



Kenneth Lewis

May 21, 1934 - March 26, 2011

A memorial service for Kenneth D. Lewis, 76, of Tyler will be Tuesday, March 29, 2011 at 2:00 PM at Stewart Family Funeral Home in Tyler with Rev. Gerry Giles officiating. Mr. Lewis passed away March 26, 2011 in Tyler. He was born on May 21, 1934 in Tyler to the late E. A. and Lucille Lewis. He was a 1951 graduate of Tyler High School and a 1955 graduate of Texas A & M. Mr. Lewis served his country in the U.S. Army. He married Patsy Thompson, on December 22, 1956. He was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church, where he served on the Board, enjoyed singing in the choir and volunteered for the St. Paul Children's Foundation. Mr. Lewis retired as the Dean of Admissions of Tyler Junior College, where he was a past sponsor of the TJC Rodeo Club. His contributions to the Tyler community included Past President of the East Texas Farm & Ranch Club, Past President of the East Texas State Fair, Member of the Executive Committee of the East Texas State Fair, Chairman of the Junior Livestock Show at the East Texas State Fair. He was a Lifetime Member of Beefmaster Breeders United and a member of the Northeast Texas Beefmaster Breeders Association. He was a recipient of the Helping Hand Award from the Junior Beefmaster Breeders Association. Mr. Lewis was preceded in death by his parents, E.A. (Son) and Lucille Lewis; brother, James E. Lewis; and sons, Lee and Jeff Lewis. He is survived by a loving family including his wife, Patsy Lewis; son, Larry D. Lewis and Wife, Rhonda; grandchildren, Luke and Abby Lewis, sister and brother-in-law, Emogene and Billy Tompkins, brother-in-law, Jerry Thompson and wife, Oleta;

sister-in-law, Peggy Suggs and husband, John; and nieces and nephews, Tonya Tompkins, Ty Tompkins, Lynn Young, and James Lewis. Pallbearers will be Frank Payne, James Turman, Walt Kowalik, Hubert Kidd, Jackie Slover, Johnny Oden, Hayden Moore, and Charlie Rand. Honorary pallbearers will be Larry Reed, Wayne Casterline, Jimmy Bain, former TJC students and former TJC Rodeo Club members. Visitation will be Monday, March 28 from 6:00-8:00 PM at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway, in Tyler. In lieu of flowers, memorials in memory of Kenneth D. Lewis may be made to St. Paul Children's Foundation, P.O. Box 1238, Tyler, Texas 75710; St. Paul United Methodist Church, 215 S. Clayton, Tyler, Texas 75702; or the Kenneth D. Lewis Dean's Scholarship, Tyler Junior College Foundation, P.O. Box 9020, Tyler, Texas 75711-9020.

Tribute Wall

JW

“ *Patsy, Larry and Family,*

My prayers are with you in this difficult time. Why my heart is heavy, I know Mr. Lewis is in his Father's home, reunited with loved ones and watching over us all, now. My love and appreciation for all he did for me is unwaivering.

*God Bless,
Julie, Bryan and Maddie Whitt*

Julie Whitt - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ *Dear Patsy, Larry and Family, My heart and my prayer are with you all at this time, Mr. Lewis made an enormous difference in my life, his care for others was incredible, he always be remember for the great man he was. God bless you all,*

Daisy

Daisy LaRue - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *Lewis Family,*

I was saddened to hear of the passing of Kenneth. There are no words that can be said that will ease the hurt in your hearts at this time. Just know that he was loved by many. My thoughts and prayers are with your family during this sad time in your lives.

Bridget Landrum McNeill - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ We both worked and taught with Kenneth for over 30 years at TJC and served with him in his commitment to young people, especially youth in agriculture. Stories of his kindness and generosity are legendary. I can tell you from first hand observations that most of them are true. I have seen him, at registration, take a student who could not enroll in college for lack of financial support and pay his/her tuition. He would keep up with them and told me once that most paid him back, although he never asked for it. He hired several of my agriculture students to work on his farm so they could earn money to stay in school when I know he had to make up things for them to do. He was one of a kind. Thousands of people have better lives because of Kenneth Lewis and his service to humanity, despite his personal tragedies. The world is a much better place because Kenneth was in it.

Larry and Judi Pilgrim - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Our prayers are with you Patsy, Larry, Imogene, and families at this time of deep sorrow.

I know you will miss Kenneth deeply, but we are all assured that he is now in a much better and more beautiful place of no pain or sorrow with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and with family who has passed before him and you will all be reunited with him someday.

A donation has been made to St. Paul's United Methodist Childrens Foundation in memory of Kenneth.

He was always a joy to visit with at the family gatherings that I was able to attend and he will be missed.

Take care and God be with you.

Rock

Rock, Staci,& Sims Wilkinson - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Our Prayers are with your family.

Robert & Janice Suson - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ Our love and prayers are with you. We have so many wonderful memories of the Lewis family. WOW! Such an awesome family! My love,
Cindy

Cindy Connally Grimes - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Just a quick note to tell the family how sorry that I am for your loss. Mr Lewis, as most of us in TACRAO called him was a great mentor even to people from "rival" colleges. I worked at 3 different colleges & one of them being TVCC & we were still friends. It was a pleasure to get to know several of the family members when Abby & Luke came to college at Sam Houston State. He will be missed, God bless you all. Joey Chandler

Joey B. Chandler - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EL

“ Kenneth Lewis was a kind and gentle, humble man who was very much loved and is loved up above now. Love, Ed and Lisa, Andy and Mandy.

