



F.G. Crofford

August 24, 1924 - January 5, 2019

F.G. Crofford, 94, of Amarillo died Saturday, January 5, 2019 in Amarillo.

Funeral Services will be on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at 10:00 AM at South Georgia Baptist Church in Amarillo, Texas. Burial with Military Honors will follow at Citizens Cemetery in Clarendon, Texas at 2:00 PM.

Arrangements are by Robertson Funeral Directors of Clarendon.

The family will be at 6100 Yale Street in Amarillo on Monday, January 7, 2019 from 4-6 PM, and Visitation will be at the Funeral home in Clarendon on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 from 4-6 PM.

F. G Crofford was born in Clarendon, Texas on August 24, 1924, to Floyd and Gracie Crofford. He grew up on a farm milking cows, and like a lot of boys, knew there had to be a better way. He graduated from Lelia Lake High School in May 1942. After graduating, he played basketball at Clarendon College until he started his military service at the age of 19. Six months after entering the Army in April 1944, he found himself in the 102nd Infantry Division in General George Patton's Third Army. He was a radio technician. He was wounded in The Battle of The Bulge in late 1944 and early 1945, and again in a push from the Rhine to the Elbe River in Germany. For those two injuries, he was awarded the Purple Heart Cluster. He was honorably discharged in April 1946. It was shortly after he returned home to Clarendon that April, that he met his soon-to-be bride, Bonnie Drake. They married on June 8, 1946 in Clarendon, Texas. He then finished his education at Clarendon College, and got his bachelor of science degree in physical education and later a master's degree from West Texas State University. He and Bonnie lived in Colorado for a short time so he could help his dad on the dairy farm. While there, he played some semi-pro baseball. Then they headed back to Texas. His first job was in 1951, at Sunray, Texas, coaching boy's football and basketball. While at Sunray, on November 25, 1952, he and Bonnie welcomed twin girls, Karen and Sharon. He coached and taught in Sunray, White Face, Pettit, Claude, Friona, Gruver, and Spearman. He retired in 1985 from

coaching/teaching career with 32 years in the school business and 721 wins in basketball. He guided the Claude girls to the 1962 state championship-one of five trips to the state tournament. He then worked for Horace Mann Insurance for 10 years. F.G. was a pioneer in bringing girls' basketball to the Texas Panhandle. He was the first president of the Texas High School Girl's Coaches Association in 1964-65, was an All-Star Coach for the North for the T.H.S.G.C.A. in 1978, received a distinguished service award in 1984 for his outstanding service and his unselfish devotion to interscholastic league athletics, was awarded the Special Achievement Award from the Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame in 1985, was inducted into the Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame in 1990, and was chosen as an honor coach for the Texas Girl's Association in 1998 for his outstanding contributions to girls' basketball.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Floyd and Gracie Crofford, and a little sister Bobbie.

He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Bonnie, two daughters, Karen Floyd and husband Jimmy of Amarillo, Sharon Mills and husband Mike of Amarillo, five grandchildren: Kristi Reed and husband (Frank) of Benbrook, Kimberli Phillips and husband (John) of Amarillo, Cassie Angeley and husband (Wade) of Littlefield, Kyle Mills and wife (Jenny) of Celina, and Jason Floyd and wife (Samantha) of Amarillo. He is also survived by 14 great grandchildren: Bryant Young, Brenna Young, Mikayla Phillips, Grant Phillips, Brae Mills, Keigan Mills, Dylon Redman, Bradyn Redman, Kambree Angeley, Trenton Angeley, Tracen Angeley, Landyn McKay, Paizley Floyd, and Rhett Floyd. He is also survived by one sister, Margie Phillips and husband (Red) of Amarillo, several nieces and nephews, and a multitude of former students.

Donations can be made to America Supports You Texas or South Georgia Baptist Church.

