



Louis Caveness

June 15, 1938 - April 17, 2018

A funeral service for Louis Caveness, age 79, of Rusk is scheduled for 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 20, 2018 at the First Presbyterian Church in Rusk with Rev. David O'Neal officiating. Burial will follow at Cedar Cemetery in Rusk.

Visitation will be from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 19, 2018 at Wallace-Thompson funeral home in Rusk. Pallbearers will include J.D.

Pearman, Bob Pearman, Lee Pearman and Josh Dupree.

After a long bout with progressive heart disease, Louis Caveness, age 79, passed away Tuesday afternoon holding hands with his loving wife of 52 years, Stephanie, and his devoted son, Preston Dewitt (Dee).

He leaves behind his wife and son and his granddaughter, Avery Madison Caveness, along with well loved sister, Hazel Jean Pearman, and several nephews and nieces. Mr. Caveness lived life to the fullest and put his energy into every endeavor he tackled.

Following graduation from Rusk High School, he attained his degree in Math and Physics and a Masters in Education from Stephen F. Austin. His passion was coaching football. At Jasper High School, Dayton High School, University of Texas El Paso, Bridge City High School, DeLaSalle High School, New Orleans, Garden City Community College, Kansas, Port Neches High School, and Lamar University. Louis followed the path which lead him home to Rusk as head coach and athletic director where he was named Tyler Morning Telegraphs "Coach of the Year" the first season he was back. When his journey in athletics ended, he didn't stop. He continued his career in education

as Rusk Junior High Principal where he was honored as East Texas Principal of the Year. Retiring from RISD at age 65, Louis launched a successful real estate business and served on the Cherokee County Appraisal District's Board of Directors. He was an elder at the 1st Presbyterian Church in Rusk, President of the Rusk Lions Club and Rusk Chamber of Commerce. Near the end of his life, he devoted his time and intellect to developing Beans Creek Ranch into an outstanding Texas Longhorn Business in partnership with his son Preston (Dee).

"I believe in God and I believe in human decency. But I firmly believe that any man's finest hour, his greatest fulfillment to all he holds dear, is the moment when he has worked his heart out in good cause and lies exhausted on the field of battle victorious." - Vince Lombardi

If desired, memorials may be made to the First Presbyterian Church, PO Box 414, Rusk, TX 75785.

Tribute Wall



“ *Louis Caveness*

October 04, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *Dearest Stephanie and Family,
Ray brought home the newspaper obituary for Louis. I am so sorry that I did not know because I would have been there if at all possible. I probably Would Have Known had not my Facebook account been hacked almost 2 months ago and I have not been on Facebook at all since then. I am in Rays account right now and hope this makes it to you. Ray and I wish to extend our sincere and most heartfelt sympathy, love, prayers & hugs to you and your loved ones. Louis was a wonderful man, husband, father, coach, mentor, friend and great example to so many I know. He is loved and will be greatly missed I know! You 2 were always the cutest couple! I am so so sorry for your loss Steph!! love you sweet friend!!! Arlene ... and Ray Todd*

Arlene Wallace Todd - May 11, 2018 at 12:49 AM



“ *Louis Caveness was my swim instructor at the Rusk Lions Club pool many, many, many summers ago. I remember he had me jump off the high board and assured me I would be o.k. I did live! I taught swimming lessons for 15 years in Henderson in my backyard pool. Every summer, I thought about my swim teacher and how he encouraged me. Always appreciate Louis Caveness for helping me love and respect the enjoyment of swimming. A super, great and understanding person.*

Jane Dansby - April 23, 2018 at 02:59 PM

TH

“ Many times I would go visit Louis and Stephanie at their home when Dewitt and I would leave college to get away for the weekend. I always felt at home when I was there and was very welcomed. It was an honor to have known him and spent time with him. He helped me thru college more than he knew, and for that I have always been so grateful. Since graduating from SHSU 21 years ago, Louis and Stephanie have been on my mind a lot, such great memories from staying with them in Rusk while visiting. My heart goes out to you Stephanie and Dewitt!

Todd Hopkins - April 20, 2018 at 09:51 PM

RG

“ During the years we owned the local radio stations and newspaper, we had near daily interaction with Louis as the head coach of the Eagles. Terrie and I found him to be accessible, forthcoming and gracious, no matter the score of the previous week's game. We may no longer live in East Texas but our hearts are with you, Stephanie. Robert and Terrie Gonzalez

Robert Gonzalez - April 19, 2018 at 11:04 AM

GW

“ Louis Caveness was a Great Coach, Great Mentor, and a Great Friend. My best coaching years were the years we spent in Rusk, Texas. I will miss my friend! Stephanie, Allison and myself cherished the friendship and guidance that you and Louis gave us. We miss coming to Beans Creek and will truly miss Louis. Dee, you had the best dad and Coach ever. May God give ya'll comfort and peace during this time.

Glenn & Allison Wilson

glenn wilson - April 19, 2018 at 08:22 AM

BN

“ Coach Caveness gave me my first coaching and teaching job. I still think about him and the coaching staff that helped me to make me the man I am today. To Stephanie, Dee, and family you have my families prayers and sympathy. At least one time a week, I will think about Coach Caveness and what he did for me! Brian and Gloria Nation

Brian Nation - April 18, 2018 at 11:01 PM

WG

“ Lewis was my little league baseball coach

Wayne Guinn - April 18, 2018 at 09:38 PM

NP

“ Norleine & Phillip purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Louis Caveness.



Norleine & Phillip - April 18, 2018 at 09:28 PM

CS

“ Great teammate, great roommate, and we had lots of fun in our younger years. I,loved him, and I will miss him dearly. Charles Smith

charles smith - April 18, 2018 at 08:02 PM

CB

“ When I was a year old Louis was a lifeguard at the Rusk Lions Club pool. I was sanding by mom at the deep end ladder and I jumped in and scared her half to death. Louis jumped in and coaxed me to dog paddle to him. I was the youngest ever to take swimming lessons from him. He inspired me to become a lifeguard at the age of 12. I practically lived at that pool. Louis was a kind and compassionate man. He will be missed by many.

Cathy Gabbert Booth - April 18, 2018 at 07:55 PM

DE

“ We loved Louis. He was one tough Eagle. God bless Stephanie and Dee. Dean and Jan Evans

Dean Evans - April 18, 2018 at 05:15 PM