



## Thomas Hugh Yates, Jr.

November 16, 1933 - December 30, 2023

Thomas Hugh Yates, Jr., of San Antonio, Texas went to be with the Lord on December 30, 2023. Tommy was born and raised in Laredo, Texas and graduated from Martin High School in 1951. Tommy attended Texas A&M University where he received Bachelors of Science degrees in Petroleum Engineering and Geology in 1956. Tommy was a member of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets and upon graduation, received his commission into the United States Air Force Reserve. After his military service, Tommy went to work for Humble Oil in Houston, Texas and then in Corpus Christi, Texas. In 1967, Tommy returned home to Laredo to take over the Texaco Distributorship after his brother-in-law, Louis Kowalski, passed away. While continuing as distributor, Tommy started Tom Yates Petroleum Company which operated numerous gas stations, convenience stores, and car washes throughout South Texas. Tommy worked in the oil and gas industry all of his life. He founded several exploration companies, including Yates Exploration, JIL Oil, and WAFUM which were dedicated to drilling and operating oil and gas wells in Texas and surrounding states.

Tommy's favorite pastimes included hunting and fishing, skiing with his family in Breckenridge, Colorado, and water sports in Horseshoe Bay. Tommy and his wife, Dee, were big supporters of Texas A&M University. They regularly took their RV to both home and away football games, often including one or more grandchildren on the trips. He was a proud member of the Texas A&M 12th Man Association, the Century Club and the Former Student's

Association.

Above all, Tommy's true passions outside of work were his family and serving his Lord Jesus Christ. Tommy was an evangelist at heart. Tommy and Dee led numerous bible studies over the years and were instrumental in starting the Laredo Christian Academy, a private Christian School (K-12). Tommy was active in Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International and Bible Study Fellowship for many years and loved sharing the story of salvation with everyone he met. He was an amazing man, he loved the Lord, loved his family and was a man of integrity in all aspects of his business and personal life. Tommy was an inspiration to his family and friends and will be missed by all.

Tommy was preceded in death by his parents, Hugh and Claire Yates, his brother, Sammy Yates, and his sister, Kika Kowalski Leonard (Louis Kowalski, Edwin Leonard). Tommy is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Deanna Yates and daughters, Karen Yates Hopkins (Tom), Linda Yates Nanney (Jeff), and Susan Yates Dulske (John), his brother Mike Yates (Lil), sister-in-law Patricia Yates, brother-in-law Philip Felber (Karen), 11 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews and great nieces and great nephews.

General visitation will begin at 10:00 A.M. followed by the Celebration of Life Service at 11:00 A.M. on Monday, January 15, 2024, at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North, 3401 Cherry Ridge. Private Entombment will be at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that you consider making donations to the Wounded Warrior Project ([support.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://support.woundedwarriorproject.org)) or Focus on the Family ([donate.focusonthefamily.com](http://donate.focusonthefamily.com)).

# Cemetery Details

## Mission Burial Park North

20900 I.H. 10  
West San Antonio, TX 78230

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 15. 10:00 AM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge  
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr  
San Antonio, TX 78230  
(210) 349-1414  
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

## Celebration of Life

JAN 15. 11:00 AM (CT)

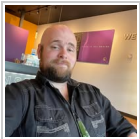
Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge  
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr  
San Antonio, TX 78230  
(210) 349-1414  
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

# Tribute Wall

DO

“ Our deepest condolences to you all. We know how special he was in your lives. Thoughts and prayers for the family. Denise and Jeff Oliver

Denise Oliver - January 19, 2024 at 11:17 AM



“ I've known a great few people who lived the way that they preached, but Tom was most assuredly one of them, he was truly one of a kind to me and my family, always making us feel welcome while sharing the word and love of god. His actions were in line with his words and his words in line with his heart, I know he is with God now, at peace and in bliss missing only the loved ones he left behind on loan to us until they are called home. Thank you Tom and Dee and the rest of the Yates family for all that you have done for me and my family, we wish you nothing but happiness and love in this time of grief and all future endeavors.

Denny McClain, Amy Revis, Dennis McClain Jr.

Dennis McClain - January 14, 2024 at 08:58 PM

PC

“ Prachi Chauhan purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Thomas Hugh Yates, Jr..



Prachi Chauhan - January 13, 2024 at 11:13 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Thomas Hugh Yates, Jr..*



January 13, 2024 at 02:45 PM



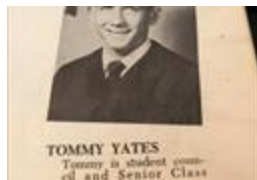
“ *Howard & Michelle purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Thomas Hugh Yates, Jr..*



**Howard & Michelle** - January 12, 2024 at 06:30 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Tommy photos*



**Sonia Ortiz** - January 12, 2024 at 03:46 PM

SO

“ My condolences to the Yates family,

*I knew Mr. Yates for more than 50 years, I worked for him in Laredo as the secretary and bookkeeper for his businesses (Texaco Consignee, Tom Yates Petroleum, and Rytex). He was respected and loved by all the people that knew him. It was a pleasure to work for him all those years.*

*May you rest in peace with God and all his angels in Heaven.*

*Sonia Ortiz*

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**Sonia Ortiz** - January 12, 2024 at 03:45 PM

LR

“ Lana Russell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas Hugh Yates, Jr..

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**Lana Russell** - January 12, 2024 at 02:01 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thomas Hugh Yates, Jr..



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January 12, 2024 at 02:01 PM

SS

“ *My sincerest condolences to the Yates family. My father worked for him and Mr Ruhlman for many years at Rytex, Inc in Del Rio. I worked for him for 14 years in the office that managed the gas stations and Peppers convenience stores. He was always a very kind and respectful man. May our dear lord embrace his family with His loving grace during this difficult time. 🙏*

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**Sandra Saucedo** - January 10, 2024 at 01:02 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas Hugh Yates, Jr..*



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January 08, 2024 at 08:58 PM

PC

“ My few months of caring for Mr. Yates has been nothing but my pleasure. He always shared kind words and words wisdom. Taken care of him for them few hours a day was more like, great time spent getting to know him. We would have breakfast together and read the paper and Mr. Yates would tell me stories about his family, that he was so proud of and give me tips on sports like golf and tips on property and land, when I shared with him we had land in Midland. He was so wise beyond his means but yet very humble. I admired how much he loved his wife and didn't mind sharing his feelings with me about it. I am so honor that he and Mrs. Yates liked me enough and allowed me to spend his last days with him keeping him comfortable. I have been in the medical field for 20+ years and out of all the people I have cared for Mr. Yates smile and kind words made him one I will never forget. Rest with God now Mr. Yates & know that He is pleased with you!!



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**Paula Carter** - January 08, 2024 at 03:03 PM

MD

“ Mary Claire and Bill Dahlstrom planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thomas Hugh Yates, Jr..

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**Mary Claire and Bill Dahlstrom** - January 08, 2024 at 07:50 AM

MD

“ Mary Claire and Bill Dahlstrom purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Thomas Hugh Yates, Jr..



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**Mary Claire and Bill Dahlstrom** - January 08, 2024 at 07:50 AM

EO

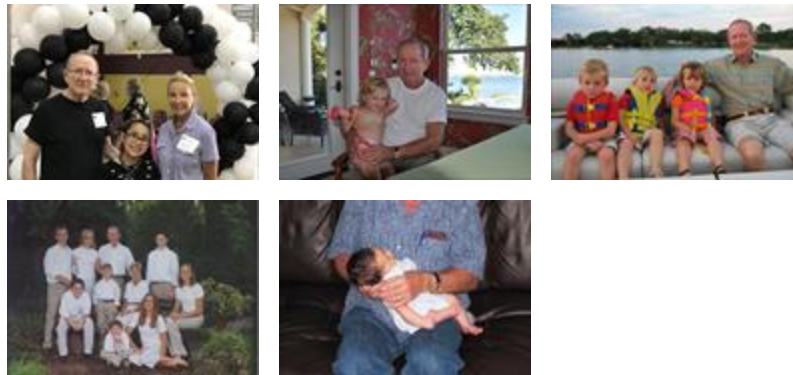
“ My deepest condolences to the family. Fondest memories of our school years and specially when we organized our class reunions. May you Rest in Peace my dear classmate.

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**Estela Flores Ochoa** - January 07, 2024 at 07:41 PM

DY

“ 13 files added to the album Tommy photos



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**Dee Felber Yates** - January 07, 2024 at 12:55 PM

GJ

“ A genuine friend to many... un gran amigo to me. May you rest now Tommy~

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**Glen Jackson** - January 07, 2024 at 11:29 AM

SD

“ 54 files added to the album Tommy photos



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**Susan Dulske** - January 05, 2024 at 01:29 PM

CK

*Andy & I are sorry to hear that Tommy has passed. We always enjoyed our visits with both of you! He was a good man! We are thinking of you with prayers! 🙏💕🙏🥰🙏*

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**Charlotte Kimmel** - January 06, 2024 at 12:01 AM