



Vertis Storey

July 20, 1945 - January 29, 2025

Vertis O'Neal Storey, a forty-three year resident of Kaufman, Texas passed away peacefully on the morning of Wednesday, January 29, 2025 in Dallas, Texas. Vertis was born on July 20, 1945 in Galveston, Texas to parents Harold Creagh Storey and Mildred Evelyn O'Neal. His father worked for the Galveston Tribune before enlisting to serve in WWII and upon his father's return in 1947 the family relocated to Houston where his dad worked for the Houston Post for the entirety of his career. This move allowed Vertis to meet a group of friends that would be lifelong brothers and meet the love of his life, his wife of fifty-eight years Mary Carolyn (Phillips) Storey. Vertis was a proud graduate of Milby High School, where he played varsity football. In 1973 he completed his psychology undergraduate work at the University of Houston while also serving as a research assistant. In 1975 he completed his graduate work at Stephen F. Austin. He served as the graduate assistant to the psychology department chair, ran the university psychology student clinic while also serving as a teaching assistant. While in graduate school Vertis completed 500 clinical hours at Rusk State Hospital and he knew he had found his life's calling. Upon graduation he was hired as a staff psychologist at Terrell State Hospital where he would remain for the entirety of his career serving patients in many roles until his retirement in 2017. He was at the forefront of the implementation of the state hospital electronic medical record. As the state mental health system was improving through state and federal mandates through the late 1970's and forward, Vertis was actively involved in

developing new programming and serving as unit director to programs such as the Multiple Disabilities Unit, Transitional Living Unit, Career Village, and Extended Care Unit. He also served as program director to many other hospital treatment programs as well as many state committees and task forces. He ended the last portion of his career serving as Terrell State Hospital's director of Quality Management. Every position he held he put his entire heart and soul into for the patients, for the staff members and for the families of Terrell State Hospital. After Vertis retired he served as a board member on the Terrell State Hospital Volunteer Services Council, a nonprofit that benefits patients, joined the Terrell Lions Club and began taking art classes at the local community college. He would recommend that everyone participate in each and never stop serving and never stop learning. A quote of his shared by a longtime co-worker sums Vertis up perfectly, "Don't let the perfect be the enemy of the good". He and his wife Carolyn enjoyed travelling, spending time with family, and friends. They are active supporters of various community and social projects and health services. Vertis is survived by his wife Mary Carolyn Storey, daughter Alison Storey-Novak (husband Mark Novak), his grandchildren Vanessa Collins, Storey White (wife Destinae White), great grandchildren Kaitlyn Carpenter, Christopher Carpenter, and many cousins and other relatives and friends. He is preceded in death by his son Christopher Scott Storey, mother Mildred Evelyn O'Neal Storey, father Harold Creagh Storey, sister Marilyn Elaine Moorman, and brother in law John William Moorman.

A memorial service and celebration of his life will be at 10:30am, Thursday, Feb. 13, 2025 at Max Slayton Funeral Chapel.

In lieu of flowers and in honor of Vertis' heart for others, his family is suggesting donations to the Terrell State Hospital Volunteer Council at <https://www.paypal.com/US/fundraiser/charity/1808938>

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB 13. 10:30 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Max Slayton Funerals and Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Vertis Storey*



Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations - February 14, 2025 at 09:59 AM

CG

“ *Chuck Green lit a candle in memory of Vertis Storey*



Chuck Green - February 16, 2025 at 04:43 PM

FH

“ *Vertis was a loving family man & cherished friend who lifted the lives of innumerable people throughout his journey. Truly a life well-lived! We offer our deepest condolences to Carolyn, Alison, Storey, Vanessa, and families.*

Love, Fred and Marianna Hale

Fred Hale - February 10, 2025 at 02:53 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Vertis Storey.*



February 10, 2025 at 02:38 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Vertis Storey.*



