

## **Johnny Ray Long | 1948-2014**

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Johnny Ray Long, 65, died Thursday, July 24, 2014, in Decatur.

Graveside service was July 28 at Perryman Cemetery in Forestburg with burial under the direction of White Family Funeral Home in Bowie.

John was born Oct. 26, 1948, in Muenster to M.O. and Ola Belle Long. He married Ann Prince Nov. 3, 2004.

John started working in the oilfield right out of high school with his dad, "Slim," maintaining pumpjacks and keeping the wells running. John and his dad had a special relationship, working side-by-side through the years.

In the '80s, John came to know Jesus and accepted him as his Lord and Savior, and after that, he witnessed to various men in the oilfield, never being pushy, just when opportunity would arise.

He worked for numerous production companies during 40-plus years as a pumper. With his knowledge and business sense, he made investments in the oilfield. His work was also his play as he loved his job.

He developed lifelong friendships in the oil business, including Jerry-Don, Larry, Ralph, Therman and Billie, Bob and Pam, Kenneth, Mike, Jack, David, Charles, Chuck and Jo.

His took good care of his parents until their passing. When he married Ann, he not only got a loving wife, but also two stepchildren, and later, grandchildren, whom he loved to play with and tease. Some of their favorite things to do with "Papa John" included piggyback rides, building pumpjacks out of blocks, collecting flint rocks and of course, riding around checking the wells, speeding down dirt roads and blaring Johnny Horton, Johnny Cash and John Denver.

John loved going to church, being with his church family, mocking Pastor Joe's yodeling (with love of course) and going out to eat.

He was preceded in death by his parents, M.O. and Ola Belle Long.

John is survived by his wife, Ann Long of Alvord; children Aaron Prince of Bowie and Lindsey Fuentes and husband, Chris, of Alvord; and grandchildren Dustyn, Jordan and Zane Fuentes, Blake Prince, and Courtney Groves.