

**SOUTHERN PACIFIC NEWSLETTER**  
**Edited by Bill Fowler**  
**February and March 2023**



**Daniel Victor Hicks**  
**December 8, 1951 ~ December 8, 2022**

Dan was born in Tucson, Arizona on July 17, 1951 to Victor and Cleo Hicks.

Dan graduated from Catalina High School in 1970. He started his 40 year career with Southern Pacific Railroad on November 21, 1971 as a brakeman and later was promoted to conductor. Dan was involved with many programs during his career which included Operation Life Saver, Operation Redblock, Peer Support, United Way, and the Red Cross.

After he retired in 2011, Dan joined NARVRE (National Association of Retired and Veteran Railway Employees) an organization formed to protect railroad retirement funds. He became President of Unit 63 in Tucson and remained at that position until health concerns forced him to resign last November.

Dan also loved working at the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum helping with displays and talking to visitors from all over the world. He sat on the board of the museum to offer suggestions of how to improve it.

Dan loved his church and showed it by becoming part of the "property brothers," who kept the campus and memorial garden always looking well groomed. He worked three to four days a week and got to know all the kids in the daycare and preschool. Dan was given a small bible when he was six which he carried in his grip and would read it while away. His compassion and love for his fellow human being was a gift that he shared with so many.

He leaves behind his much loved wife of 48 years, Susan; sons, Daniel McLain and Darren Andrew;

daughters-in-law, Jamie and Katie (who were loved like daughters); grandchildren Jaylee, McKenna, Ashlynn), Quinn, Owen, and Reagan. He also leaves behind nieces Jacquelyn Hoey Sell and Kimberly Hoey, both daughters of his sister Jana, who predeceased Dan, and his "Carson" family whom he loved deeply.

As a reminder, the Southern Pacific Railroad History Center, in partnership with the Pacific Coast Chapter of the Railway and Locomotive Historical Society, are hosting a joint conference at the Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, Nevada between May 16 and May 21, 2023.

There will be presentations focused on Southern Pacific's last twenty-five years and a tour to visit the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City, Nevada and a ride on a Virginia & Truckee Railroad steam powered train between Carson City and Virginia City Nevada. Tickets for the tour are selling briskly and will probably be sold out by the end of this month. In addition, we are trying to add a second bus for a tour of the Western Pacific Railroad Museum at Portola, California and the Quincy Lumber Company at Quincy, California. The History Center is also hosting two events at the Nugget: the Southern Pacific Employee Reunion and Meet Former Southern Pacific Officers Up Close and Personal, and tickets for the latter event are limited. If you are interested in attending the event, you can purchase tickets for registration, the tour, and the by clicking on the following link: [https://whova.com/portal/registration/sprhc\\_202301/](https://whova.com/portal/registration/sprhc_202301/). If you cannot physically come to Sparks, you can watch two days of presentations using the Zoom platform. Please click the link immediately above to make a purchase.

Finally, there will be many former Southern Pacific employees in attendance, and so there will be many opportunities to meet old friends and talk about mutual Southern Pacific experiences.

**Edmund Julius Von Nordeck**  
**March 12, 1933 ~ December 6, 2022**

Ed was born in El Centro, California to George and Selma Von Nordeck. The family soon moved to Corona, California and purchased a pool hall called Doc's Place, which they operated until the late 1960s. Ed became interested in railroading during his school age years and would spend hours at the Corona Santa Fe Station getting educated in railroading. Upon graduation from high school, his plans were to work for the Santa Fe, but due to back problems, that didn't happen. He was hired by the Southern Pacific and assigned to its Los Angeles reservation office at the age of 19 because of his knowledge and enthusiasm of passenger rail trains. Life changed in 1953 when Uncle Sam called and required twenty-four months of service. His basic training was at Camp San Luis Obispo, California; followed by 18 months in Berlin, Germany during the Korean War. He returned to civilian life working for Southern Pacific in Los Angeles.

