



Louis Benton Gillespie

February 25, 1947 - December 18, 2020

Louis was received in Heaven by the Almighty, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Friday, December 18th, 2020. He was a resident of Waxahachie, Texas, and a proud member of The Cowboy Church of Ellis Co., Texas. A godly man who lived and studied the Word daily, Louis was born February 25, 1947, in Tulsa, Oklahoma to Henry Bentley Gillespie and Ruby Mae McBride. He left us for his Heavenly Father after a short but fierce battle with Covid-19.

He is survived by his dearly beloved family including wife Linda Woodall Gillespie, sister Ethel Lee McBrian, daughter Ranae Gleason and her husband Brian, son Ben Gillespie and his wife Alison, granddaughters Teagan & Brenna Gleason, brother-in-law Charles Woodall, nephew Vince Golbeck and his wife Lois, nephew David R. Gillespie Jr., sister-in-law Linda Gaye Gillespie, nieces Claudette Price, Carol Villasenor, and her husband Jose and many other grand nieces and nephews.

Louis moved to east Texas as a young man and completed high school in Queen City, a small East Texas town where he excelled in football, basketball, and track and field, and then went on to East Texas State University (now Texas A&M University-Commerce) on a full football scholarship.

Louis met his true love, Linda Woodall in 1964 on a blind date. She lived in Linden and he lived in Queen City. It was a 56-year love affair, 53 years in

marriage.

After completing his master's degree of Educational Administration Louis became an esteemed teacher in Lancaster, Texas, where he taught for 30 years, most of which was at Pleasant Run Elementary. He was a rock star dad to his daughter and son and a father figure to many relatives and students who affectionately knew him as "Mr. G". Louis also drove the school bus for Dallas County School District for more than 30 years.

Involved in the church his entire life, he began as a youth leader and camp counselor at St. Martins Episcopal Church. He later became involved in Buckaroos (a children's ministry) and helped manage the church grounds at The Cowboy Church of Ellis Co.

Louis lived out his lifelong dream of living on a ranch with the love of his life Linda, where they spent the last 25 years. He reveled in taking care of their horses, cattle, and especially his chickens. He was a good listener, a hard worker, a person everyone has fond memories of, and could make you laugh until you fell off the seat of your chair. He could recite math off the top of his head, loved word puzzles, read maps, was crazy about golf, could fix just about anything, and was a perfectionist, but always served others before himself.

He was loved beyond measure, and for those of us he left behind, there will be a piece of the puzzle missing for all time.

A celebration of Louis's life will be held in 2021 when it is once again safe and appropriate for all his family and friends to gather and share their wonderful memories in the spirit as Louis would have enjoyed.

In lieu of flowers, the family would be honored if you would send your tributes to Emergency COVID-19 Combat Service | Gary Sinise Foundation, dedicated

to those who serve and especially the Baylor Scott & White Hospital medical team, who were with Louis, and comforted and cared for him like family until his passing.

Tribute Wall

DW

“ Mrs G, May God's love bring comfort and peace at this time. I was saddened to learn of your great loss. Praying for you and your family.



Donna Wall - January 02, 2021 at 02:58 AM

NM

“ Louis was such a loving and giving man. It always made my heart sing when our paths crossed. His hugs were the best. I love you. Linda. You and Louis were a gift from God. You are in my prayers.

Nancy Moore - January 01, 2021 at 09:02 AM

JS

“ I only knew Louis in our youth. I was 2 years younger but thought of him as an impressive man then. I can't imagine the sense of loss as almost a half century removed this still impacts me. We pray for healing and comfort for his family and friends.
Jim Sampson

Jim Sampson - December 25, 2020 at 03:13 AM

JF

“ I am so sorry Ben! I loved Mr. G even though he sang “Jo Lynn, Jo Lynn” to the tune “Jolene” every day of my elementary life. I loved parachute day and thought getting to clean the bus was a real treat. 😂 He was one of the best parts of Pleasant Run.

Jo Lynn (Mixon) Fisher - December 22, 2020 at 11:35 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rhonda White Syamken - December 22, 2020 at 01:31 PM



“ I worked with Mr. G. ★ 14 wonderful years at Pleasant Run Elementary. His heart was made of solid gold. I loved playing pranks on you at school and field day was very special because of YOU. Every year you would put me at the Rope Climb/Ring the Bell and I loved watching you show the kids how to do it; every year got harder and harder... He always talked about his wife Linda- he adored her. Rest In Peace



Rhonda White Syamken - December 22, 2020 at 12:56 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Lou was a great guy and we are all blessed to have known him. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Love,
Selinda

Selinda - December 22, 2020 at 07:51 AM

PP

“ RIP Coach Gillespie! You were an excellent PE teacher in grade school we loved you even though we had many side aches from our laps we ran ! You were the sweetest and we all loved you. I just told one of my college students the other day oh wow I had the best coach in school with your last name! She is an outstanding design student & photographer. My heart sank to here of your passing. I am praying for all of your loved ones at this difficult time. But I know you are in heaven and seeing the Lord you are in a beautiful new home . With all my heart I know you are at peace ❤️🙏🙏🙏



Pat Perigo - December 22, 2020 at 02:30 AM

MG

“ I am so sad...Mr. G was the best...my best memories of Mr. G. was on field day at pleasant run...he will be truly missed...prayers to his family in this time of sorrow...RIP MR. G.

Melinda Garza - December 22, 2020 at 01:12 AM

VG

“ Thank you Mr. G for being the great teacher and person that you were. You left a permanent mark on my heart just like so many others. You created some of the most fun and unforgettable memories from Pleasant Run '90-'94. Until we meet again in heaven. Maybe you can have us all do a mile around the fence and through the obstacle course one more time. And don't forget the square dancing too! May the Lord fill your family with His love and the peace that goes beyond understanding during this difficult time.

Vanessa Garza - December 21, 2020 at 08:11 PM

DB

“ *Dottie Burnett lit a candle in memory of Louis Benton Gillespie*



Dottie Burnett - December 21, 2020 at 07:54 PM

DG

“ *Mr G...
I can STILL see you on the playground at Pleasant Run...looking UP at you ...to you...
rather it be for your confirmation of a question I had or a condemnation you gave me yo do the "Booger laps" required for some kind of punishment..
He reminded me of John Wayne (which I have met in person) the GENTLE Giant
Tall and Composed...
There will never be another like you
Your kindred spirit STILL lives in me today 💙*

Diane Galbraith - December 21, 2020 at 06:57 PM

BG

“ *Brandon Goggans lit a candle in memory of Louis Benton Gillespie*



Brandon Goggans - December 21, 2020 at 06:44 PM