



Elvy J. Cole

September 25, 1926 - June 18, 2019

Elvy J. Cole was born on September 25, 1926 in McDuff, TX to Jacob and Willie Cole. His mother passed away soon after his birth, and his early years were very rough. However, that changed when he turned 8... He went to live with the McCasland family, a farming family in Kemp, TX, that already had four children. From the very first day, Elvy was treated as one of their own, and they all became the family he had never had.

In 1944, at 17, and with his parent's permission, he dropped out of high school, and joined the US Navy. He served on the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Sangamon in the Pacific where he worked in the engine room. In May 1945, the ship was struck by a kamikaze plane, damaging it severely, and killing many sailors. The ship made it all the way back to Norfolk, VA, and repairs commenced. Elvy was on shore-leave in Washington DC when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. With the war over, his ship was not repaired, but he elected to stay in the navy, and served until 1947 on the destroyer U.S.S. Collet.

After his military service, he went to work for Southwestern Bell Telephone, now known as AT&T. He worked for the company for 41 years, retiring in 1990. He served as union steward for the Communication Workers of America for many years while at AT&T.

Elvy married Mazeppa Ann Ligon in 1950. They had a daughter, Kimberly Ann, on September 25, 1959. Two days after Kim's birth, Ann passed away. In 1964, he married Mary Kathryn Marshall. They had a son, Joseph Marshall,

on October 23, 1967.

He was a member of First Christian Church in Terrell all his adult life. He and Kay delivered meals on wheels for almost 20 years after his retirement, stopping only when his mobility made it too difficult.

He was a member of the Artesia Lodge #406 in Terrell for most of his adult life and achieved the rank of 32nd degree Mason. Elvy was also a member of the Hella Shrine. Elvy was a regular fixture at the Oak Grove Country Club where he was an avid golfer and played into his late 80s. He was a fisherman, hunter, and gardener all his life, and often took fresh vegetables to his friends and neighbors. He had a heart for others and was always sharing his cooking, stories and jokes.

Elvy was a beloved man in Terrell, known for his pranks, wonderful sense of humor and his un-ending kindness. He loved children, and almost always had candy in his pocket for chance encounters with kids.

He is survived by his loving wife of over 50 years, Kay; his children, Kim and Jay; son-in-law Terry Wilhite; granddaughters, Audrey Hamilton and Molly Cole; mother of his grandchildren, Terri Cole; great-grandson Owen Hamilton, other relatives, and a host of loving friends. Elvy's life will be celebrated 2:00 p.m. Saturday, June 22, 2019 at the First Christian Church in Terrell. A gathering of friends and family will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Friday, June 21, 2019 at Max Slayton Funeral Chapel. In lieu of flowers his family asks that donations be made to the First Christian Church at 405 N Adelaide St., Terrell, Texas in Elvy's honor.

Previous Events

Gathering of Family and Friends

JUN **21**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Max Slayton Funeral Chapel
642 N. Rockwall Ave.
Terrell, TX 75160

Celebration of Life

JUN **22**. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Christian Church
405 N. Adelaide St.
Terrell, TX 75160

Tribute Wall



“ *Elvy J. Cole*

October 08, 2023 at 07:43 PM



“ *I have so many memories and wouldn't b where I am today had it not been for Mr. Cole. I can't imagine a Terrell, Texas without Mr. Cole.*

*Love Always,
Randy*

Randy - October 29, 2021 at 05:38 AM



“ *The Sikors family will remember Elvy J. with such joyous memories. Always smiling and joking, uplifting to everyone around him. He went frog-gigging with Dad, and what stories they could tell from those trips! He went to Bob's football games with Dad every Friday night that that the games were local or nearby. When I was very young he brought watermelons for us to eat on a very hot day. We adored him. So many more.. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Kay and the family.
'Til we meet again, Elvy!*

