



## George "Truman" Draper

September 13, 1936 - February 11, 2016

A celebration of the life of Truman Draper will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at Stewart Family Funeral Home Chapel at 2:00 p.m., with Reverend Gerry Giles officiating. Truman passed away on February 11, 2016 following a lengthy battle with cancer. He was born on September 13, 1936 in Oskaloosa, Iowa to Thelma and George Draper. After graduating from Oskaloosa High School, he attended Iowa State University. While at Iowa State he was selected to serve as Veishea co-chairman, a very special honor at the school. At the event, Truman personally hosted and accompanied Ronald Reagan who was the guest speaker. Truman received Iowa State's highest honor in his field, the Greenlee School of Communications and Journalism's Cardinal Key Award, and he was named to Sigma Delta Chi national journalism honorary. After graduation he served in the U.S. Army as a First Lieutenant for two years and then continued in the reserves. Truman had 46 years experience in sales and marketing with General Electric, Trane and American Standard. He earned Trane Company's Presidents Cup, the business' highest award. Truman will always be remembered for creating the very catchy slogan "It's hard to stop a Trane!". Even after his death when someone hears that slogan they will think about Truman. He had a positive impact and influence on many friends and co-workers always encouraging them "to be true to yourself, strive for excellence in all that you do and have fun along the way!"

After retirement Truman volunteered with Score where he counseled many

small businesses to achieve success. He was past President of Hollytree Homeowners Organization and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to support and care for his neighbors. If anyone needed something he was always there to help.

He is survived by his very special wife of 43 years, Karleen Draper, sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Judy and Norb Ryan of Fairfax Station, VA, his nephew, Norby Ryan of Oxnard, CA and his niece, Christine and husband David Bryson of Chantilly, VA, but most of all his very special great niece, Madison, who he loved so much.

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes memorials to be made to The Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, TX 75701 and The Humane Society's Pets Fur People, 1823 County Road 386, Tyler, TX 75708

# Previous Events

## Mem. Service

FEB 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

CH

“ In December, 1961, Truman Draper and Alan Post of General Electric Company came to El Paso, TX to put on scientific shows or demonstrations with a lot of humor to make it fun and memorable for most of the high schools in our region. I was with El Paso Electric and accompanied them. We had a bushel of fun. One weekend we went to Hueco Tanks for a picnic and horseback riding. Alan got a horse named "Lighting" who was actually very slow. One evening we went to La Fiesta in Juarez, MX and saw The Kingston Trio. Great memories! Truman was a wonderful man and very quick-witted and bright. I am so very sad to learn about his death. I cherish my memories of him. I send deep sympathy to his wife and family. Charles Hooten, El Paso, TX.

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**Charles Hooten** - August 05, 2018 at 07:53 PM

JG

“ Truman was a very special person that I felt honored to have known. His skills and personal attributes attracted me almost instantly upon meeting him for the first time back in 2001. I soon learned that there was so much more to the man than even my most favorable first impressions. He was a great mentor and coach. We will all miss him sincerely. To his family I am sorry for your loss.

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**Jay Gordon** - February 18, 2016 at 05:35 PM

AC

“ Karleen and family, we are so very sorry for your loss. Our family will keep yours close in prayer. -The Coleman/Consulo Families

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**Andra (Coleman) Consulo** - February 17, 2016 at 11:52 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy, Karleen. Truman was a wonderful, warm individual that I so enjoyed knowing. Prayers for you and your family!*

*Sharon Kay Howell  
Travel Masters*

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**Sharon Howell** - February 17, 2016 at 10:38 AM

DB

“ *Very sorry to here about Mr.Draper*

*Dwayne Bond*



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**Dwayne Bond** - February 16, 2016 at 06:48 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of George "Truman" Draper.*



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February 16, 2016 at 03:39 PM

JG

“ *Truman was truly a great friend to John and me. Karleen you are In our thoughts and prayers. God bless you in this very sorrowful time in your life.*

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**Janet George** - February 16, 2016 at 09:09 AM

BR

“ Working In Trane Distribution for 17 years I had many interactions with Truman. Any time he spoke in front of a group you knew he was going to be listened to. He commanded respect and attention to his words. A great man who has left us with wonderful memories.

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**Brian Redman** - February 15, 2016 at 06:12 PM

LA

“ I met him when I was in the STEP program. He was one of the most interesting speakers. He always kept your attention and was also very funny. He will be missed.

*Lane Riley*

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**lane** - February 15, 2016 at 09:32 AM

SB

“ A very special man. He was a mentor and teacher all the years I worked with him. So many memories. My love and prayers go to his family. Sharon Brogdon.

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**Sharon Brogdon** - February 15, 2016 at 07:40 AM

GM

“ To my friend Truman,

*Truman was a man you felt comfortable asking for advice and knowing he would be totally honest with you. He was a man of honor and earned the respect of his peers as well as those he came in contact. You had to earn his trust, but once earned, he honored that trust.*

*Truman was a leader in all aspects of his life. From his days on the Iowa State University campus to his amazingly successful career at General Electric, Trane and American Standard. He always stood out.*

*In a conversation several years ago, Truman and I learned that we shared a common connection. We were both members of the same social fraternity during our years in college, although at different schools and many decades removed from each other. We shared stories about being a pledge and what it means to be a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.*

*You will be missed!  
God Bless.*

*Phi Phi KA,  
Gary Miller*

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**Gary Miller** - February 14, 2016 at 01:25 PM

CC

“ *Dearest Truman:*

*You talked the talk AND walked the walk. You were a dear and cherished friend. Your wit and encouragement provided inspiration and motivation at some difficult points in my life over the last ten years. You will be missed and mourned by many!*

*God Speed to you and God Bless your wonderful family!*

*Your friend and admirer,*

*Chuck Cowan*

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**Chuck Cowan** - February 11, 2016 at 04:56 PM