

OBITUARIES

Johnny A. Batla

November 1, 1928 - November 29, 2004

Johnny A. Batla, 76, of Bernardo, passed away November 29, 2004 at Rice Medical Center in Eagle Lake.

He was born November 1, 1928 in Altair the son of John J. and Ora Mae Kveton Batla.

Johnny was a land administrator and rancher.

He married Jean Waddell on November 24, 1954 and was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbus and a Charter Member of the Bernardo Volunteer Fire Department.

Preceded in death by his parents; survivors include his wife, Jean of Bernardo; daughter and son-in-law, Mariede and Billy Corley of Frydek; son, John Dudley Batla of Columbus; sisters, Ora Lee Plengemeyer of Bernardo and Bobbie Jean Boatright of Friendswood; grandchildren,



Gloria J. Bell

April 6, 1942 - December 4, 2004

Gloria J. Bell, 62, of Glen Flora, passed away December 4, 2004 at Rosenberg Health and Rehabilitation Center.

She was born April 6, 1942 in El Campo to David and Rosie Lee Thorton Bell.

Survivors include sons, Gaylord Bell of Eagle Lake, Lorenzo Bell and Ezziel Charles Bell of El Campo, and Terrance Bell of Texas City; daughter, Audriene Bell of Glen Flora; brothers, Edward Thorton and Paul Bell of El Campo; a sister, Mary Murry of El Campo; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Visitation will be Friday, December 10 from 6 to 9 p.m. and friends may call after 1 p.m. Friday at Gooden-Hatton Funeral Home, Inc., 110 North East Avenue in Wharton.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, December 11 at 1 p.m. at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church with Rev. A.J. Jones officiating. Burial will follow in El Campo Community Cemetery. Gooden-Hatton Funeral Home, Inc., in Wharton is in charge of arrangements.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

Samantha Draper and husband, Ross, James Robert Jordan and Natalie Batla; step-granddaughter, Tracie Corley; and step-great grandson, Tyler Lezak.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 2 at 10 a.m. at Henneke Funeral Home in Columbus with Rev. John Hunsicker, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbus officiating. Interment followed in Odd Fellow Rest Cemetery in Columbus. Henneke Funeral Home in Columbus was in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers were Everett Wright, Justin Kennedy, Joe Trojacek, Rex Thumann, Joe Waligura, James Stock, David Boatright and Steve Mahalitic. Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

Evelyn Willieford Layton

January 22, 1914 - December 1, 2004

Evelyn Willieford Layton, 90, of Rock Island, passed away Monday, December 1, 2004 at the Stevens Nursing Center in Hallettsville.

She was born January 22, 1914 in Lavaca County, Texas to John Winters Willieford and Claudia Shoemaker. Evelyn was a member of the Bethel Assembly of God Church in Rock Island.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Louie W. Layton; daughters, Nona Joy Layton and Evelyn Briscoe; son, Farrell Layton; three sisters, Henrietta Gandy, Fannie Cook and Dell Morrow; two brothers, Earl C. Willieford and Eli Willieford; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Survivors include her daughters,

Dorothy Lois Crawford and Billie Dean Thomas of Livingston, Ina Kortz and Donna Linnemier of Rock Island, and Chery Briscoe of Victoria; two sons, Royce Layton of Rosenberg and Robert Layton of Sheridan; sister-in-law, Lillie Petrosky of Yoakum; 34 grandchildren; 63 great-grandchildren; 24 great-great grandchildren; other relatives and loved ones.

Funeral services were held Saturday, December 4 at 10 a.m. from Dulany Funeral Home Chapel in Eagle Lake with Rev. Wes Jacobson officiating. Burial followed in Myrtle Cemetery in Rock Island. Dulany Funeral Home in Eagle Lake was in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers were grandsons. Honorary pallbearers were Lee Edd of Little Rock, Arkansas; Charles Crawford of Livingston; and Lillie Layton Petrosky of Yoakum.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.



Dorothy D. (Tyler) Walker

June 4, 1919 - December 6, 2004

Dorothy D. (Tyler) Walker, 85, of Rosenberg, passed away Monday, December 6, 2004 with her loving family by her side.

She was born June 4, 1919 in Sheridan to Louis and Addie Tyler.

Dorothy was a member of many organizations including Royal Neighbors of America, Rebekah Assembly IOOF of Texas Lodge 235 where she was Noble Grand, Eastern Star, AARP and Women's Mission for First Baptist Church in Rosenberg.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, William Richard Walker; son, Travis E. Walker; granddaughter, Laurie Newman; an infant brother; brothers, Charlie, Homer, Clifton, Bob, Victor, Walter and Marvin Tyler; and sisters, Alma Self, Myrtle Pryor, Ora Eastland, Lillie Tyler and Bessie Tyler.