Cemetery

Citizens Cemetery - Clarendon

Texas Highway 70 South
Clarendon, TX, 79226

Events

JAN 8 Visitation 04:00PM - 06:00PM

8

Robertson Funeral Directors - Clarendon
212 South Sully Street P.O. Drawer 1090, Clarendon,
TX, US, 79226

JAN 9 Service 10:00AM

9

South Georgia Baptist Church
5209 South Georgia Street, Amarillo, TX, US, 79110

JAN 9 Graveside Service 02:00PM

9

Citizens Cemetery - Clarendon
Texas Highway 70 South, Clarendon, TX, US, 79226

Comments



“ I sold F.G. his Equinox. He would always come in for a car wash and I loved hearing his stories about serving under Gen. Patton during the war. He would even toss the football around with us on the showroom floor!

Chris Redden - July 17, 2019 at 07:03 PM



“ Mike lit a candle in memory of F.G. Crofford



Mike - January 21, 2019 at 06:34 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of F.G. Crofford.



January 08, 2019 at 01:31 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of F.G. Crofford.



January 08, 2019 at 01:12 PM



“ He was a great coach. Always had a good story when we played golf at Clarendon CC. Prayers for Bonnie and family.



Virgil & Pat Eddleman - January 08, 2019 at 12:23 PM



“ Mark A. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of F.G. Crofford.



Mark A. - January 08, 2019 at 12:02 PM



“ I have memories of FG, Bonnie, and the twins coming to visit my grandparents throughout the years all of my life. My grandparents are Ethel and C. N. Sutton in Goodnight, Texas. I am the oldest daughter of Floy Sutton. FG was childhood friends of Howard and Jack Sutton. I have seen pictures of Howard and FG on the Clarendon College Basketball team and of them in their military uniforms together. I am sorry to hear of his passing but know that he was a Great and Godly man. Looking forward to the day that all be reunited again at Heaven's Gate, laughing and telling all of the stories that I have grown up with.

Sis Bond - January 08, 2019 at 07:12 AM



“ Karen and Sharon I am saddened to hear of your Dad's passing...I have fond memories of you and Coach at Friona High School! I send my deepest condolences to you and your family. Gwen (Greeson) Dunnam

Gwen (Greeson) Dunnam - January 07, 2019 at 10:27 PM



“ Coach Crofford was a huge influence in my early life. I had the privilege of being coached by him during Jr High and High School in Gruver. He taught me so much about the game of basketball and life. I am forever grateful to him. To Bonnie, Karen, Sharon and the rest of his family, you are in our prayers and thoughts. RIP Coach!
Darla Armes Ford

Darla Ford - January 07, 2019 at 07:15 PM



“ Karen and Sharon,
So sorry to hear that your Dad has passed. I know he was your hero! Every time I think of him I remember the many stories about his coaching days and the many lives he touched. He could sell some insurance to teachers as well. Great man from a great family. Prayers your way!

Ray Cogburn - January 07, 2019 at 04:18 PM



“ Karen and family, I am very sorry for your loss. I pray for comfort and peace for you and your family.

Mitzi Churchwell - January 07, 2019 at 02:03 PM



“ Coach Crofford and his family meant a lot to the people of Claude, Texas. All of the athletes, girls and boys had the utmost respect for Coach. As the years passed on the different classes held reunions and get togethers. Coach Crofford was always in attendance. He was respected and loved by the entire community. Bonnie, Karen, and Sharon my prayers and condolences to you. RIP Coach, until we all meet again.
Lou Ann Bartley Badger

Lou Ann Bartley Badger - January 07, 2019 at 01:09 PM



“ Sharon Karen and family, Sandy and I are sorry for your loss. We will be praying for peace and comfort for all of you. Love skip and Sandy

Skip smith - January 07, 2019 at 05:27 PM



“ Sharon and Karen, I heard about your dad and I am so sorry for your loss. I know how it is to lose your dad. I still miss mine every day, but the thing that really comforts me is picturing him wrapped in the arms of God and never suffering any more. You will be in my prayers and call anytime if you need something.
Lynna Crockett, Shamrock

LYNNA CROCKETT - January 07, 2019 at 12:23 PM



“ When I was in the 5th grade I decided to play in the band instead of playing basketball. That night coach was at our front door convincing my parents I needed to play basketball instead! So I traded in playing the flute for a basketball. It led to a fantastic career! I will always cherish the memory of Coach FG Crofford

Jan Irby Littlefield - January 07, 2019 at 10:39 AM