

OBITUARIES

Samuel Aldridge

December 22, 1918 - June 20, 2000

Samuel Aldridge, 81, of Eagle Lake, passed away at 11:10 p.m. Tuesday, June 20, 2000 at Select Specialty Hospital of Houston.

He was born December 22, 1918 in Texas, to Garfield and Dallas Pettus Aldridge.

Samuel was a lifelong resident of this area and attended E.H. Henry High School.

He was a member of Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church of Eagle Lake and had formerly worked for W.W. Shuart of Eagle Lake.

Survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, Allen R. and Cleota Al-

dridge Sr. of Missouri City; grandchildren, Allen Jr. and Ronda Aldridge of Missouri City; brother, James Nolan "Buster" Aldridge; sister, Linda Aldridge Robertson; aunt, Elizabeth Williams; other relatives and a host of loved ones.

Funeral services were held Monday, June 26, at 11 a.m. from Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church with Rev. R. Kiser, pastor, officiating.

Interment followed in the Eagle Lake Community North Cemetery.

Dulany Funeral Home of Eagle Lake was in charge of arrangements. Pallbearers were Marvin Christal,

Herbert Scott, Saul Lee Williams, Rev. Harold Williams, Robert Boone, Earnest Fields, Eddie Spates Jr. and Stanley Joe Smith.

Honorary pallbearers were Allen R. Aldridge Sr., Allen R. Aldridge Jr., Alex Woolridge, Harrison Johnson, Connie Grounds and Charles Sellers.

Flower bearers were family and friends.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

Ethel McCreary

January 20, 1921 - June 20, 2000

Ethel McCreary, 79, of Eagle Lake, passed away on Tuesday, June 20, 2000 at 6:55 p.m. at Hermann Hospital in Houston.

She was born January 20, 1921 in Walnut Grove, South Carolina, to William O. and Georgia Freeman Clements.

On March 9, 1952, Ethel married A.B. Cone in Rockdale. They resided in Matagorda, Wharton and Harris Counties for many years.

In 1965, the Cones moved to Eagle Lake.

After A.B.'s death, she married Joe Lee McCreary in March of 1995.

Ethel was very involved in the community, being an active member of the Eagle Lake Rotary Club, Eagle Lake Study Club, Tom Waddell Outdoor Nature Club, Prairie Edge Museum Thrift Shop and the Eagle Lake Preservation Alliance.

Her real love was the Christ Episcopal Church where she served faithfully in all positions, the latest being Junior Warden, ECW, Daughter of the King and the Altar Guild.

A great story teller, Ethel's tales, her devotion to family and friends and service to the community will be missed by all.

She was preceded in death by her parents; first husband, A.B. Cone; and brothers, Samuel Freeman Vise and Eber Alonzo Stewart Vise.

Survivors include her husband, Joe Lee of Eagle Lake; sister, Trishann Wilde of Boling; nieces and nephews, William, Thomas, Jack and Ted Vise, Peggy Wilde Edwards, Nancy Wilde Brisco and Judy Gebhardt; step-children, Doris McCreary Terrell and husband, Dick, and Joe Herbert McCreary and wife, Candy; step-grandchildren, Faira Stevick, Forrest Terrell and Chris McCreary; and step-great grandchildren.

Memorial services were held at 10



p.m. Friday, June 23, from Christ Episcopal Church of Eagle Lake with Rev. Stephen R. Whitfield, rector, officiating.

Following cremation, the family will assemble at a later date for committal services at the Lakeside Mausoleum in Eagle Lake.

Dulany Funeral Home of Eagle Lake was in charge of arrangements. The family requests memorial contributions be directed to Christ Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 577, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434; the Eagle Lake Rotary Club, c/o P.O. Box 794, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434; or the charity of your choice.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

Raymond Hoffman

January 25, 1950 - June 23, 2000

Raymond Hoffman, 50, of Nada, passed away Friday, June 23, 2000.

He was born January 25, 1950 to Edward and Cecilia Kotlar Hoffman.

Raymond was a farmer and member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Joseph Hoffman.

He is survived by his wife, Ruby Dornak Hoffman of Nada; his parents, of Nada; daughter and son-in-law, Rachel and Daryl Pieprzycza of Nada; sister, Mary Ann Staff of El Campo; and numerous nephews and nieces.

A Rosary was recited at 7 p.m. Sunday, June 25, at St. Mary's Catholic.

Funeral services were held at 2

p.m. Monday, June 26, at St. Mary's Catholic Church with Rev. Joseph Koebel officiating.

Interment followed in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

Triska Funeral Home of El Campo was in charge of arrangements.

Serving as pallbearers were his hunting buddies Brian Seaman; and Ronnie, Ricky, Clint, Scottie and Wesley Leopold.

Honorary pallbearers were Kevin Genz; Anthony Labay; Darin; Dusty Leopold; Gary and G.W. Bartek; Doug Seaman; Tom Gold; Rudy Till; Don Buzek; and Thierry Hoffman.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

Rosa Lee Wilson

July 31, 1909 - June 19, 2000

Rosa Lee Wilson, departed this life on Monday, June 19, 2000.