Survivors include sons, Robert A. Walker and wife, Vickie of Albuquerque, New Mexico and Billy R. Walker of Rosenberg; daughter-in-law, Jan Tipps and husband, Alvin of Alvin; granddaughters, Kathy L. Blair of Arlington, Trish Webber and husband Wes, of East Bernard, Carrie Stogner and husband, Jeff of El Campo, Cynthia Powdrill and Kary Rollins

both of Dallas; great-grandchildren, Kaleigh and Lauren Webber of East Bernard, Rachael and Ryan Powdrill, Jennifer and Christopher Rollins and Wesley and Ricky, Jr. Newman; six great-great grandchildren; a sister, Ruby Henry of Vidor; a brother, Groby Tyler of Alvin; and numerous other relatives and friends.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, December 8 from 5 to 8 p.m. in the state room of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home and from 8 a.m. until service time Thursday, December 9 in the Chapel of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home.

Funeral services were scheduled for Thursday, December 9 at 2 p.m. from the Chapel of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home in Rosenberg with Dr. Donnie Melton officiating. Interment will follow in Greenlawn Memorial Park in Rosenberg. Davis Greenlawn Funeral Home in Rosenberg is in charge of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to First Baptist Church of Rosenberg, 1117 1st Street, Rosenberg, Texas 77471 and to Houston Hospice, P.O. 1417, El Campo, Texas 77437.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

Gladys Muesse Samora

March 1, 1925 - December 6, 2004

Gladys Muesse Samora, 79, of Eagle Lake passed away Monday, December 6, 2004 at Hermann Hospital in Houston from injuries received in a car accident.

She was born March 1, 1925 in Ellinger to Johnnie L. and Minnie Koenning Muesse.

Gladys was employed as a cook and will be remembered as a long-time employee of the Eagle Lake Dairy Delite.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, William "Bill" Samora; sister, Elsie Muesse; and brothers, Leroy and Alfred Muesse.

Survivors include son and daughter-in-law, Bobby Joe and Mary Semora of Eagle Lake; sisters, Viola

Kettler of Wallis and Laverne Obenhaus of East Bernard; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, December 9 at 10 a.m. from the Dulany Funeral Home Chapel in Eagle Lake with Rev. Joe Fling officiating. Burial will follow in Chesterville Cemetery in Chesterville. Dulany Funeral Home in Eagle Lake is in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers scheduled are Brian Bubela, Brian Bell, Calvin Knesek, Bobby Meyers, Jimmy Class and Dennis Pavlicek.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

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High Blood Pressure Treatment Options

High blood pressure, also known medically as *hypertension*, now affects more than 65 million Americans. The number of people with hypertension is estimated to have grown by 30% in the past decade alone. However, in the US, it is estimated that only 2 out of every 3 hypertensives have been properly diagnosed. Of those who have confirmed hypertension, only 75% routinely receive appropriate drug treatment. Since hypertension is a major risk factor for heart disease and the primary risk factor for stroke and heart failure, most health experts agree that it needs to be aggressively treated. In persons 60 year old and above, the relationship between hypertension and cardiovascular disease increases.

Several risk factors including obesity, stress, smoking, and a sedentary life style are associated with hypertension. Drugs approved to lower elevated blood pressure are called *antihypertensives*. A diuretic like *hydrochlorothiazide* or *furosemide* (Lasix) is often the first drug prescribed. For people with a history of heart attacks, *atenolol* (Tenormin) or *carvedilol* (Coreg) are often used. *Losartan* (Cozaar) or *candesartan* (Atacand) are sometimes useful if damage to the kidneys is present. Other popular antihypertensives include *nifedipine* (Procardia) and *verapamil* (Covera).

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Views Continued from Page 3

"This whole set is out - THE WHOLE SET IS OUT!"

"Why are these blinking? They didn't blink last year!"

"I don't like the way this looks - we'll have to do it over." A pause and then a repeat to the stunned husband who stares blankly in silence: "I said, we'll have to do it over."

I quicken my pace at this house. I ate too much this weekend anyway so I could use the extra calorie burning, and it just seems smart to pass before the tired, stunned husband finds his speech again.

I'm reminded of the comedic rendition to "The Twelve Days of Christmas". Each numbered day provides a comment on one of the twelve major stresses of the Christmas season, and stringing the outdoor lights is certainly one of them. The poor frustrated man who has a new comment each round of the song on the annoying plight of

stringing lights is too funny and too close to home.

And this further reminds me of one particular house in the neighborhood that has been receiving my full attention as I pass it each day. The Christmas display in the yard and the full spread of lights certainly proclaim holiday cheer. Just one tiny point of criticism - a four foot section of the icicle lights that outline the entire roof blinks while the others remain unblinking. And that little four foot section - that brief length in the yards and yards of light that surround the house, that should bother no one - is at the very front of the house and it, alone, blinks! Now my question is: doesn't this bother the owners? Doesn't this bother anyone else but me? The owners truly have my complete sympathy in the situation. There's no seasonal fun in meticulously going through each bulb as the strand dangles and blows in the misty, muggy breeze to determine which one is the blown culprit. But it has to be done, doesn't it?

Perhaps I need to look at the whole picture here - a lovely neighborhood with beautiful Christmas lights and decorations, houses glimmering and goodwill abounding, with just one blinking imperfection. Maybe others haven't noticed or, thankfully and maybe unlike me, they are people who can overlook life's little imperfections.