February 08, 2025 at 08:34 PM



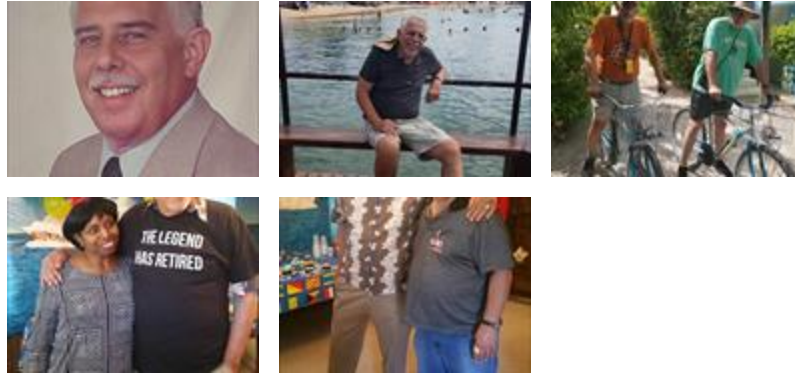
“ *Karo Stewart lit a candle in memory of Vertis Storey*



Karo Stewart - February 08, 2025 at 09:55 AM



“ 151 files added to the album Memories Album



Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations - February 06, 2025 at 10:47 AM

TF

“ The Tigert Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Vertis Storey.



The Tigert Family - February 05, 2025 at 04:36 PM

TF

“ The Tigert Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vertis Storey.

The Tigert Family - February 05, 2025 at 04:36 PM

RA

“ Sending all of our love and prayers. Rebecca House and Barbara Anderson

Rebecca Anderson - February 05, 2025 at 03:50 PM

YP

“ Vertis was an honorary member of the TVCC Ceramics Class Ladies Luncheon Group. When he was with us he always made us laugh - often at ourselves. It was an honor to have spent time with this remarkable man. He will be missed by all those who created beside him and were inspired by his unorthodox methods. They reflected his brilliance and ability to work through any challenge with imagination, determination, and always a touch of humor.

Yvonne Perano - February 04, 2025 at 06:47 PM

HH

“ Hope Hamro lit a candle in memory of Vertis Storey



Hope Hamro - February 03, 2025 at 02:06 PM

HH

So sorry to hear this Vertis was really nice and good friend to me at TSH. Always spoke to me and ask if there was anything I needed. RIP Vertis my prayers and sympathy to Allison and family.
Hope Hamro

Hope Hamro - February 03, 2025 at 02:10 PM

PG

“ I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have worked under such a dedicated leader. His kindness, generosity, and the knowledge he shared made an impact on us all. My heartfelt condolences go out to the family.

Pat Gomez - February 03, 2025 at 01:34 PM

ES

“ Vertis became a second dad when Alison and I became best friends. All the nights he would pick us up from ballgames and take us to eat on the way home. The way he loved his family was truly an amazing love and I thank God I got to be an extra part of his family. Watching him grieve over his son while still trying to stay strong in front of his family was a pain no parent should face but after he went through that pain he was one of the first to reach out to my parents when we lost Lester. I could bring up so many fun memories from us running up a VERY LARGE phone bill and the punishment being he taxked it to the door for us to look at. Which right there got him Dad of the year. To him walking Kaufman hospital for hours with Shelby on his shoulders while Alison was having Storey as he was walker kept asking Shelby who couldn't talk do you think I got this grandpa thing down which obviously he did as he had a laughing happy 9 month old on his shoulders. This world is definitely a better place because of Vertis. Thank you for being such a strong father figure in my life. We will all miss you.



Elisabeth Schorlemmer - February 02, 2025 at 08:09 PM

KS

“ Sending prayers to Carolyn and family.



Kay Squires - January 31, 2025 at 11:54 AM

MF

“ *Vertis was a huge influence within Terrell State Hospital. His love & giving nature to his positions were always shown. Prayers to Carolyn, Alison & family. RIP Vertis. Marsha Flowers*



Marsha Flowers - January 31, 2025 at 09:58 AM