



## Wayne Alfred Gaddy

September 19, 2011 - September 19, 2011

Wayne A. Gaddy, born September 28, 1924 to James and Florence Etta Gaddy, passed away on September 14, 2011 at the age of 86.

Preceding him in death were his parents and 6 Siblings. He is survived by his loving wife, Darlene C. Gaddy; daughters: Connie G. Johnston and husband Louie, and Melissa A. Gaddy and fiancé Lester Colley; son, Mark W. Gaddy and wife Diana L.; 6 grandchildren: Kimberly Mazur, Gail Beaver, Jennifer Moczygemba, Charles Moczygemba, Kyle Gaddy and Kelsey Gaddy; 3 grandchildren: Trey Beaver, Trent Beaver and Mason Wright; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mr. Gaddy was born in the countryside just outside of Licking, Missouri. And as is the case for all who were born during this time period, Mr. Gaddy grew up during the hard times of the Depression. At the age of 18, which would have been 1942, Mr. Gaddy was drafted into the military to serve in World War II. He ended up being stationed in San Antonio where he served his near 3 year military obligation. It was while in San Antonio that he met and courted his wife-to-be, Darlene Cecelia Theis. They were married on April 14, 1945 in San Antonio. He would be the first to tell anyone how much of a blessing marrying Darlene was to him.... and it was a blessing that was strong and steadfast for the next 66 years of his life.

In terms of what he liked to do, his first and foremost passion beside that of spending time with his family was his love for horses. As a child back in Missouri, Mr. Gaddy grew up with horses. His dad raised and trained horses

and mules for various farming and military uses. Mr. Gaddy helped his father with this activity as a young child. Carrying on in his father's tradition, he loved horses and had one or more in his possession throughout most of his life.

Secondly, Mr. Gaddy was an auto mechanic. He made his living by working on automobiles. He enjoyed working on automobiles but his true pleasure came from working on small machinery like lawn mowers and chain saws. It was a hobby and pass time for him, particularly in his later years.

In terms of what he stood for, there are three areas that stand out. Behind the sometimes tough exterior stood a man that loved his family, had Integrity and lived strongly by a simple code of Ethics. First and foremost, he was a family man. He loved his family dearly and liked nothing more than to have his family around. A specific memory that many of the children in the family have that demonstrated Mr. Gaddy's love for his family was at Easter time. For all the children and grandchildren, Mr. Gaddy loved to get up on Easter morning and hide Easter eggs, and he would hand-make each child an Easter basket out of grass and flowers that he would gather from the pasture. He loved it when the kids awoke and would go out and hunt Easter eggs only to return to find candy and small gifts in his hand made Easter baskets on the back porch. Mr. Gaddy told his family quite often that he loved them.

Mr. Gaddy was a man of simple integrity. He valued being true to his word and following through with commitments he made. He would say that you can have anything in the world, but if your word cannot be trusted, then you have nothing at all. Mr. Gaddy believed his word was his bond, and he lived day by day to this conviction.

Mr. Gaddy was a man of ethics. Although he led a relatively simple life, he had guiding markers that were very important to him. First, he believed that one should work hard, carry their weight and contribute to society. He had very little patience for laziness. Mr. Gaddy worked hard throughout his whole life, earning an honest, worthy living. Second, he believed in respect for others and what they had, and he expected the same respect in return. These are a few of the simple guiding lights in his life that he lived by.

But above all, Mr. Gaddy understood the truth, the undeniable truth that lied in his Christian Faith. He understood there is one God who has a Son. He believed in his heart that the Son, Jesus Christ, came to earth to die for his sins, and that the only way to eternal life with the Father is through belief in Jesus. His family finds tremendous peace knowing his strong faith. Mr. Gaddy was a good man, and now that his life on earth is finished, he went out understanding and believing in the one thing that counts.

He will be missed dearly by all.

#### SERVICES

Visitation will begin at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, September 21 at Mission Park Funeral Chapels South with a Rosary to be recited at 7:00 PM. Funeral Liturgy will be held at 9:00 AM on Thursday, September 22 at Mission Park Funeral Chapels South with interment to follow at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery with Military Honors.