Legacy Breeders Award in recognition of 50 consecutive years of breeding American Quarter Horses.

Visitation is scheduled from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 5, 2017 at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway, in Tyler.

Pallbearers will be his grandsons, Taylor, Brian, Steven and Jason and family friends Clayton Parmley and Brandt Murray.

Honorary pallbearers will be Johnny Frank Harrison, Basil Bennett, Richard Davis, George Cooper, Dustin Jones, Ken Dietz, and David Cannon.

Frank's family wishes to thank the special friends and extended family members that assisted them in his care and their many prayers; as well as, the wonderful assistance of The Hospice of East Texas.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made to FitSTEPS For Life ([cancerfoundationforlife.org](http://cancerfoundationforlife.org)), The Hospice of East Texas ([hospiceofeasttexas.org](http://hospiceofeasttexas.org)), and Parkinson's Disease Foundation ([pdf.org](http://pdf.org)).

# Cemetery Details

## Myrtle Springs

900 Country Road 4501  
Jacksonville, TX

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 5. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

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

## Service

OCT 6. 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 Frank Perkins*



-----  
**Stewart Family Funeral Home** - October 06, 2017 at 12:00 PM

PH

“ *I met Frank at Fit Steps in Tyler about two years ago. He would come into the facility by his sons and a dear friend for rehab. He was forever wearing His cowboy hat, that smile and was truly a cowboy and horseman. Wish I had been given the privilege of knowing him prior to his illness. My prayers go with the Perkins family and all his many friends. God Bless.*

-----  
**Patricia Harelson** - October 05, 2017 at 06:18 PM

KM

“ *Kimberly Perkins-Burton, Meador purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Frank Perkins.*



-----  
**Kimberly Perkins-Burton, Meador** - October 05, 2017 at 03:01 PM

TG

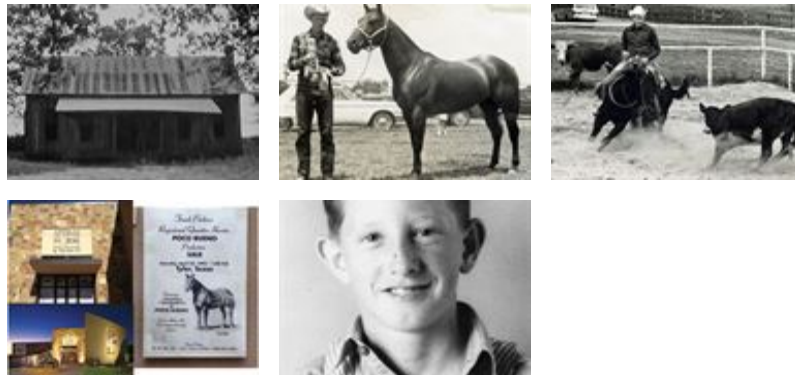
“ A great horseman and an even greater man. Our entire family is saddened by the passing of Mr. Frank and will continue to keep the Perkins family in our prayers. Mr. Frank and the entire Perkins family will always hold a special place in our hearts.

Love  
The Gulotta Family

Troy Gulotta - October 05, 2017 at 01:08 PM



“ 91 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - October 05, 2017 at 11:58 AM



“ Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Frank Perkins.



October 05, 2017 at 10:38 AM

WR

“ *Waite Ranch purchased the Simply Elegant Spat hiphillum for the family of Frank Perkins.*



---

**Waite Ranch** - October 04, 2017 at 08:02 PM

PD

“ *Recalling my visit with your whole family and Elna and Alleene along; my tiny dog rolling down the hill in his carrier to "see the horses"~was not funny to Frank~the Fountain and Perkins families so special in my memories~Love you Melba~so sorry for your loss of Frank. God be with you and your wonderful family. Paula McCrary Dickerson, Fairfax, Va. and Walker's Chapel, Texas*

---

**Paula McCrary Dickerson** - October 04, 2017 at 12:53 PM

 Debby Farr

“ *A real blessing to call Frank Perkins a friend. Every memory of him is special and treasured. You will forever be in our hearts. Thanks for sharing your knowledge, your wit and humor. Until we meet again...James and Debby Farr*

---

**Debby Farr** - October 04, 2017 at 10:28 AM



“ *Truly Beloved Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frank Perkins.*



---

October 03, 2017 at 02:03 PM



“ Tom & Linda Tatum purchased the Care and Compassion Spray for the family of Frank Perkins.



---

**Tom & Linda Tatum** - October 03, 2017 at 01:38 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frank Perkins.



---

October 03, 2017 at 01:05 PM