



Merlin Ray Long

September 25, 1936 - May 26, 2016

Merlin Ray Long of Tyler, Texas passed peacefully from this world to his heavenly reward on Thursday, May 26, 2016. He was surrounded by his loving wife of 60 years, Capie; daughters, Cynthia Overbeck, husband Ron of Effingham, IL. Carrie Rutherford, husband Rev. Craig of Roanoke, VA. and Connie Long of Santa Fe, NM; grandchildren, Stephanie and husband Scott Kaufmann of Effingham, IL, Kaci Overbeck of Ramsey, IL. and Conner Rutherford of Roanoke, VA.

Mr. Long is preceded in death by his father, Eluid Long, mother, Aletha Long, sister-in-law and brother-in-law Jo and Paul Arthur.

Merlin grew up in the oil fields of Seminole, Oklahoma. He attended Oklahoma State University, receiving a certificate for Mathematics for Engineering by Correspondence and he began his career with Mid-Continent Supply Co. in Casper, WY. He worked with Humble Oil which later became Exxon-Mobil as an engineer technician/production. He worked in many locations for Exxon including: St. Elmo IL, Henderson KY, Evansville IN, Effingham IL, Oklahoma City, OK, and Tyler TX. He retired from Exxon with many years of service. He was a member of the Exxon-Mobil Annuitant Club and served as president. After his retirement from Exxon, he worked for Nu Tech Inc. in Tyler. He delivered for Meals on Wheels. Merlin loved to travel to see his three daughters and their families; he loved fishing, camping, bird

watching, music, bridge and he was an avid fan of the Dallas Cowboys.

Merlin was a lifetime Christian accepting Jesus as his Lord and Savior at an early age. He was a faithful member and Elder of the First Christian Church Tyler, Texas. Along with his wife, he served as “Evangelism Chair”, “Chairman of the Board”, and many other areas of the church calling on many of the sick and those in the hospital.

Services for Merlin will be held this Saturday, May 28, 2016 at First Christian Church in Tyler beginning at 2:00 PM. Rev. Chris Pulliam will officiate. A visitation will be held prior to the service, beginning at 1:00 PM, with a reception following the service under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

A Graveside service will be held on Tuesday, May 31, 2016 beginning at 11:00 AM at Union Cemetery, Altamont, IL., with Rev. Craig Rutherford officiating.

Memorials in lieu of flowers can be sent to either First Christian Church Tyler, 4202 S. Broadway, Tyler, 75701 or The Hospice of East Texas Foundation, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, 75701.

The Family would like to express our thanks to all of the doctors, nurses, and staff that helped Merlin along the way.

Cemetery Details

Union Cemetery

Altamont,, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 28. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First Christian Church
4202 S. Broadway
Tyler, TX

Service

MAY 28. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Christian Church
4202 S. Broadway
Tyler, TX

Reception following service

MAY 28. 3:00 PM (CT)

First Christian Church
4202 S. Broadway
Tyler, TX

Graveside Serv.

MAY 31. 11:00 AM (CT)

Union Cemetery
Altamont,, IL

Tribute Wall

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“ Good morning Capie... Please accept my sincere condolences for your loss of Merlin. I learned of Merlin's passing late last night while on Facebook and in reading one of your Granddaughter's captions on a picture, Merlin (Grandpa) was mentioned in the past tense. I then went online to the local newspapers there and found Merlin's obituary.

I am so sorry Capie. I plan to be up in the Tyler area next week (my Daughter Charlotte is having surgery on her right elbow at a clinic in Tyler) and I had hoped you, Merlin & I could get together for lunch and/or a visit to catch up. I had no idea Merlin was sick.

I can recall a fawn memory when my wife Susie and I were visiting Tyler on Mother's Day (2002) and the Spain's, you and Merlin as well as several others went to the DQ after church worship services for lunch. Finding a restaurant on Mother's day in Tyler is a challenge; especially if one is from out of town, which was our status at that time.

You and Merlin attended the funeral services of my wife, Susie, after she passed and for the funeral services for my Great Granddaughter. Later you also attended my marriage to my wife Michelle in December 2007. For all your support and friendship I am so grateful.

You and all the family are in my prayers, Capie.

Your Brother in Christ and Friend always,

Stan Hill from San Antonio, TX

Stanley Hill - June 02, 2016 at 10:52 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Merlin Ray Long.



May 27, 2016 at 08:31 PM