



Royce E. Townsend

December 6, 1930 - March 20, 2019

Services for Royce Edwin Townsend, 88, of Tyler will be held on Monday, March 25, 2019, at 2:30 p.m. at the Stewart Family Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Pike Wisner officiating. Visitation will precede the service from 1:00 - 2:30

p.m. at Stewart Family Funeral Home. The family extends an invitation to join them at the interment at Rose Lawn Cemetery immediately following the service.

Mr. Townsend passed away Wednesday, March 20, 2019, in Tyler while surrounded by his family. He was born on December 6, 1930, in Tyler to J.C. and Yvonne Shamburger Townsend.

Royce was a member and a Deacon at First Baptist Church of Tyler. He attended Tyler Junior College on an athletic scholarship and graduated in 1949. On

June 24, 2000, he was honored with an induction into the Tyler Jr. College Sports

Circle of Honor. He and his wife, Gloria Townsend, resided in San Antonio, Texas

for a short time where he attended Trinity University on an athletic scholarship and

graduated in 1956. He served his country proudly during the Korean War while serving in the United States Air Force. He enjoyed a lengthy career with GMAC, retiring after 34 years of employment. Royce's passions were his family first and foremost, followed by a deep and abiding love for hunting and fishing and simply observing nature and all of God's little miracles. He unselfishly dedicated his time coaching Little League, Pony League and American Legion baseball over 20 years where he positively influenced countless young lives and accrued a won/loss record that is unheard of, even today.

Royce was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Renna Louise Townsend Rosenthal. He is survived by his loving family including his wife of 68 years, Gloria Townsend; his sons, Ken Townsend and wife Debbie, Kevin Townsend, and Kent Townsend. He is also survived by his two granddaughters, Lauren Townsend and Gentry Townsend; grandsons, Jake Townsend, Brad Townsend and wife Lori, and their son, Royce's great-grandson, Garrett; sister-in-law, Joyce and husband Dr. John Hudnall; brother-in-law, Will Jennings and wife Carole; as well as many other loving family members and countless friends.

Pallbearers will be Jake Townsend, Dr. Clayton Hudnall, Stan Riley, Steve Riley, Larry Murph, and James Amburg. Honorary pallbearers will be Brad Townsend, Dr. Don Smith, David Jackson, Ralph Karnes, John Hudnall, John Rader,

Michael Fanning, Benny Chambless, Britton Atwood, the late Bill Barrett, and the late W.C. "Dub Jackson".

The Townsend family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Barbara Wedgeworth and the staff of Hospice of East Texas.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Royce E. Townsend Football Scholarship Endowment at Tyler Junior College, P. O. Box 9020, Tyler, TX 75711.

Cemetery Details

Rose Lawn Cemetery

2003 Blue Mountain Blvd.
Tyler, TX 75703

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 25. 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

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

Service

MAR 25. 2:30 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

LK

“ Mrs Townsend, Kenny, Kevin and Kent. I think you all know how I felt about Mr. Townsend. Other than my dad he taught me more about life than anyone else. Coaching me for three years of Little League and then hiring and mentoring me at GMAC for the five years I was in Tyler ('80-'85) he taught me to be the best I could be. He always expected more of me than I did of myself. When the time came though I was prepared. His lessons were more than baseball and GMAC they were everlasting life lessons. I was so glad we got to visit in with him in October. He will be missed here on earth but I know he, Billy Wayne, Dub, Barrett and more are having a big time right now. My life as many more was blessed immensely by association with Mr. Townsend.

Larry Kellam - April 01, 2019 at 11:42 PM

RR

“ Royce Townsend was a man's man and he loved his family and his friends greatly. Royce spared nothing when it came to serving as our little league baseball and football coach. He could hit a baseball with that fungo bat like no one I've ever seen. He would drill us in the outfield with fly balls until he knew we'd had enough. I have so many fond memories of him, Kent, Kevin, Kenny and Gloria. I'm also thankful that he made sure his family was at church although us kids were not always so obedient, he knew the importance of us being there. We love you Royce Townsend, tell all my family in Heaven and Jesus hi for me :-) You will be missed but what a great legacy you've left!

Ronny Redd

Ronny Redd - March 25, 2019 at 12:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Royce E. Townsend.*



March 25, 2019 at 09:06 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Royce E. Townsend.*



March 24, 2019 at 10:44 PM



“ *Royce was always an energetic man to be around & he and Gloria raised 3 "strapping" sons. Know you are both proud of them, as they are your legacy. Dave and Carolyn Halbrooks Bain*

Carolyn Bain - March 24, 2019 at 06:50 PM



“ *Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Royce E. Townsend.*



March 23, 2019 at 09:43 AM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray* was purchased for the family of Royce E. Townsend.



March 23, 2019 at 07:51 AM



“ *Basket of Memories* was purchased for the family of Royce E. Townsend.



March 22, 2019 at 08:47 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Royce E. Townsend.



March 22, 2019 at 08:17 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray* was purchased for the family of Royce E. Townsend.



March 22, 2019 at 05:18 PM

KD

“ Keith Boyer & Anndi Knight-Couture - Overhead Door purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Royce E. Townsend.



Keith Boyer & Anndi Knight-Couture - Overhead Door -
March 22, 2019 at 04:13 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Royce E. Townsend.



March 22, 2019 at 12:34 PM

LG

“ To Kenny and Family,
I know your Dad was especially loved by Bobby and your group of friends growing up through high school.

Please know that thinking of you and family during this time.

Lucy Graham

Lucy Graham - March 22, 2019 at 12:06 PM

TH

“ Theron,Michelle,Jessica,Adam,Macie,Nina purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Royce E. Townsend.



Theron,Michelle,Jessica,Adam,Macie,Nina - March 22, 2019 at 11:39 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Royce E. Townsend.



March 22, 2019 at 10:26 AM

TS

“ He was my friend and a good man! God Bless the Townsend family!
Tom Sowell

Tom Sowell - March 22, 2019 at 10:22 AM

MF

“ Mike Farrell purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Royce E. Townsend.



Mike Farrell - March 22, 2019 at 09:51 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. Elynor and Charles Bowker

Charles Bowker - March 22, 2019 at 04:01 AM

SE

“ *Stephanie & Bob Elliott purchased the Sunny Memories for the family of Royce E. Townsend.*



Stephanie & Bob Elliott - March 21, 2019 at 06:33 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Royce E. Townsend.*



March 21, 2019 at 05:56 PM