Barb Hendricks - June 23, 2019 at 03:04 PM

DM

“ *Debbie Milliken-Martin sent a virtual gift in memory of Elvy J. Cole*



Debbie Milliken-Martin - June 21, 2019 at 07:05 PM

CC

“ *So sorry for the lost of a very special man who will be missed so much. RIV dear elvy*

connie thomas clower - June 21, 2019 at 06:33 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Elvy J. Cole.*



June 21, 2019 at 04:27 PM

EK

“ *He was one of a kind. Always loved his stories and how he would embarrassed sweet Kay. He will be missed. Love you 😍 Elaine and Frank*



Elaine Kasper - June 20, 2019 at 07:31 PM

DT

“ Donna Tapp lit a candle in memory of Elvy J. Cole



Donna Tapp - June 20, 2019 at 02:22 PM

MD

“ I remember Elvy at the telephone company in Terrell where my mother was a telephone operator. He was always there with a smile, hugs and jokes for us youngsters while waiting for her to get off from work. He definitely made an impression on me as a young child and adult. May God bless his family and know that he will be dearly missed.

Mary Darst-Yarbrough - June 20, 2019 at 09:39 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Elvy J. Cole.



June 19, 2019 at 06:58 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Elvy J. Cole.



June 19, 2019 at 03:39 PM

KS

“ Kay, Kim & Jay.....a heartfelt sympathy for your loss. Elvy J was quite a character and one never to be forgotten. I have so many fun memories of him, I hope your memories serve to heal your pain at this time.

Kim Leigh Stryker - June 19, 2019 at 10:37 AM

CH

“ I have many great memories of Elvy J. He was always willing to help me or whoever needed it. Always shared a funny story and could make me laugh. His heart was as big as Texas and made of gold. He was truly one of a kind and I will miss him. My sympathy to all of his family.

Cindy Flowers Hunter - June 19, 2019 at 09:56 AM

WS

“ Kay, Kim, Jay I really enjoyed being a companion of Elvy at work and play we had a lot of good times together. William "Gopher" Sanders

william sanders - June 19, 2019 at 08:42 AM

CM

I just loved Elvy. He and Kay were always so very kind to me. I spent a lot of time at their house babysitting Jay . Elvy always had a big smile on his face and a joke ready to tell. He will be missed. May the peace of the Lord be with you dear Elvy J.

Cathy Dennehy Moretich - June 19, 2019 at 01:48 PM

ND

“ We lived next door on state st in 50s,, always would get a hug & he always called me Nancy Catherine!💜

Nancy choate Douglas - June 19, 2019 at 06:01 AM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Elvy J. Cole.* ”



June 18, 2019 at 11:29 PM



“ *Some of my favorite memories involve Mr. Cole. It was always my favorite thing growing up seeing him coming down the golf course. He took my brother and I fishing so many times, and we always had a great time frying up our fish. After piano lessons, he always had squirrel, turtle, or some other exotic meat for us to eat! I have so many fond memories of Mr. Cole. He always called me his best friend!* ”

Peter Breeden - June 18, 2019 at 11:12 PM



As a next door neighbor, Elvy J was so nice & friendly. We all became close esp after the death of his first wife. It was “Miss Reba & WK”, & he would talk to me when no one talked to teenagers! He always had a Smile & pat on back for you. He was a dear man. Linda Kay Choate Placko, Neenah, Wi.

Linda Placko - June 19, 2019 at 08:19 AM



“ *Kimberly Boyd Brown lit a candle in memory of Elvy J. Cole* ”



Kimberly Boyd Brown - June 18, 2019 at 07:59 PM

KS

He was loved by everyone. Kay and family sorry for your loss.

Kay Squires - June 19, 2019 at 10:10 AM

RC

“ *As small children my sister (Brenda) and I always adored Jay. He had a quick wit, a strong love for family and was such a joy to be around. Of course, it meant I would get to see my cousin Kimmie who I loved so much! Our condolences go out to family and friends. We are from the Ligon side of the family.*

~Renee Crabb and Brenda Crow

Renee Crabb - June 18, 2019 at 07:43 PM