



William Thomas Hicks

May 15, 1926 - November 1, 2010

William Thomas (Bill, W. T., Dub) Hicks

The second child of Charles Walker & Elsa (Allmon) Hicks was born 5/15/32 in Honey Grove, TX. As a small child Bill, sister Charlene & their father moved to Dallas. To the family was added stepmother Atola Hicks & stepsister Barbara. The expanded family moved to a farm outside of Wilmer in 40. Bill was a graduate of Wilmer-Hutchins High School in 44. In later years, he enjoyed attending class reunions visiting with old friends, talking about good ol' days & the new things in his life. Fresh out of school, he went to work at Sam Ross McElreath Co., then to Simmons Mattress in 47. Also in 47, he met, fell in love with & married his sweetheart Mildred Jane Mayfield on October 30. After a challenge by a shop supervisor at Cabell's Dairy, he was told he could have the job of mechanic's helper if he could put back together an old truck & make it crank on the first try. Unbeknownst to the shop supervisor, Bill did not take challenges lightly & he succeeded & started his new job. He learned to weld at Truck Equipment Co. & Fruehauf Trailers. On 2/28/50 he started working at Yellow Freight Lines and retired 5/31/91 after 41 years. He served as Shop Foreman, but decided it was not the position for him & returned to what he loved most at Yellow, working as a mechanic. He designed & built a switch mule that engineers said could not be done. Of course, by the time they said that, it had been in operation for several months. Bill was a member of Teamster Union Local 745. In 50, William & Mildred moved to Dallas adding to their family daughters Debby, Patty, & Teresa. 1955 brought the Hicks family

back to Wilmer & added nephews Jimmy & Donny Venable to the brew. Jimmy & Don were their boys & big brothers to the girls. With everyone now settled in Wilmer, the family grew one more time with the birth of Julia. Bill not only took on this responsibility but also helped with the care of his mother-in-law Edith Mayfield & niece Sharon Mayfield. Over the years, William was active in community activities. He was Wilmer's first City Marshall from 55-58 when he resigned. In 56 he attended the Dallas County Sheriff Department training school finishing first in a class of 33. He was under the watchful eye of Sheriff Bill Decker & training director Charles Player. From 62-68 Bill was on the Wilmer City Council, with five of those years as mayor pro-tem. He continued to serve the city on the planning & zoning committee for several years. He was a member of the Wilmer Volunteer Fire Department for 21 years, retiring in 76. As a fireman, he served as president, first assistant chief & was the chief at the time he retired. With his buddy, O.B. Rogers, many a fire was extinguished. The twosome also spent many hours maintaining & repairing the first trucks using their mechanical skills to keep the trucks in tip top condition ready to go at a moments notice. He became the first Emergency Medical Technician for Wilmer in 75 after completing classroom training & on the job training at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas. Prior to this, William accompanied Byrum's ambulance driver for many years. In 59 he was chosen by the Fire Chiefs Association of Dallas County as the "Outstanding Fireman of the Year", receiving a trophy at their annual dinner. This trophy was not only an honor to him but a source of pride & joy for his family. He was ordained a Deacon at First Baptist Church in Wilmer on 5/13/73. He served his Lord & his church as a faithful & dedicated Christian as a teacher, a treasurer, and a witness selflessly. He took part in a mission trip to London, Ontario, Canada in 82 where he shared his love for Christ. He & Mildred moved their membership to First Baptist Church Lancaster in 89 where they continued to serve actively in the church family. At FBC Lancaster, he participated in the rebuilds & repairs of homes devastated & destroyed by the tornados, worked with the youth groups on summer mission projects, and

most importantly, continued to show God's love through his words, his actions, and his life. He was preceded in death by his father Charles, stepmother Atola, mother Elsa, sisters Charlene & Barbara, nephew Donny, and great grandson Aaron Young. Survived by wife of 63 years, Mildred; daughters Deborah (Bill) Faulkner, Patty (Al) Daniel, Teresa (Paul) Lindquist, Julia (Sid) Short; nephew Charles (Sharon) Venable; niece Sharon (Art) Litke; 14 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; numerous cousins, nieces & nephews.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mildred and Family, So sorry for your loss but know you are rejoicing because he was such an awesome man. He is in Heaven rejoicing because that is our final destiny when we have taken our last breaths. Know my mother, Thelma, was glad to see him!!! Diana Bryant Williams##imported-begin##Diana Williams##imported-end##*

December 25, 2010 at 03:10 PM



“ *Being the youngest, I got to spend extra time with Daddy. As a child, I took it all for granted but as a teenager I took it as a pleasure, as an adult I took it as a treasure. In the eyes of his children, Daddy was a giant in actions, words, deeds, and life. One of our preachers told us that our actions and words are sometimes the only bible some people will ever read. I can honestly say that the 'book of life' was read to me every day of my life in the actions of my father. Jesus Christ, family, friends, work, and fun all seemed to go hand-in-hand.*

He was a leader, instructor, protector, teacher, dictionary, example, and blessing that he didn't have to be but chose to be. Life was not kind in his early years but instead of lingering in it, he used those times to mold himself into a God servant showing there was light on the other side of trouble. His actions spoke volumes to people he didn't even know he was talking to. His realization that his actions could cause harm to others resulted in his immediate response.