She was born July 31, 1909, one of seven children, to Alex and Hallie Jackson Hawkins in Matthews.

She confessed to Christ at an early age at Greater Union Baptist Church in Matthews and served as a member of the choir.

Her parents, two brothers and four sisters preceded her in death.

She leaves to mourn, one step-daughter, Azerlee Wilson of Eagle Lake; four nieces, Jessie Bell Harris of Garwood, Mamie Lee Jackson Williams of Sugar Land and Bobbie Williams and Betty Jean Rivers of Richmond; a host of nieces, nephews and

cousins.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 24, from Greater Union Baptist Church in Matthews with Rev. L. Robinson officiating.

Interment followed at Union Hill Cemetery in Matthews.

Arrangements were under the direction of Ben Davis Funeral Home in Columbus.

Pallbearers were Don Williams, Ellis Hurd, Lewis Matthews, Ricky Blackburn and Clyde Cunningham.

Honorary pallbearers were Xavier Williams, Wayne Cotton, Glen Thomas and Derrick Wiltner.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

"To be nobody but yourself — in a world which is doing its best, night and day, to make you everybody else — means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight and never stop fighting." — E.E. Cummings

Canaris is eulogized

The following is the eulogy that Mike Canaris' long-time friend, Reagan Laughlin, read June 17, the day of Mike's funeral.

"For those of who don't know me, I am Reagan Laughlin, a long-time friend of Mike's and his family and his dear wife, Allene.

"This is a sad occasion indeed, but for the next few minutes I am going to try to brighten our spirits a bit with a few things I remember about Mike.

"You might be wondering what this is for (stick). It's going to be kinda hard for me to get through this. I have practiced it a number of times and never made it once, out of all the tries. I make my living lecturing, but I have never stood behind a pulpit, with my dearest friend laying at me feet, and tried to tell an audience how much I loved him and why.

"If I feel like I might start blubbering up. I will bust my toe a time or two

and it will probably get me back on TRACK."

When we first met...

"Mike and I met when we were just two little boys. We were at a Baptist church social one night, I turned around and he popped me in the eye with a rubber band. I (rubbing eye) said, "What's your name?" He replied, "I'm Mikey Canaris." I said, "I'm glad to meet you — I guess."

"That must have sealed our friendship, because we have been the greatest of friends from that day and forever."

Building the house...

"I always thought of Mike as that little boy who made a living for him and his parents before the sun came up every morning, come rain, shine or anything else.

"The thing I remember about Mike that endeared me to him forever, and to respect him more than any human I have ever known, I am going to relate to you in the way I perceived it:

"He was the little boy who was born of poor parents. His dad suffered from the depression, and they were not living too great. He was the little boy who placed a new home upon a little hillside, with his own hands, in a better part of town, and moved his dad and mom into it.

"I remember, I would look at him and I would look at me, and I would look at everyone else, and say to myself: "Boy, any kid who can do something like that for his parents has to be the greatest boy on earth." I worshipped him for that, and I always will.

"Later, as you know, he built his own home, acquired land and in my opinion, produced one of the finest and prettiest home sites anywhere around Eagle Lake, Texas."

Scout troop

"Mike was our scout troop leader. "Four years we went to Camp Strake, summer scout camp.

"Four years we took Top Honors, we topped them all.

"Mike led us.

"Mike showed us how.

"Mike inspired us, as you fellows well remember.

"And, we did it.

"I will bet, due to Mike, our little scout troop was the best, before or after, that Eagle Lake ever had. I'll bet Camp Strake still remembers us too."

High school

"The way I remember it, there were five unique people present at Eagle Lake High School during those years: 1. Mike Canaris; 2. Martin Hale; 3. Mrs. Lizzie Westmoreland; 4. Coach Rench; and, 5. I don't know if any of you remember him, but we used to call him "Ole Bear Reed", he was our superintendent.

"To me, these five people lent something to Eagle Lake High that made it special among all others. The school would never have been the same without any one of them.

"Mr. Reed had a SPECIAL THING in this heart for Mike. I remember Martin Hale, band director and teacher, told me one time that he had given Mike a bad mark in one of his subjects.

"He said the "Ole Bear" called me down to his office one day and said (you know how he talked) "Martin, I outa twist your ears. I hired you to give these kids some learning, not to be a flunking 'em. Now get back up to your classroom and start teaching like your (See Canaris, Page 5)

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Calendar of Events Gulf Coast Medical Center and SENIOR FRIENDS

- July 12 Senior Friends Covered Dish Luncheon, meeting and program. 11:30 a.m., GCMC Classrooms.
- July 25 Day Trip to Museum of Fine Arts & Museum of Natural Science. \$40.00 per person includes Kremlin Gold Exhibit.
- Aug. 8 Day Trip to Grand Casino Coshatta. \$10.00 per person.
- Aug. 9 Senior Friends Covered Dish Luncheon, meeting and program. 11:30 a.m., GCMC Classrooms. "The BBA and Medicare Outpatient Hospital Reimbursement - the hospital and you!"
- Aug. 16, 17 & 18 Beau Rivage in Biloxi, Miss.; 3 days, 2 nights; \$209 per person, double occupancy. MUST RSVP BY JULY 15.
- Aug. 24 Day Trip to Galveston — Moody Gardens Complex. \$57.00 per person includes day pass and buffet lunch in Garden Restaurant.
- Aug. 29 Branson in Houston Show. "Remember When" - Stafford Civic Center. Lunch (on your own) at Luby's; \$26.00 per person.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED...

