

OBITUARIES

• JACK UNKEL

DAYTON - Jack Unkel, a retired dedicated executive with Goodyear Tire Company for 29 years, passed away on April 13, 2024, in his home in Dayton. Born on November 26, 1927, in Smyrna, Tennessee, Jack led a remarkable life filled with love,



service, and unwavering beliefs. Having served in the Air Force during the Korean Conflict Era, Jack was a proud veteran who also found joy in oil leasing and re-promoting of old oil fields, raising cattle, and upholding his religious and political convictions. He was a graduate of Dayton High School and attended the University of Texas at Austin. Beyond his professional achievements, Jack's true legacy lies in the roles he held within his community. He was a devoted member and deacon at First Baptist Church in Dayton. Concurrently, he served as the Dayton Police Commissioner and on the Dayton City Council. His commitment to service extended to his membership with the American Legion Post in Dayton. Jack was a steadfast resident of Dayton throughout his life. Remembered fondly as a caring husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, son, brother, and friend, Jack leaves behind a wealth of cherished memories. In his passing, he is reunited with his parents, Eva Lee Gregory Unkel and Leo Paul Unkel. He is preceded in death by his sister, Louise Miles and her husband Kenneth; great-grandson, Jeremiah Ellis Minnaar; mother-in-law, Myrtle Derrick Walker, and father-in-law, Edgar Patterson Walker. Jack is survived by his beloved wife of 68 years, Margaret Unkel, and their daughters, Betty Unkel, Donna Dugat (Anthony), Barbara Reed, Debbie Coulliette (James), along with grandchildren, Kasey Mobley (Jason), Kelby Reed (Kristin), Tara Harris (Andrew), Candice

Mize (Dean), Karly Scott (Jerry), Maegan Minnaar (Dewaldt), Philip Dugat (Katelyn), Mason Dugat, Tagen Coulliette; great-grandchildren, Raegan and Rylan Mobley; Heidi, Norah, Eloise, and Gabrielle Reed; Joshua, Noah, and Luke Harris; Naomi, Micah and Esther Mize; Aubrey and Allie Scott; Lexi Minnaar; Simon Dugat; sisters-in-law Jan Dickson (Gene), Pat Carpenter (Kirk), Laverne Koletich; as well as numerous other relatives and friends. A funeral service was held at First Baptist Church on April 19 at 2 p.m. Burial was in Magnolia Park Cemetery in Dayton. Jack's memory will forever be cherished by all those whose lives he touched. Pallbearers were Anthony Dugat, James Coulliette, Kelby Reed, Philip Dugat, Mason Dugat, Tagen Coulliette, Jason Mobley, Andrew Harris, Jerry Scott, Dean Mize, and Dewaldt Minnaar. The honorary pallbearers were Lester Ray Wisegerber, Mark Miller, Buck Guthrie, Mike George, Mike Fielder, James Cain, and Todd Oubre. In lieu of flowers or gifts, donations may be made to the American Stroke Foundation 6405 Metcalf Ave #214, Overland Park, KS 66202, (913) 649-1776, <https://americanstroke.org> or the charity of your choice.

• EARLENE SKARPA

DAYTON - Earlene Oramae Skarpa, 88, a longtime resident of Dayton passed away peacefully Tues., April 23, 2024, in Highlands, Texas. She was born September 13, 1935, in Crosby, Texas, to the late Arthur and Elizabeth Baumbach Roeder. Earlene worked for Dayton Independent School District from the early 1970s in food service, retiring as the Food Service Director. Following her retirement, she continued to serve others at Sterling Funeral Home in Dayton, where she worked as an ambassador. A devoted member



of St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, she served on the altar guild, demonstrating her unwavering faith in the Lord. She was also a proud member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT). Additionally, she worked as a library aide at Jones Public Library. Earlene married the love of her life, Leroy Joseph Skarpa, and they shared 22 years together, before his death in 1975. She cherished her family and enjoyed the company of family and friends, especially her grandchildren. She was so proud of all their accomplishments. She loved raising cattle, baling hay, reading Westerns and Dallas Cowboy football. Her enormous garden was evidence of her green thumb. She enjoyed sewing, canning and playing dominoes. Traveling with family and friends, took her to Germany and throughout the U.S., but her greatest pleasure was riding on the back of a Harley-Davidson with Leroy. Earlene was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Leroy Skarpa; son, Ricky Skarpa; grandchildren, Randi R. Skarpa and Kelli Elyssa Nona; and siblings, Alice Skrabanek and Gilbert Roeder. She leaves behind to cherish her loving memory daughters, Peggy Wallet and husband David of Dayton and Sandra Nona and husband Martin of Pittsboro, NC; eight grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; a great-great granddaughter; other relatives and friends. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, April 30, at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church in Dayton with Fr. Peter Nguyen as celebrant. Rite of Committal was in Linney Cemetery, Dayton. Pallbearers were Bobby Skarpa, Eric Wallet, Katie Bartz, Adam Nona, Alex Nona, and Emily Nona. Honorary pallbearers were Raymond Pavlat, Brandi Grimes, and William Bartz. Memorials may be made to Jones Public Library, 801 S. Cleveland Street, Dayton, TX 77535. For complete obituary and to leave condolences, visit sterlingfuneral-home.com.

• REGEINA NEAL

DAYTON - Regeina Grace Neal, a retired day care attendant known for her kindness and care towards children, passed away April 21, 2024, at her home in Dayton. She was born August 11, 1945, in Newton, Kansas.


Regeina lived a fulfilling life centered around love and faith. She was a dedicated member of the First Baptist Church in Dayton and took great pride in her involvement in the church community. Known for her unwavering devotion to her family, Regeina cherished every moment spent with her loved ones. Her personality was described as someone who "Loved the Lord," and she is now reunited

with her husband in heaven after sharing 52 beautiful years together on Earth. Regeina was preceded by her husband, Bobby Ray Neal; son, Bobby Ralph Neal; parents, Earl Gross Sr. and Lucille Louise Mann Gross, and brother, Earl Gross Jr., and his wife Mary. Regeina leaves behind a legacy of love and warmth for her surviving family and friends. She is remembered fondly by her daughters Pam Ochoa, Sandra Chivers (Billy), and Genia Schnap (David). Additionally, she is survived by her sister Lou Ann Emanis (Mike). Her memory will be cherished by her grandchildren, Julie Swan, Ashley Chivers, Billy Ray Chivers, John Chivers, Lane Chivers, Kelly Chivers, Evan Esutice, and Alexa Eustice. Regeina's great-

grandchildren Gabby Ochoa, Kyrie Chivers, Kendall Chivers hold a special place in her heart. She was eagerly anticipating the arrival of her next great-grandchild. In addition to her immediate family members, Regeina is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends. Friends from near and far will remember Regeina for her genuine compassion and warm spirit towards everyone she met. Services to honor and celebrate Regeina's life were held at the Pace-Stancil Funeral Home in Dayton, April 25, 2024. Burial was in Magnolia Park Cemetery in Dayton. Regeina Grace Neal will always be remembered for the love she shared with those around her we cherish the memories we have with you. Rest in peace.



SPRING DAY CAMP
On Sat., April 20, the youth of Eastgate Church's KidZone attended the Spring Day Camp. The camp theme was "Reigning with the Son" and provided a time for worship with games and rides all while learning about Jesus. Director of the camp was Kim Wooton. Refreshments were provided by Thrif-Tee Food Center.



Liberty Church of Christ

Join us this Sunday for Bible Classes for all ages at 9 a.m. and stay for Worship at 10 a.m.

We meet Sunday night at 5 p.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

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