

Obituaries

Victor Daniel Balusek
Memorial services to celebrate the life of Victor Daniel Balusek, 81, will be held at at 2 p.m. Saturday March 6, at Christian City Fellowship Church 5243 Highway 36 North in Sealy.

Victor was born October 30, 1928 in Placedo, Texas to Fannie Julia Dusek and Frank F. Balusek. He was the youngest of five children.

He graduated from Eagle Lake High School May of 1946. He worked at Spalinger Hardware in Eagle Lake before joining the U.S. Army where he served his country.

On May 18, 1968, he was united in marriage to Dolores Brast. They made their home in Sealy and members of Christian City Fellowship Church.

Victor was first employed with Schindler Brothers Steel and later he worked for W.A. Vinnau's and Sons Inc. where he retired. Completed his honey-do's around the house and decided to seek

employment again. He then went to work as a shipping clerk for Stigall Sales.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and brothers, Roland and Ted.

In lieu of flowers, please send a contribution in Victor's memory to Christian City Fellowship Building Fund or the American Heart Association.

Survivors are his wife Dolores; son and daughter-in-law, Vincent and Lori Balusek; daughter, Valerie Balusek; grandchildren, Josh, Lexi, and Kamryn of Sealy; sisters, Lydia Jochetz of Bedford, Texas and Henrietta Lockwood of Katy; along with many nieces, nephews and friends.

Funeral arrangements under the direction of Schmidt Funeral Home in Bellville.

Please visit www.schmidtfunerals.com to sign the register book and to light a candle in memory of Victor Balusek.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.



John King Davidson
John King (J.K.) Davidson was born September 25, 1911 to Bertha Davis and Frank Norris Davidson.

He was born in the home of his paternal grandparents, Dr. and Mrs. J. K. Davidson, which was located on property he later bought.

He was a direct descendant of George Davidson, who resided during the American Revolution, in Anson and Montgomery Counties, North Carolina. He assisted in establishing American Independence. George Davidson also served as Captain under Colonel James Moore and served as Major under Generals Gates and Green. He was a Delegate to, and member of, the Provincial Congress.

J.K. is survived by his wife of 69 1/2 years, Roberta Kathleen Glover Davidson who he married on August 31, 1940.

Together, they had four children, eight grandchildren and

numerous great-grandchildren.

Their family includes Susan Davidson Allen and husband, John Kirby; John Green Davidson and wife, Kathie; Mary Helen Davidson; Vicki Lynn Davidson White and husband, Ricky.

His grandchildren include Jennifer Leigh Allen Greenwell and husband, David; John Kirby Allen V and wife, Jolie; Robin Lynn Wood Noser and husband, Eric; Holly Michelle Wood Colston and husband, Billy; Kathryn Gale Davidson Page; Beth Davidson; Ross Davidson and wife, Tiffany; and Scott McVarish.

J.K. is also survived by his siblings Bertha Maurine (Beb) Davidson Hall, Frank Norman Davidson, and Mary Elizabeth Davidson Kay.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank Norris and Bertha Davidson; a brother, Sam Norris Davidson; and a sister, Clara May Davidson Nash.

A 1931 graduate of Eagle Lake High School and an outstanding high school athlete, J.K. was honored with a track scholarship to Texas A&M University, although he did not get to run track for his Alma Mater because of a broken ankle while pole vaulting prior to his entrance into Texas A&M.

He was also inducted into the Eagle Lake High School Football Hall of Fame at the 2005 ELHS Reunion for his many achievements on the gridiron.

He always followed major sporting events on television and could quote statistics as though reading from the newspaper.

He was quick to recount ELHS football stories and scores as though they occurred yesterday.

J.K. graduated from Texas A&M University in 1937 with a Civil Engineering degree and was a member of the Officers Reserve Corps.

He was a great proponent of higher education and, as a Christian father, frequently told his children that people who use expletives in their speech just don't have a large enough vocabulary.

He was known to friends and family as a man of few words - letting Roberta more than adequately fill most of the silences - unless he was talking about the war or sports. He would then colorfully expound, on those subjects, with great delight.

In 1942, he volunteered to serve as an officer in WWII with the 435th Anti-Aircraft Artillery, a separate automatic weapons battalion. He served in active Federal Service in the Army of the United States from 26 October, 1942 to 19 December 1945. His service took him to Algeria on the North African coast, then on to Italy where he visited cities such as Naples, Anzio, Rome and Florence, as well as the Isle of Capri and Genoa. At one point during his service, his battalion's mission was to go relieve the 10th Mountain Division (and Bob Dole) south of Mt. Belvedere.

It was during this action that he was engaged in gunfire and shot in the right side.

However, as he frequently told it, God was not ready to bring him home just yet because the bullet struck his walkie-talkie aerial and cut it off, entered the right breast pocket of his fatigue jacket where the brass casing stuck.

The steel core and lead tip made twenty-two holes in his folded handkerchief, went through his jacket, shirt and undershirt, entered his skin, and skimmed along beside his ribs. The lead tip came off halfway and the steel core exited and dropped inside his shirt.

He received a purple heart and

a bronze star for his military service. J.K. was honorably discharged in 1945.

On April 15, 1946, J.K. took a job with William K. Lehrer at Garwood Irrigation Company. He later additionally worked for Garwood Implement and Supply, and L7 Ranch.

He was a charter member of Lehrer Interests Credit Union and was appointed Chairman of the Board until he retired, at age 77 in 1989.

J.K. served as a deacon of the First Baptist Church and was the church treasurer for many years.

He enjoyed teaching his men's Sunday School class and preparing his illustration board for Sunday's lesson.

J.K. always loved saltwater fishing and never seemed to get enough of it.

He took art lessons and enjoyed creating oil paintings for his family to use in decorating their homes.

He was a self-taught calligrapher and was meticulous in executing his works. At the age of 85 he was introduced to golf, by his son-in-law, Kirby Allen, and applied himself diligently to learning and improving his golfing skills at the Eagle Lake Golf Course.

He and Roberta were frequently seen on the course, and he continued playing even after he had been declared legally blind. She enjoyed driving the golf cart and being his eyes in helping him locate his golf shots.

It was not uncommon to hear other golfers calling out to him, "Jay, it's over here!" as he and Roberta traversed the course.

Once, to his great amusement, Roberta even fell into a stream trying to reach an errant ball. Many of J.K.'s friends and family members can attest to his great love for music because they are still in possession of tapes that he made as he listened to some of his most favorite songs on the radio.

It was his great joy and delight to compile his recordings and then hand them out to friends and family members whenever he would see them.

Some of his favorites included Benny Goodman's orchestra, the Mills Brothers and other Big Band music.

J.K. was a huge 'shutterbug.' He loved nothing more than stopping the action whenever family and friends were visiting so he could gather everyone together, find the perfect light, and take pictures.

Over his lifetime, he compiled volumes of photo albums which have now become cherished tomes of memories captured by a loving father, family member and friend.

Above all, J.K. loved his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and diligently tried to serve him all of his life. A few short months ago he mentioned to his family members that he had been visited by the Lord and expressed concern because he felt he had not done everything possible to be the best person he could be and had not done everything he was put here to do, to which he said the Lord replied, "You always did the best you knew to do at the time." Armed with that knowledge, J.K. was satisfied that he had completed his mission here on this earth, and was ready to be welcomed home to begin his next great adventure.

Pallbearers were Richard Earl White, John Kirby Allen IV, John Kirby Allen V, Ross Davidson, Scott McVarish and David Greenwell.

Funeral Services were held at First Baptist Church Friday,

February 26, at 1 p.m. with Rev. Kevin Collision officiating. Burial was in Masonic cemetery in Eagle Lake. Arrangements under the direction of Eagle Lake Funeral Home.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.



Elizabeth L. Taylor
Victoria- Elizabeth L. Taylor, 94 of Victoria passed away on Friday, February 26.

Beth was born September 12, 1915 in Wallis to the late Henry G. and Rosie Minks Reuther.

She worked as a clerk at the YMCA for many years. She was a member of Our Lady of Victory Cathedral. Beth and her husband Raymond were instrumental in establishing the parish of St. Mary Catholic Church in Cleveland, TX.

After years of being active in three different parish altar societies, she was made an honorary member of Our Lady of Victory Altar Society.

To Beth, God, family, friends and those who needed help were most important. She loved life and lived to live. She was never thought of as being old, every part of her was youthful, and time spent with family was priceless.

Beth was preceded in death by her parents; husband; one brother; and one sister; and two great-grandchildren.

She is survived by two daughters, Patti Taylor Burwick (Hamp) of Trinity, TX; Ray Beth Taylor Sills (Lee) of Nursery, TX; one sister Dorothy Heide of Richmond, TX; seven grandsons, Hampton Burwick, Jr., Joe Pat Burwick (Julie), Paul Burwick, Raymond Burwick, Jason Burwick, Christopher Sills (Jill), Chad Sills (Jennifer); six great-grandchildren and four step-great-grandchildren and other members of Beth's family which included nieces and nephews that Beth considered to be like her children and grandchildren and cousins who were never more than a phone call away.

Rosary for Elizabeth L. Taylor was held on Sunday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church.

Funeral Mass was held on Monday, March 1, at 10 a.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church with Rev. Monsignor Dan Scheel of St. Jerome's Catholic Church in Houston officiating. Burial followed at 3 p.m. at Lakeside Cemetery in Eagle Lake.

Pallbearers were Hampton Burwick, Jr., Lee Sills, Chad Sills, Christopher Sills, Larry Hensley and Walter Taylor.

Honorary pallbearer is Hamp Burwick, Sr.

Memorials may be made in Elizabeth's name to Hospice of South Texas.

Elizabeth's family would like to thank Health Force, Hospice of South Texas and all the staff of Texan East for ministering to our mother with love and concern during her time of need.

Grace Funeral Home of Victoria was in charge of arrangements.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

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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; Rev. H.O. Williams, Pastor; 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.

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. Kevin Collision, Pastor; 234-2571.

PROVIDENCE BAPTIST: 405 S. Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-5795.

IGLESIA BAUTISTA GETSEMANI: 901 B Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Mario Vasquez.

GREATER MT. OLIVE BAPTIST: Rev. Dave Curry; 709 N. 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.

WHITE CLOUD BAPTIST CHURCH: 202 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Obie Rhodes, Pastor; 234-3800.

JESUS IS MY REFUGE: 115 N. McCarty, Eagle Lake; Rev. Diana Aguilera.

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. (Espanol), 10 a.m. (English) 6 p.m. Saturday (English), Rev. Robert F. Guerra, P.O. Box 307; 234-2842.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH: Box 97, Nada; Fr. Joe Vrana; 758-3218.

GRACE LUTHERAN: 408 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake; Services begin at 11 a.m.; Rev. Bill Mosley, Pastor; 234-3381.

LEHRER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST: Garwood; 9 a.m. worship.

LISSEE UNITED METHODIST: Rev. Janice Kerlee, Pastor; 234-2112, Lissie.

ROCK ISLAND METHODIST: Ken Seller 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: Interdenomination Christian Fellowship; 1225 Eagle Lake Road, Sealy, Frank Lucas, Pastor; 979-885-1225.

SOUTH POINT BAPTIST CHURCH: 6407 Hwy 71-S, Garwood; 979-758-3039.

BIBLE TRUTH APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Corner of S. Wharton & E. First St., El Campo; Pastor Larry T. Smith, 979-543-2331 -non-denominational.

MT. SINAI EVANGELICAL MINISTRIES: 510 Prairie St., Eagle Lake, Rev. Thomas E. Kuykendall, pastor/founder. 979-234-3259

Bible Verse of The Week

"The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is they shade upon thy right hand." - Psalm 121:5

Submitted by Carol Cardenas

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