Don't forget to get your reservations in for "A Branson Christmas"! Call for information package!

GULF COAST MEDICAL CENTER

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GREATER RISING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH: 580 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Truman Scott Sr., Pastor; 979-234-2423 or 979-758-3745.
GREATER UNION BAPTIST CHURCH: Matthews Community, Co. Rd. 141; 409-234-2581; Rev. Lawrence C. Robertson, Pastor.
MT. CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Hwy. 90-A (Pecan Valley), Eagle Lake; Rev. P.L. Barrow Sr.; 234-5813.
LIVING HOPE CHURCH: Revs. Joe and Mercy Fling; 234-5536.
TEMPLE BERE: 621 Maple Street, Eagle Lake. Rev. Manuel Matamoros.
ROCK ISLAND FULL GOSPEL: P.O. Box 232, Rock Island; 234-5840; Nick Williams, Pastor.
LATIN-AMERICAN ASSEMBLY OF GOD (Bethlehem of Judea Church): 1000 East E, Eagle Lake; Ruth Olvera, Pastor.
SEALY ASSEMBLY OF GOD: 1140 Meyer, Sealy; Warren Richardson, Pastor.
THE DAY OF PENTECOST APOSTOLIC REVIVAL: FM 102 S, Matthews, 4 p.m. (at Mt. Zion); Rev. R.L. Carter.
GREATER NEW FAITH CHURCH: 6406 Guylar, Wallis; Rev. Clay Spears. 979-478-2169.
EAST BERNARD FIRST BAPTIST: Rev. Clifford Roser.
FIRST BAPTIST: N. Lake at E. Prairie, Eagle Lake.
FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST: 405 S. Lake, Eagle Lake; Rev. Perry Riley, Pastor. 234-5795.
IGLESIA BAUTISTA GETSEMANI: 901 B Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Mario Vasquez.
GREATER MT. OLIVE BAPTIST: Rev. R. Kiser, Pastor. 705 Lake, Eagle Lake, 234-3545.
PROVIDENCE BAPTIST: 1207 E. State, Eagle Lake. Rev. Coby Shorter; 234-3735.
CHRIST EPISCOPAL: 306 E. Stockbridge.
ROCK ISLAND BAPTIST: Bob Allison, Pastor.
SHERIDAN FIRST BAPTIST

WHITE CLOUD BAPTIST CHURCH: 202 Old Altair Rd., Eagle Lake; Rev. Obie Rhodes; 234-3800.
CHURCH OF CHRIST: Sheridan, Texas.
NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP: Hwy. 90A, Sheridan; Del Sanford, Pastor; 234-3276.
CHRIST OUR REDEEMER - Charismatic: 478-7534, 478-6512, Jerry C. McKinney, Pastor.
HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH: East Bernard.
CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE NATIVITY: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sanctuary: 308 N. Stevenson St., Eagle Lake; 7 a.m. (Español), 9 a.m., 11 a.m., Rev. Eddie Winkler, P.O. Box 307; 979-234-2842.
ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH: Box 97, Nada, 758-3218. Rev. Joseph Koebel, Pastor.
GOSPEL MISSION CHURCH: Pastors Erik & Crystal Cameron; 510 E. Prairie, Eagle Lake, 979-234-3225 or 234-2824.
GRACE LUTHERAN: 408 N. Stevenson, 234-3381; Services begin at 10 a.m.; Rev. Clements Richards.
LEHRER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST: Garwood; 9 a.m. Worship.
Rev. Paul A. Lynn, Pastor.
LISSIE UNITED METHODIST: Bill Ramsey, Pastor; 234-2112; Lissie, Tx.
ROCK ISLAND METHODIST: Ken Sellers Jr., Lay-Pastor.
UNITED METHODIST: Paul A. Lynn, Pastor. 200 W. Prairie; Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Worship 10:45 a.m.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN: 106 E. State Street, Eagle Lake; 234-3368.
VINE OF THE LORD: Rev. Paul Aguilar, 1300 E. State, Eagle Lake; 234-7543.
FRIENDSHIP A.G.: 501 Wallace, East Bernard. Fred Chambers, Pastor.
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS: 600 West St., Sealy; Marshall Crosby, Branch Pres.
CHURCH OF CHRIST: 815 Milam, Columbus. Lynn Wilson, Minister.
THE SHEPHERD'S WAY: Non-denominational Christian Fellowship; 217 Main, Sealy. Frank Lucas, Pastor. 885-7873.