



Johnnie Maurice Stewart

June 29, 1932 - December 4, 2012

Services for Johnnie M. Stewart, 80, of Tyler, will be held on Friday, December 7, 2012 at 10:00 AM at Green Acres Baptist Church Chapel with Dr. Darryle Dunks officiating.

A private burial will be held at Rose Hill Cemetery under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Johnnie went home to be with his Lord and Savior, Tuesday, December 4th, surrounded by his loving family.

Johnnie was born June 29, 1932 in Tyler to John Alexander and Ada Augusta Biggs Stewart.

He was a graduate of Tyler High School class of 1949 serving as co-chairman for his class reunions. He married the love of his life and his high school sweetheart, Martha L. Foshee in 1954.

Johnnie attended Tyler Junior College and Landig College of Mortuary Science in Houston in 1952 starting his life long career in the funeral business. He received his license as a funeral director in 1954. Johnnie retired in 2001 after 52 years as co-owner of Lloyd James Funeral Home. He helped direct and assist many families during his life long career as a funeral director including heads of state and dignitaries.

However, retirement did not suit Johnnie. His compassion for people and a desire to help those in need, led him back into the funeral business. Johnnie was a Christian gentleman and a man of great integrity. No one was better suited or more talented at his profession than Johnnie. He truly loved people

and considered the funeral business a ministry. "We're in a great position to help others, if we do our jobs well." he once said.

In October 2004, Johnnie with his son Chris Stewart opened Stewart Family Funeral Home. They had a vision of being able to give up close and personal service of a family owned business. In 2006, Johnnie received his 50 year recognition as a funeral director from Texas Funeral Directors Association. In 2010, he received the East Texas Funeral Director of the Year Award. When asked in an interview, "What's been the best advice you've been given?" Johnnie replied, "A scripture: Matthew 6:33, 'Seek ye first the kingdom of God and all his righteousness and all these things will be added to you.'

Johnnie was a member of Green Acres Baptist Church, the Rotary Club of Tyler, and Hollytree Country Club. He served as past president of the Tyler Parks Board as well as a distinguished past president of the Optimist Club of Tyler.

Johnnie was preceded in death by his parents, and his brother, George W. Stewart.

He is survived by his loving family, including his wife of 58 years, Martha Foshee Stewart of Tyler; sons, Johnny L. Stewart and wife Janie of Tyler, Chris A. Stewart and wife Carole of Flint; daughters, Lynette Maynard and husband Neal, Lori Morrison and husband Russ all of Tyler; sisters, Ellen Johnston, Patsy Walker and husband Don, all of Tyler; grandchildren, Brittany Morrison, Brandon Stewart Morrison, Hanna Maynard, Samantha Stewart and Peyton Stewart. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews and many beloved friends.

Pallbearers will be the Funeral Directors of Stewart Family Funeral Home. Honorary pallbearers will be Earl Moore, Herb Rawlings, Bill Aven, Louis Jones, Bill Shattuck, Neal Franklin, Leonard Rozell and the Rotary Club of Tyler.

Visitation is scheduled from 5:00 –7:00 PM on Thursday, December 6, 2012, at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway in Tyler. The family wishes to express their sincere appreciation to the entire staff of

Meadow Lake Rehabilitation Center.

Memorials in honor of Johnnie M. Stewart may be made to Green Acres Baptist Church, 1607 Troup Hwy, Tyler, 75701 or Marvin United Methodist Church, 300 West Erwin St., Tyler, 75702.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 6. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

MA

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



maw - March 04, 2013 at 01:26 PM

BW

“ *Martha,
I have just learned of Johnnie's passing. Deepest sympathy to you and your family. I grew up with Johnnie in Tyler... as a member of the church (I think at the time it was Fundamentaist Baptist Church. He was always a joy to be around... and he always kept everyone upto date on all. He also made sure all were included in any activity that was coming up. His personality was always positive and entertaining.... He just seemed to love life..... and when you came into the picture, his life was joyous. Thinking of you. Betty Elliott Wilson*

Betty Elliott Wilson - January 19, 2013 at 08:54 PM

WI

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the Stewart Family, from the Garmon Funeral Home Family & Staff*

William F. Garmon, III - December 17, 2012 at 09:44 AM

DR

“ Johnny,
So sorry to hear about the loss of your father. My heart goes out to you. I worked with you at Memorial Funeral Home and Cemetery several years ago. I am a funeral director in Wichita Falls now.
Debora Rowan

Debora Rowan - December 07, 2012 at 03:22 PM

KS

“ Chris and Stewart Family - Johnnie was a good friend and a true ambassador of the funeral profession. I feel blessed to have known him. I pray that your family will have God's peace.