Ed & Lisa Lewis - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ While working at TJC, I found he was an easy person to talk to and it was like he never met a stranger. He was friendly toward everyone. He really seemed to enjoy his work.

Kathey (Phillips) Burns - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ Patsy,

Our prayers are with you and your family. Mr. Lewis was one of my favorite people! He gave his all to the projects he held dear--family, church, Texas A&M, cattle, livestock shows, and Tyler Junior College. What a legacy he leaves!

May the Lord make His face shine upon you and give you peace.

In Him,

Pat King

Pat King - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ *KEN WAS A REMARKABLE PERSON. FOR STUDENTS HE WAS ALWAYS THE ONE YOU COULD GO TO IF YOU HAD A PROBLEM WITH THE FACULTY OR ADMINISTRATION. ACTUALLY HE HELPED ME WITH A DIFFICULT TIME I HAD AS A STUDENT WITH AN INSTRUCTOR. THIS WAS PROBABLY ONE OF THOSE TURNING POINTS IN MY SCHOOLING WHICH COULD HAVE CAUSED ME TO DROP OUT. WE WORKED THROUGH THE PROBLEM AND I FINISHED AT TJC AND WENT ON TO TEXAS A&M AND SFA FOR MY BACHELORS. I CAME BACK TO INSTRUCT AT TJC FORM 1975-1978 AND WORKED ON MY GRADUATE PROGRAM. I WOULD SEE KEN ON CAMPUS AND HE WAS ALWAYS ONE OF THOSE POSIITVE AND CHEERFUL PERSON IT WAS ALWAYS NICE TO SEE. MY SINCERE CONDOLEMNCES.*

TONY COWAN - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family in the loss. Many students were able to complete their college work because he cared. He was student oriented and respected by many students and staff.

Jim and Betty Plyler - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ There will never be another Kenneth Lewis. He was "Mr. TJC" for so many years. Mr. Lewis lived what he believed and his sincerity was an example to those of us whose lives he touched. He is already missed.

Angela Clemons - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ Mr. Lewis,
We were honored to all know you and be able to work with you, around the state. You loved students and the profession of Higher Education, and for your guidance and devotion, I thank you. You will be greatly missed and always remembered and respected. My prayers are with your wife and family.
Berri O'Neal

Berri O'Neal - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Patsy and Family,
We are so sorry to hear about your loss of Kenneth. It is also a great loss to the TJC family as well as the Tyler community. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
May God bless you and your family.

Bill and Debbie Crowe - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ *Patsy, Larry and Family*

*My thoughts and prayers are with you in this difficult time.
Words cannot express the impact Mr Lewis had in my life. He was a
kind man, a great leader and mentor. He will be missed by many.
God Bless you,
Pat*

Pat Sanchez-Cottrill - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GD

“ *To a great person and teacher that was well respected by all. As a
former student and Rodeo assc. member he will always be in our
thoughts.*

Glen and Linda Davis - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ *The Lewis Family,*

*I was so saddened to hear of Mr. Kenneth's passing. He was a
great man and a great help to me with my education. I met Mr.
Kenneth while attending TJC. In 1992, I left Texas A&M and
returned to TJC. Mr. Kenneth did not quite agree with my decision to
leave Texas A&M, and he shared his opinion with me. With his help,
I returned and finished my degree in December 1997. I would not
have been able to complete my degree if it were not for Mr. Kenneth
Lewis. May God bless you and your family. Steven Breeden - 1997
Gig' em*

Steven Breeden - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ Not many people can be remembered with only beautiful and inspirational memories. Mr Lewis believed in me and now thanks to him and God, I'm enjoying such a wonderful opportunity at Tyler Junior College... a place he loved dearly. He had passion for his students and always cared that everyone who wanted to could go to college. At age 60+ he was still out handing yellow roses at college fairs... he stood tall and big, but with the BIGGEST smile and voice he would recruit folks to his table... He has changed my life forever and I cannot thank him enough for allowing me to be a part of his too! He told me the best position to hold at TJC was that of an instructor, and I hope to soon hold that position, too. He was at my wedding and at every important event in my life. I'll miss that voice, that smile and that amazingly HUGE heart! I'm just happy I got to me surround with so much love from him and his beautiful wife, Patsy. I'll miss seeing at lunch at Don Juan's but I'll be waiting to see him in Heaven. Coz I know he's there waiting on all of us to join him! God bless, Nidia & Shani Arellano Hassan & Family, TJC Apaches!

Nidia Arellano Hassan - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Kenneth was one of the good guys. I shall miss him at St. Paul's. My heartfelt condolences to Patsy, Larry, and the grandkids. This loss is felt deeply by much of our community.

March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ Patsy,

Joyce and I only learned yesterday of your loss. Kenneth was a very special man and will be missed. I plan on telling Mother this weekend. She will be crushed as he was like a son to her.

I am sure that Kenneth and Dad are rounding up some cattle in heaven or at least telling some tall tales.

Love,

Judy

Judy Venable-Grogan - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM