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Faulkner, Ben Terry

July 5, 1938 ~ May 27, 2019 (age 80)

Decatur ~ BEN TERRY FAULKNER, 80, was born July 5, 1938 in Kilgore, Texas, the second son of B. T. and Ruth Faulkner and died Monday, May 27, 2019. Ben was a nursing home resident in Weatherford at the time of his passing.

Celebration of life is 2:00 p.m. Friday, July 5, 2019 at Hawkins Funeral Home Chapel in Decatur. Internment of his ashes will be at the Oak Lawn Cemetery, 465 Cemetery Road, Decatur. Family will receive friends 1 hr. prior to Celebration of life.

Ben and his family moved to Big Spring in 1949. He graduated from Big Spring High School in 1956 and earned an Associate's degree from Howard County Junior College (Big Spring). Ben and his brother, Kirk, were on the college track team. Ben was the pole vaulter. He is remembered by his team for surveying and laying out their new track. He transferred as a junior into Texas Tech University, Lubbock. Ben was a Sigma Chi Fraternity member and valued lifetime friendships with several of his fraternity brothers.

Ben enlisted in the United States Marine Corp in January 1957 and was sent to Quantico, VA for leadership training. He served in the reserves for six years and was honorably discharged in January 1963. During the 1960s Ben and his brother, Kirk, worked with their Dad in his construction/roofing business. After his father and brother relocated from Big Spring, Ben operated the West Texas Roofing Company for 20 plus years. He was active in several organizations including Junior Chamber of Commerce, the American Business Club and the Boys/Girls Club. In the mid-1980s Ben moved his family to the Dallas metropolitan area and later relocated to Oklahoma City as the managing general agent for John Deere Life Insurance Company. In 1987 Ben's Great States Agency was presented with the coveted "agency of the year" award. In the early 1990s Ben moved to Fort Worth, Texas and worked for the JB Hunt Transport Company until he retired in January 2013.

When Ben and his wife, Dona (Meek) Faulkner married April 11, 1998, their combined family included seven adult children, their spouses and eight grandchildren. During the past 21 years Ben and Dona welcomed several new additions into their family. "Papa Ben," loved being a grandfather to his 13 grandchildren and great grandfather to eight. He never tired of attending recitals, plays, rodeos, band competitions, concerts, various sports events plus multiple graduations, weddings and baby showers.

Ben is survived by his wife Dona Faulkner of Weatherford, TX; his son, Scott Ashton Faulkner and family of Rockwall; his daughter, April Slobogin and family of Gardnerville, NV; his stepdaughters, Diane McCarthy and family of Weatherford, Helen Kent Davis and family of Austin, and Julie Kent and family of Albuquerque, NM; his numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Ben also is survived by his brother, Kirk and his wife Dolores Faulkner of Plano; his sisters, Pamela Roy of Tucumcari, NM, and Phyllis Boyer of Tucson, AZ. Ben was predeceased by his parents, B. T. and Ruth Faulkner; his brother, Michael Faulkner and Michael's son Stephen; his son Terry Dell Faulkner; his stepson Dean Phillip Hoke.