Blessings, Kris Seale

Kris Seale - December 07, 2012 at 10:50 AM

AL

“ May God's peace and comfort envelope you all at this time.

Andy Lynn - December 07, 2012 at 06:48 AM

CC

“ Dear Chris and all other Stewart Family Members:

Johnnie Stewart was a great friend to our family for many, many years. His pleasant and caring nature was always present when ever you saw him.

I loved hearing the stories he would tell about growing up with my father. I always enjoyed being in his company, no matter what the occasion. He will be sorely missed and never forgotten.

With deepest sympathy and concerns for you all,

C. D. "Chuck" Cowan

C. D. "Chuck" Cowan - December 06, 2012 at 06:12 PM

AB

“ Dear Stewart Family,

Just a word to let you know that I am thinking of you during the loss of Johnnie. He was one of the finest men I have ever known and will be missed greatly. I remember our baseball days that we all spent together. Johnnie was just great with leading the ball team in the sport and spiritually. My prayers are with each of you.

Ann Hinds Bratcher

Ann Hinds Bratcher - December 06, 2012 at 05:59 PM

DH

“ One of the Greatest Men I have had the pleasure of knowing. Johnnie was always a blast to be around whether Coaching on the Softball Diamond, watching Baseball, Worshiping at Church or helping in times of loss of our family and friends. I can't wait to see him again...I would be blessed to play on his team in Heaven!!

Dwayne Hinds

Dwayne Hinds - December 06, 2012 at 04:26 PM

EP

“ Dear Johnny,
My sincere condolences in the "homegoing" of your father. Brother Johnnie was an absolute wonderful man!
I have pastored in the East Texas area for 49 years and have conducted many funerals under his expert direction. In fact, if I remember correctly, in 1964 or early 1965, I was pastor at Martin Springs, south of Chandler, and had a service when Lloyd James was on Highway 31. It was my first and Bro. Johnny was so kind and gave good advice.

He was a true gentleman at the top of his field.

Respectfully,

Earl W. Duggins

Pastor, Forest Home Baptist Church

Kilgore, TX

Earl W. Duggins, Pastor - December 06, 2012 at 10:14 AM

JY

“ Thank you for the honor of being a part of Mr. Stewart's life for most, if not all, of my life. What a caring Christian man who touched many lives.

Jane Ann Young-Maloney - December 05, 2012 at 09:25 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Johnnie Maurice Stewart.*



December 05, 2012 at 08:13 PM



“ *A Full Life was purchased for the family of Johnnie Maurice Stewart.*



December 05, 2012 at 08:01 PM



“ *Stewart Family, My heart is sad to hear of the loss of Mr. Stewart. He will be missed but we will see him again someday. I am so glad and fortunate to have known him for more than 40 years. He was such a treasure and I am richer for knowing him. With Love and Prayers, Karyl Arrington, Dallas, TX*

Karyl Arrington - December 05, 2012 at 03:50 PM

TL

“ I wanted to share with Johnnie's family that I share in their grief. I feel as if I am part of their extended family. I have been so fortunate to know Johnnie and his wonderful family, wife Martha, son's Johnny and Chris, daughters Lynette and Lori as a result. I have always loved and admired Johnnie and his entire family and I am truly feeling the loss of Johnnie with you.

Johnnie has always been a man with a kind heart, encouraging words and sure faith. I have many fond memories and thoughts of Johnnie I wish I could share but words can't express all that is in my heart. I count myself as blessed to have had Johnnie as my friend.

My thoughts and prayers are with you each of you.

With much love,

*Tim (Gina & Troy) Lowndes
Tyler, TX*

Timothy Lowndes - December 05, 2012 at 03:46 PM

SC

“ Shirley j C. purchased the Let It Snow for the family of Johnnie Maurice Stewart.



Shirley j C. - December 05, 2012 at 02:33 PM

SC

“ Dearest Martha and family
I am so sorry for your loss and our community. Johnnie was a man of integrity and a friend. Always had a word of encouragement. You are in my prayers, Shirley Crook

Shirley J. Crook - December 05, 2012 at 02:14 PM



“ Quiet Expressions was purchased for the family of Johnnie Maurice Stewart.



December 05, 2012 at 01:50 PM

JJ

“ Johnnie will be missed by many. He was always glad to see you . A man of great faith and character. Our paths crossed often and it was a pleasure to see him each time. May God comfort his family during the celebration of his life. Jeff and Mary Ann Jones

Jeff D. Jones - December 05, 2012 at 01:42 PM

RW

“ When I think of Johnnie, I think of a man of faith, honor, humor and integrity. He stole the hearts of many by the chuckle in his laugh! He was a very dear friend and will be greatly missed. Condolences to the family! Renee Woodard

renee woodard - December 05, 2012 at 11:44 AM

SB

“ *Family,
There are too many memories and not enough words to express how I felt about Johnnie. A state winning coach, a friend and someone to get advice from; he was a good man and will be greatly missed.
Love, Steve Brooks*

Steve Brooks - December 05, 2012 at 10:35 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Johnnie Maurice Stewart.*



December 05, 2012 at 10:26 AM

SW

“ *Sorry to hear of your loss. My dad and Johnnie were good friends.
Stanley Waghalter*

Stanley Waghalter - December 05, 2012 at 09:50 AM

RR

“ *I always enjoyed my visits with your Dad. My prayers go out to you and the family. Royce Rampy*

Royce Rampy - December 05, 2012 at 08:43 AM

DS

“ David and Karol Smith purchased the Holiday Homecoming Basket for the family of Johnnie Maurice Stewart.



David and Karol Smith - December 05, 2012 at 08:15 AM

DS

“ Chris and Carole Stewart
We are so sorry for your loss and your family is our prayers. We pray for peace in the upcoming holiday season. Love, David and Karol Smith

David and Karol Smith - December 05, 2012 at 08:11 AM

CB

“ Martha and family,
I can't remember not knowing you and Johnnie. Elynor just asked if you ever dated anyone other than Johnnie and I can't remember if you did.
He was a "rock" and will be greatly missed.
We love all of you and please know that you are in our prayers.
Elynor and Charles Bowker

Charles Bowker - December 05, 2012 at 05:49 AM



“ Martha and your lovely family,
Having grown up with Johnnie as just two young boys, we have known each other for nearly 75 years. Phyllis and I have so many fond memories of Johnnie from his days in Mortuary School in Houston, up through his involvement in the funeral business here in Tyler. When he and Chris decided to open up the Stewart Family Funeral Home, it was his contacts and energy that made it possible. When Johnnie married you, I must say, he married "over his head." You, your two boys and two girls, have been an inspiration to everyone who came in contact with you. Each one of them has been a success in their on way. What a joy to know and to be able to have fellowship with all of you.
Johnnie was a good man, devoted to his family, church and community. Tyler will certainly not be the same without Johnnie. Phyllis and I will not be able to attend the memorial service, since we will be out of town, but please know our thoughts and prayers will be with you and your family.
Sincerely in Christ,
Bill (Bookie) and Phyllis Aven

Bill Aven - December 04, 2012 at 09:02 PM

JC

“ Chris,

I am so saddened to hear this. I loved your father, he was definately someone that I looked up to. As the bible said "Noah was a GOOD man and walked with God". Well, I can say the same about Johnnie, "He was a good man and he walked with God in his life, a great example for all see. I will miss him greatly.



John H. Carter

John H. Carter - December 04, 2012 at 02:16 PM

SM

*Martha and Family,
My condolences to you and your family. My memories of you and
Johnny were back when you attended Central Baptist Church. He was
wonderful and caring person.....*

Sharon Aven Moncrief

Sharon Aven Moncrief - December 05, 2012 at 06:28 AM