With Christmas lighting, as in life, let's not concentrate on one small annoying imperfection, but instead take pure delight in the whole scene.

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- EQUIPPERS OUTREACH FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL: 200 N. College, Weimar, Texas 78962; 979-725-8233; Pastor Jerry Adkins.
- GREATER RISING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH: 580 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Truman Scott Sr., Pastor; 234-2423 or 758-3745.
- GREATER UNION BAPTIST CHURCH: Matthews Community, Co. Rd. 141; Rev. Lawrence C. Robertson, Pastor; 234-2581.
- MT. CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Hwy. 90-A (Pecan Valley), Eagle Lake; 234-5813.
- LIVING HOPE CHURCH: Eagle Lake; Revs. Joe and Mercy Fling; 234-5536.
- BEREA CLADIC: 623 Maple Avenue, Eagle Lake; 234-2130.
- ROCK ISLAND FULL GOSPEL: P.O. Box 232, Rock Island; 234-5840.
- LATIN-AMERICAN ASSEMBLY OF GOD (Bethlehem of Judea Church): 1000 East E, Eagle Lake; Ruth Olivera, Pastor.
- CHRISTIAN CITY FELLOWSHIP: 1140 Meyer, Sealy; Rusty Griffin, Pastor.
- THE DAY OF PENTECOST APOSTOLISTIC REVIVAL RISING STAR: FM 102 South, Matthews; 4 p.m. (at Mt. Zion), Rev. R.L. Carter Sr.
- GREATER NEW FAITH CHURCH: 6406 Guylar, Wallis; Rev. Clay Spears, Pastor; 979-478-2169.
- EAST BERNARD FIRST BAPTIST
- FIRST BAPTIST: 527 N. Lake, Eagle Lake; Rev. Chris Thacker, Pastor; 234-2571.
- FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST: 405 S. Lake, Eagle Lake; Rev. T.L. Baines Sr.; 234-5795.
- IGLESIA BAUTISTA GETSEMANI: 901 B Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Mario Vasquez.
- GREATER MT. OLIVE BAPTIST: Rev. Thomas Kuykendall; 705 Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-3545.
- WRIGHT GROVE BAPTIST: Rev. T.J. Cunningham Jr.; Altair.
- PROVIDENCE BAPTIST: 1207 Seaholm, Eagle Lake; Rev. Coby Shorter Jr.; 234-3735.
- CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 306 E. Stockbridge, Eagle Lake; 234-3437.
- ROCK ISLAND BAPTIST: Bob Allison, Pastor.
- SHERIDAN FIRST BAPTIST: FM 2437; 234-3136.
- SOUTH POINT MISSIONARY BAPTIST: Hwy. 71 North, Vox Populi; Rev. Dave Curry; 758-3039.
- WHITE CLOUD BAPTIST CHURCH: 202 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Obie Rhodes, Pastor; 234-3800.
- CHURCH OF CHRIST: Sheridan.
- NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP: Hwy. 90A, Sheridan; Del Sanford, Pastor; 234-3276.
- CHRIST OUR REDEEMER-Charismatic: Jerry C. McKinney, Pastor; 979-478-7534 or 478-6512.
- HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH: East Bernard.
- CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE NATIVITY: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sanctuary; 308 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake; 8 a.m. (Español), 10 a.m. (English), Rev. Eddie Winkler, P.O. Box 307; 234-2842.
- ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH: Box 97, Nada; Rev. Joseph Koebel; 758-3218.
- GRACE LUTHERAN: 408 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake; Services begin at 10 a.m.; Rev. Clements Richard, Pastor; 234-3381.
- LEHRER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST: Garwood; 9 a.m. worship.
- LISSIE UNITED METHODIST: Ken Jones, Pastor; 234-2112, Lissie.
- ROCK ISLAND METHODIST: Ken Sellar Jr. Lay-Pastor.
- UNITED METHODIST: 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: 1300 E. State Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Paul Aguilar, Pastor; 234-7543.
- CrossRoad ASSEMBLY OF GOD: 510 Wallace, East Bernard; Pastor George Kutach; 979-335-7706.
- THE CHURCH OF CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS: 600 W. St., Sealy; Marshall Crosby, Branch Pres.
- CHURCH OF CHRIST: 815 Milam, Columbus; Lynn Wilson, Minister.
- THE SHEPHERD'S WAY: Interdenominational Christian Fellowship; 1225 Eagle Lake Road, Sealy; Frank Lucas, Pastor; 979-885-1225.
- ASSEMBLY OF GOD (ASSEMBLA DE DIOS) HOSANNA: Bilingual Services; 403 E. Main, Eagle Lake; Ramiro Rodriguez Jr., Pastor; 832-647-0392.
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF EAST BERNARD: 619 Fitzgerald, East Bernard; Duane Mayberry, Pastor; 979-335-6125.

Bible Verse of The Week

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalms 46:1

Submitted by Neddy Phillips

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