



Sam Florian

March 14, 1941 - September 20, 2020

Sam Florian, 79, of Rusk, affectionately known as “Pop,” went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Sunday, September 20, 2020.

Sam worked in Rusk for Whitehead Enterprises in radio and the newspaper for most of his adult life. He touched many people through his work. He loved broadcasting sports for the Rusk Eagles and coaching little league baseball. He loved Rusk and supported his community in numerous ways including serving as a City Councilman for 12 years. Sam always had a big grin and a kind word for everyone and would leave you with a smile on your face.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Left behind to treasure his memory are Claudia, his wife of 40 years; son Jeff Florian and wife Lisa of Henderson, TX; daughter Jan Schad and husband Doug of Richland Hills, TX; mother-in-law Martha Sanders; sisters Sally Copus, Darlene Anderson and husband Jim, and Donna Williams; grandsons Jason Schad and wife Rasha, Coby Schad, and Scott Florian; granddaughter Sarah Schad; great grandchildren Landon, Hudson, Jayde, Blake, and Cason; and a host of extended family and friends, and his beloved Gus and Gabby. Services will be held Thursday, September 24, 2020, at 1:00 at Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home in Rusk. Burial will follow at Cedar Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be from 11:00 am – 1:00 p.m. Pallbearers will include Doug Schad, Jason Schad, Coby Schad, Scott Florian, Doug Sanders and Andy Sanders. Honorary pallbearers will be Bill Finley, Don Jones, Mike Murray, Ken Peloquin, Rob Scott and Bill Tosh.

The family wishes to thank the wonderful staff of Hospice of East Texas.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation be made to Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, Texas 75701.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 24. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home
221 5th Street
Rusk, TX 75785
(903) 683-2222
info@wallacethompson.com

Service

SEP 24. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home
221 5th Street
Rusk, TX 75785
(903) 683-2222

Tribute Wall



“ *Sam Florian*

October 04, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *I sure miss you Pop* 😞

J - May 02, 2021 at 04:01 PM

CM

“ *Sending light and love.*



Claudia Morgan-Gray - September 24, 2020 at 10:37 AM



“ *Healing Tears - Yellow and White was purchased for the family of Sam Florian.*



September 22, 2020 at 01:56 PM

KM

“ *Katherine Birmingham Mooney sent a virtual gift in memory of Sam Florian*



Katherine Birmingham Mooney - September 22, 2020 at 12:19 PM

KM

Thoughts and prayers.

Katherine Birmingham Mooney - September 22, 2020 at 12:19 PM

KM

“ Katherine Birmingham Mooney lit a candle in memory of Sam Florian



Katherine Birmingham Mooney - September 22, 2020 at 12:17 PM

BH

“ Bob & Sue Henderson lit a candle in memory of Sam Florian



Bob & Sue Henderson - September 22, 2020 at 08:31 AM



“ Condolences to Claudia and family. I remember "Savage" Sam from 1964 when he would tape our Eagle basketball games on a reel to reel tape recorder and replay the game the next morning on KTLU radio...it was my honor and pleasure to serve with Sam on Rusk City Council...I shall miss my friend...

Don Jones - September 21, 2020 at 08:51 PM

CW

Sam was truly a special person! He made the world a better place and he especially made my world a better place! I am thankful to have known him and to be able to him my friend. My only regret is nit staying in closer touch when we no longer worked together. Claudia, you and the family will certainly be in my thoughts and prayers. I am sorry I will not be able to be there for his service.

Cheri Wilson - September 22, 2020 at 10:02 AM