Daddy was never too busy for you no matter how tired he was. Midnight play-doh or watermelon parties on the dining table, explanations of why something works the way it does, encouragement in times of stress, willing worker for those who needed assistance, talented craftsman and mechanic, loving words of support, strong hands to hold and big shoulders to surround you..... Memories that will last generations.

Love you always and forever Daddy.....##imported-begin##Julia Hicks Short##imported-end##

November 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ 19 years ago my father (Bill Faulkner) married Deb. With that, I gained William and Mildred as grandparents too. They treated me as one of their own from the very beginning, and they didn't have to. I was a grown man by the time we met. But, they treated me as a grandson just the same. That always meant a lot to me.

William was one of the most kind people I have ever met. He had a calm about him that made me feel at ease. He was a very giving man. I could tell how special he was very early on because of how his family felt about him. He was an awesome person.

I don't remember the exact date, but I do remember an occasion in which his daughters all gathered around him and sang "Daddy's Hands" by Holly Dunn. I remember at that moment that I thought that song could have been written for William. It was a special moment.

He embodied all of the lyrics of that song.

As time goes on I'm sure there will be things I'll forget that I loved about the man. But I will always remember the love in "Papa's" hands.

Rest in peace with God, "Papa". We will miss you.##imported-begin##Brett Faulkner##imported-end##

November 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM

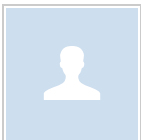


“ W.T,(Dub as I called him),was a first cousin. My mother and his father were brothers and sisters. I have always felt I had two older brothers, but the truth of the matter I only had one, but Dub was like an older brother to me. He was very close to my parents as long as they lived.

Growing up life was not always easy for Dub and it did not always treat him fairly, but you would never know it. He always had a smile, was loving, and never carried a hard feeling toward anyone, including those who had hurt him. Part of this, I am sure, was the loving home his wife, Mildred, provided him a safe place, but also he allowed the grace and mercy of God to invade his life.

He was a teacher, not by what he said, but by what his life said. From him I learned what grace, mercy, and unconditional love looked like. When you get to heaven, look for Dub. I feel sure he will be sitting next to the Savior. I know he is already enjoying his eternal home, telling jokes with my mother. All of our lives are richer by having him for these few years.##imported-begin##Betty B. Arrell##imported-end##

November 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ We are very sorry to hear of Bill's passing. He is a very old friend of Hoyt's. Had not seen him in years but thought of him often. Always admired the way he lived his life. Due to Hoyt's health problems we will can't be there.

Our prayers are with all of the family.##imported-begin##Hoyt and Carol Swaim##imported-end##

November 03, 2010 at 08:46 PM



“ *Julia, Sid and family,
We are very sorry for the loss of your Daddy. He will always be with you and looking down on you forever until you go to be with him. Please know we are thinking of you and if we can help out in any way please let me know.*

Love you guys,

Jan & Larry##imported-begin##Larry and Jan Garner##imported-end##

November 03, 2010 at 06:29 PM



“ *Hi Bill & Deb,*

My wife and I wanted to send you our deepest condolences. It is never easy to loose a parent and i know that he is with God and God is with you. I will surely keep you guys in my prayers.##imported-begin##Phan Nueman##imported-end##

November 02, 2010 at 06:01 PM



“ I thought of William as an engineer at heart. He not only loved to build things but he loved to take them apart and look inside (I think he loved this most).

I came into the family 19 years ago with my marriage to Deb. I know a little bit about computers and received my share of calls for help from Williams (which was never any problem).

I learned very quickly, however, that William was never satisfied with just having a computer running. He HAD TO KNOW WHAT MADE IT RUN!

He just bought a new computer this summer. He had a problem and brought it to me about a week after he got it. I fixed the problem and as he was leaving I noticed the side of the computer seemed loose.

I said, "William, that side is loose. Did it come that way?".

He displayed that sheepish grin he had and said, "Well, I kinda' opened it to check out the inside."

We always had fun words and I told him again, as I had I don't know how many times, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!"

"Yeah, I know", he responded.

He will be missed!!!imported-begin##Bill Faulkner##imported-end##

November 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM