



Paul Tidwell

October 9, 1933 - December 14, 2023

Jabe Paul Tidwell, 90, of Mineola, TX, passed away peacefully in his sleep on December 14th, 2023.

Paul was born on October 9th, 1933, in Longview, Texas to Jabe and Dessa Mae Tidwell. He graduated from Duncan High School and then went on to study geology at the University of Oklahoma. He married Sandra Clark 67 years ago on April 1, 1956.

Paul grew up in East Texas and southern Oklahoma as his father Jabe was transferred from one small oil field town to another. He enjoyed the piney woods of East Texas and all the outdoor activities available to him of which fishing was his favorite. He played football at Duncan High School where he humorously described himself as “small but slow”. While attending college he was in the Air Force ROTC and aspired to be a pilot. There he met Sandra and the rest is history. He was able to achieve his dream of flying and was trained as a jet fighter pilot eventually serving a tour in Okinawa, Japan shortly after the Korean War ended. Flying was a true love of his and he would have stayed in the Air Force if he could have continued to fly planes.

When his service ended, he began a distinguished career in the energy business. He started with Humble Oil and Refining (Exxon) as a Petroleum Geologist. His career involved many moves across Texas, Louisiana, and

Colorado. He eventually left Exxon to become President of Paraffin Oil and Gas and finished his career as President of Williams Exploration Company. Paul always hoped to return to his roots in East Texas so he and Sandra moved to Mineola in 1992 where they enjoyed many years of retirement with old and new friends. In retirement, he had many happy years of flying his two airplanes, fishing, and working their Mineola property. He loved visits from his family and especially those from his two granddaughters.

Paul is survived by his wife, Sandra and his son, Chad, daughter-in-law, Ann and granddaughters, Caroline and Elise. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jabe and Dessa Tidwell and his brother, Charles Jefferson Tidwell.

A celebration of life will be held at Stewart Family Funeral Home at 1pm Tuesday, December 19th at 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway, Tyler, Texas.

Previous Events

Service

DEC 19. 1:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home - Magnolia Room
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703

Tribute Wall

CG

“ *Cathy and Scott Gordon purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Paul Tidwell.*



Cathy and Scott Gordon - December 18, 2023 at 01:33 PM

KH

“ *Kurt Hunt lit a candle in memory of Paul Tidwell*



Kurt Hunt - December 17, 2023 at 04:50 PM