



Frederick "Fred" Coates

September 27, 1941 - December 1, 2020

Frederick Lee Coates passed away on December 1, 2020 at his home. Fred was born September 27, 1941 in Detroit, MI to Albertus and Evelyn Coates, both of whom preceded him in death.

Fred graduated Cody High School in Detroit and then attended Wayne State University on a basketball scholarship. He joined the US Air Force and trained in the Avionics Systems and still made time to play sports with the armed services leagues including basketball and softball where Fred was well known for his fast-pitch. On November 28, 1980 he married Jerri Gibson at Emmanuel Baptist Church and they made their home in Terrell after which they moved to Poetry after Fred's retirement from Gator Construction. A handyman who enjoyed working on anything with his hands, Fred also enjoyed classic cars and ham radio operations and equipment. He also had an appreciation for gun collecting as well as guitars. Fred's collection of guitars showcased his incredible talent for musicianship, and he was a great singer and could play successfully on his guitars, as well as the harmonica, and any other instrument that caught his eye. He was an active member of Oak Grove Baptist Church where he would help lead worship with his vocal and instrumental talents. Fred always had a smile on his face for others and he was a great encourager with his words and his generosity in helping be it with a project, an errand or a challenge. He did not hesitate to share his witness of Jesus Christ to anyone he met, no matter their religious or spiritual background. He was always quick to affirm the saving grace of Jesus to all he met making sure that each person knew that Jesus was 'the way, the truth and the life'. A wonderful man whose servant's heart could always be seen; Fred will be missed by all who knew him.

Fred is survived by his wife, Jerri Coates, of Terrell; children: Rhonda Coates, Lee Coates and wife, Sherilyn, and Eric Coates and wife, Jenny; grandchildren: Katrina, Jonathan, Joshua, Anna, and Ben; sister, Nancy Karst as well as other extended family and friends. A celebration of Fred's life will be at 1:00pm, Friday, December 11, 2020 at Max Slayton Funeral Chapel with the family receiving friends beginning at 12:00pm to service time. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 11. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

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

Celebration of Life

DEC 11. 1:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ Frederick "Fred" Coates

October 08, 2023 at 07:43 PM



“ I am first cousins with Jerri Gibson Coates--she is a favorite cousin and also a lifelong friend. I think I may have first meet Fred after they married in 1980, at a time when I was in grad school n Salt Lake City. I saw Fred often at family events, on visits to Fort Worth. After the generation of matriarchs died, he said the events were not as much fun, so I saw him less often. My first impression was of a tall, handsome man, with a beautiful smile. As Dorcas said, I vividly remember many sets of beautiful (spendy, new) cowboy hats and exotic hide boots. Fred was also a kind, extremely nice, intelligent, and well-spoken man. I was thrilled that Jerri was very fortunate in her choice of husband! When I moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan in 1988, I remember being surprised to learn that he was from Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan. I knew he was not a native Texan, but Fred was a distinctly Texan gentleman, and I enjoyed his company over many years. The Celebration of Life was very moving. I love the autoharp and singing video (filmed in the ham shack), and I look forward to viewing the photos. My condolences to Jerri and to all of Fred's extended family. I am praying that you all find peace. All my love, Amy Gibson Thomas.

Amy Thomas - December 11, 2020 at 03:38 PM



“ Always enjoyed Fred's music. You are in our thoughts and prayers, Jerri. Sorry that I cannot be there today.

Sharon Shaw - December 11, 2020 at 12:43 PM



“ Jerrie, you are in my prayers. Jennifer Moore

jennifer moore - December 08, 2020 at 08:07 PM



“ 65 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations - December 08, 2020 at 10:14 AM

NK

“ *Nancy Coates Karst purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Frederick "Fred" Coates.*



Nancy Coates Karst - December 06, 2020 at 05:57 PM

BB

“ *So sorry to hear about Fred. I will be praying for you. Love you.*

Betty Brazeal - December 05, 2020 at 06:45 PM

YW

“ *Yvonne Wynne lit a candle in memory of Frederick "Fred" Coates*



Yvonne Wynne - December 05, 2020 at 11:57 AM

DF

“ I'm one of Jerri's cousins and I've known Fred for 40 years. No matter what was going on in his life, he'd greet you with a smile, and include you in conversation. He will always have a special place in my heart! When he came to Terrell he pulled out all the stops when he took Jerri out on dates, taking her to fancy, expensive places. As we got to know him, we all decided he was acceptable to date one of our most favorite people!

Whenever anyone asked for his help fixing something he'd gladly lend a hand, and usually find a way to make the project better in the process. I will miss him!

Dorcas Gibson Fischer - December 04, 2020 at 09:53 PM

RS

“ Jerri,
My heart hurts for you. May God wrap you in His arms and give you peace,
strength and comfort.

Prayers and hugs,
Rita Scott

Rita Scott - December 04, 2020 at 03:48 PM