In 1957, he met a new employee, Mary Lee, who later became his wife on December 4, 1958. The marriage came with a readymade family, as Mary Lee had a three year old daughter, Lori. In 1963, Ed left his job with Southern Pacific and the family moved to Perris, California to become resident managers of the Orange Empire Trolley Museum. He ran special rail tours from Los Angeles to the Ramona Outdoor Play in Hemet as fund raisers for the museum. In 1965, "Let's Travel Tours" was started by Ed and Mary Lee in order to provide railroad tours throughout the southwest and Mexico. Let's Travel was among the first travel agents to sell Amtrak tickets. They were honored to be part of the "Golden Spike Society" for twenty years for their large volume of sales.

The passing of Ed is a huge loss for the rail passenger community, for those who were privileged to know him as a friend and for everyone who values the development and improvement of the nation's intercity and commuter trains. Ed is survived by his wife Mary Lee, daughter and son-in-law Lori and Dane Clarke, and granddaughter Heather Clarke.



**Gary Lee Ginnett**  
**October 5, 1936 ~ December 31, 2022**

Born on October 5, 1936 and died on December 31, 2022 in Sheridan, Arkansas. He was the only child of Simpson Franklin and Elsie Naomi Spharler Ginnett. "Baby" Ginnett, as he was affectionately known, was the apple of his parent's eyes. Gary was raised in the Marsh Fox neighborhood in Pine Bluff and attended Watson Chapel High School. He was a star player on the undefeated 1954 Watson Chapel football team.

Gary married his high school sweetheart, Loretta Laminack, in 1954. He entered the Air Force and later was stationed in Las Vegas, Nevada and Reykjavik, Iceland. He had a 39-year career with the Cotton Belt, working in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, Dallas, Texas, and East St. Louis, Illinois. He retired in 1997. He was a member of Matthews Memorial Baptist Church in Pine Bluff.

After retirement, Gary began providing lawn care services in Pine Bluff, eventually developing this into a business known as "The Grass Guys." He loved restoring cars, especially his beloved Gremlin, which was reinvented many times over its 50-year life span. He knew his way around a car, offering his expertise to many over the years. He will be remembered for his sense of humor, and love for his friends and family.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife of sixty-eight years, Loretta Laminack Ginnett; daughter Terri Peck (John) of Sheridan; son Doug Ginnett (Cricket) of Neosho, Missouri; daughter Tracy Clark (Tony) of Sheridan; daughter Tandi Green (Michael) of Rogers, Arkansas; and son Dwight Ginnett (Laurie) of Redfield, Arkansas; grandchildren, Chris Peck (Susan), Ashleigh Franck (Alex), Jessica Dobbins (Jason), Anna Ginnett, Colton Nattin, Jay Newman, and Shelby Newman; great-grandchildren, Lexi Peck, Abby Peck, Haley Webb, Raeleigh Nattin, Ty Franck, and Ella Franck.

Editor's request: When changing email addresses, please send your new address to [billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org](mailto:billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org).



**John Robert Maldonado**  
**August 21, 1947 ~ January 4, 2023**

John Robert Maldonado of Lakeway, Texas, passed away with his wife, Linda by his side on January 4, 2023, at the age of 75. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and was our dear friend and confidant. His sharp wit and blazing smile will forever be cherished in our hearts and memories.

Born in Del Rio, Texas, John attended Del Rio High School and Southwest Texas State University before serving as an Army Ranger in Vietnam. He was an officer in the San Antonio Police Department and then later became an FBI Agent in Houston before settling into a thirty-eight year career as a locomotive engineer with Southern Pacific/Union

He loved gardening, especially upon retiring from the railroad industry. He attended the Master Gardening program and later became a Master Naturalist and member of the Herb and Orchid Societies. His volunteer work included the Children's Garden at the Botanical Gardens along with coordinating construction for the Buckaroo Tent at the San Antonio Rodeo.

He is survived by his loving wife of eighteen years, Linda Maldonado; his mother, Hortensia Maldonado; sister, Bertha Maldonado; his children, Nicole White (Tony), Renee Montgomery (Brent), Marisa Maldonado (Victoria), Tristan Maldonado (Katie), Richard Golden (Amy), and Michael Golden; fourteen grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.



**Silverio Rafael Mendoza**  
**June 20, 1928 ~ December 26, 2022**

Silverio Rafael Mendoza, 94, passed peacefully on December 26, 2022 in El Paso, Texas. He was born June 20, 1928 in Sheridan, Wyoming.

Silverio retired from Southern Pacific and was a devoted and active parishioner at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. He loved music, especially the guitar, and played guitar for the church choir during Mass. He was also a faithful participant in the Spanish Cursillo.

Silverio was adored by his children and always looked forward to seeing his family. He loved life, and his infectious smile served as a beacon of love for those fortunate enough to have known him.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Juan Hernandez Mendoza and Beatriz Aguinaga; his beloved brother, Juan Aguinaga Mendoza; his loving wife Constancia Lopez, and his beloved son, Juan L Mendoza.

He is survived by his children, Silverio Mendoza, Arturo Mendoza, Jorge Mendoza, Juan H Mendoza (Maria), Alfredo Mendoza (Karen), Irene Medders, Carlos Mendoza, and Samuel Mendoza. He also leaves behind wonderful grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



**Edwin Vernon Leniger**  
**April 1, 1933 ~ January 12, 2023**

Edwin Vernon Leniger passed away early morning January 12, 2023, at the family residence in Beavercreek, Oregon surrounded by loved ones.

He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Margaret Leniger; daughter, Vanessa Boeckman (Loren Boeckman) of Newberg, Oregon; son, Edwin Leniger Jr. (Joy Leniger) of Beavercreek; daughter, Joyce Hurlbutt (Jeff Hurlbutt) of Albany, Oregon; and his younger brother, Floyd James Leniger of Portland, Oregon. Ed was blessed with seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Ed was born April 1, 1933, in Dodge City, Kansas, during the dust bowl to Elijah and Treasure Leniger. The family settled in Sandpoint, Idaho in 1942, where he subsequently met his wife, Margaret. During high school Ed was active in football, and in 1952, the Sandpoint Bulldogs became the State champions with him as quarterback. Ed joined the Navy after graduation and served four years during the Korean war serving on the USS Kearsarge. Once Margaret graduated from high school, they were married in San Francisco in 1954.

After being honorably discharged from the military they settled in Los Angeles where he attended Northrop Grumman college of Engineering. Ed and family moved to Portland in 1960, where he took a position as a switchman for the Southern Pacific where he retired after thirty-plus years. Ed and Margaret bought a small family farm in Beavercreek in 1967 where they still reside. Ed was active in the local community; he was instrumental in creating

and building the Beaver Creek baseball diamond and the creation of Beaver Creek Little League team. He was active in 4-H, the Milwaukie Elks, and enjoyed playing golf, wood working, leatherwork, raising cattle, and working on the farm.

**John William (Bill) Lynch**  
**January 1, 1928 ~ January 14, 2023**

Retired Southern Pacific Sacramento Division superintendent and division engineer John William (Bill) Lynch passed away at his home in Sacramento, California on January 14, 2023, at the age of 95. With him was his wife Jane. His railroad career spanned from June 14, 1954 (on the Western Pacific) to his retirement on July 31, 1988. Arrangements for a memorial/celebration of life are pending.

Bill was born on January 1, 1928, into a Western Pacific family. His father was brakeman James F Lynch and his mother was Elsie Peterson Lynch. Bill was a twin brother to Robert, younger brother to J F Lynch Jr., and older brother to Melva Ann. Not only did Bill learn about railroading growing up in this family, but he also became very interested in aviation, working as a teen at the Elko airport, gaining his pilot license, and flying charter and mail services.

He was drafted into the service in 1950 and served as a combat infantryman in Korea, and was discharged in 1952. Before returning to airline service, he enjoyed a trip with his parents (his father was an assistant superintendent on the Western Pacific) to Colorado to visit grandparents and learn more about narrow and standard gauge railroading in that state. Upon being furloughed from airline work in 1953, he began civil engineering studies at the University of Nevada. His first summer job was as a Western Pacific extra gang timekeeper in 1954. In 1956, Bill took a summer job in the Southern Pacific's engineering office in Sacramento, and by this time, his brother, Jim, was a bridge engineer with Southern Pacific and brother Robert was a United States Navy pilot. He graduated in June, 1957, and reported to Sacramento again, followed by assignments to construction projects on the Tucson and Rio Grande Divisions, and was assigned to Roseville by 1961.

Medford, Oregon, was a frequent training ground for new roadmasters. When Bill arrived in 1962, he found the roadmaster's clerk, Loretta "Jane" Cox, there to help him learn the ropes. She reports that he was the only young roadmaster who

accompanied her to the field to explain terns like frogs, points, and angle bars. Something clicked and they were married in Reno, Nevada on June 8, 1963, and had David and Lynda in the following years, which led to five grandchildren and two great-grand kids.

In 1964, he was division engineer on the Northwestern Pacific, under the tutelage of superintendent Charlie Neal. Bill and roadmaster "Oroville" were caught alone at Island Mountain in the floods that winter and had an epic night and day hike/climb/crawl to get out to find food and shelter. Together they rebuilt the NWP (again).

He is perhaps best known for his service as division engineer at Sacramento where snowfall during some winters requires operation of rotary snowplows, as well as constant struggles to maintain the Great Salt Lake fill and several hundred other miles of trackage and roadbed through mountain canyons and across vast deserts. Bill never forgot the gravity of operating in these hostile environments where the legacy of the snowbound City of San Francisco is ever present. He was very willing to share his knowledge with many, including writers and photographers; we are very lucky to have great documentation of this era through Richard Steinheimer's and others' work.

Bill is survived by his wife Jane, son David, daughter Lynda, grandson Nicholas, granddaughters Sarah, Stephanie, Heather, and Courtney. His parents, brothers Robert and J F Lynch Jr., and sister Melva predeceased him.

Editor's note: This obituary was written by Mike McGinley, a long-time Southern Pacific engineering officer.

**Rudy L. Estrada**  
**1933 ~ 2023**

Rudy Lemus Estrada, 89, died on January 25, 2023 at home in Lovelock, Nevada with his family by his side.

Rudy was born in Ogden, Utah on July 29, 1933 to Herman and Josephine Estrada.

He worked for Southern Pacific for forty-seven years in Lovelock, Nevada. After retiring in 1995, Rudy kept busy by working on ranches in the greater Reno area.

He is survived by a son; three daughters; a step son; a step daughter; and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

**Douglas (Doug) Walter Wills**  
**August 31, 1948 ~ January 16, 2023**

Douglas (Doug) Walter Wills passed away in his home in Georgetown, Texas on January 16, 2023, with his wife and children by his side. Doug was born in Tucson, Arizona on August 31, 1948, to Ray and Mildred Wills.

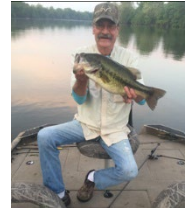
He was the first born for the couple with another son, Steve born one year later. The brothers were raised close and shared many fond childhood memories often including their extended relatives. Ray was a railroad man and both sons followed in his path. Doug began working for Southern Pacific in high school over summers when not balancing practice for athletics. He played many sports throughout high school earning honors and added to a collegiate baseball team. Throughout his life, sports remained a focus and source of immense happiness.

Doug went to the University of Arizona and married Rebecca Wills (Becky Burke) prior to his graduation. Doug and Becky had met as children as Becky was friends with Doug's cousin. He may not have paid close attention to the young girl playing with his cousin, but he noticed and married the woman she became soon after she also started studying at the University of Arizona. Doug praised Becky for many attributes and told his kids often, "You won the lottery in Moms." The commitment to each other was shown in many ways through a long and fruitful marriage.

After he graduated from college, he began work full time for Southern Pacific. At the time of his retirement, Doug worked for in the railroad industry for forty-one years and was considered an "expert" in railroad operations. Playing golf, being a sports fan, and driving his convertible Corvette were his passions outside of family and faith.

Doug was the ultimate provider husband and father. His wife and children will readily state that their lives would have been vastly different without his constant and unshakable efforts. A source of pride and principle, his work ethic was unmatched. Doug maintained a part time job even in retirement at Sun City Golf Club where he was able to make friends and spend time in an environment he loved. He was a practicing Catholic and in his later years greatly enjoyed attending Mass at Santa Rosa de Lima.

Doug is survived by his loving wife Becky; his brother Steve and sister-in-law Linda; and his five children, Laura, Karen, Patty, Dan, and Megan. He was beloved by his grandchildren, Logan, Jacob, Luke, Ethan, Evan, Claire, Colin, Seth, Regan, and Lucy. Doug was preceded in death by his father Ray, mother Mildred, and grandson Jacob.



**Timothy "Tim" Blair Estes**  
**August 21, 1950 ~ December 29, 2022**

Timothy "Tim" Blair Estes, 72, of Pine Bluff, Arkansas passed away December 29, 2022. He was born August 21, 1950, in Pine Bluff, and was the son of Joan Coppell and Paul Raymond Estes.

Tim graduated from Watson Chapel High School in 1969. He was a member of First Baptist Church and served in the United States National Guard. Tim also worked for the Cotton Belt as a machinist for twenty years.

He was an avid fisherman and loved hunting, and he was preceded in death by his father.

Survivors include his mother, Joan Estes of Heber Springs, Arkansas; son, Christopher M. Estes of Pine Bluff; daughter, Ashley Amanda Wright (Jeff) of East End, Arkansas; brother, Randal (Ebb) Estes of Heber Springs; four granddaughters; and seven great-grandchildren.



**Richard Wakefield**  
**1946 ~ 2023**

On January 13, 2023, Richard Wakefield of Tucson, Arizona passed away at the age of 76 years old.

He is survived by his wife Diane; daughter Julie (Lewis); son Brian (Ingrid); and grandchildren Brandon and Isabella.

He served in the Navy for two years and worked for the Southern Pacific eighteen years. He had a passion for antique arms, guns, swords and coins. He was a founding member of the Historical Arms Society of Tucson.

Editor's note: Jon Hurst noted, "He hired out in April of 1969 and was promoted to conductor four years later. On June 3 of 1987, Rich was injured in a derailment at Ligurta, near Welton, Arizona, when



the locomotive he was in turned on its side. Soon after that, he took a disability retirement.



**Jose "Pepe" Ramirez**  
**April 18, 1944 ~ January 24, 2023**

Jose "Pepe" Ramirez, 78, passed away on January 24, 2023 in El Paso Texas.

He was born on April 18, 1944 in Fabens, Texas to Remedios and Jose Ramirez. Pepe graduated from Ysleta High School. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, becoming an expert rifleman and earning a National Defense Service medal. He served honorably, achieving the rank of sergeant.

In April 2004, after 30 years of service he retired as a chief clerk from Southern Pacific/Union Pacific. Throughout his life, he coached softball having accomplished many awards that included national and state championships. He had the pleasure to have coached his daughter, granddaughter and so many other young girls in the community. He was the most kind and caring of people, "too nice," some might say.

He is preceded in death by his parents and siblings as well as his beloved wife, Alicia O. Ramirez who passed in October 2021.

He is survived by his two daughters, Yvette M. Ramirez (Isabel) and Valerie M. Garcia (Andres) both of El Paso, Texas. He is also survived by two grandchildren, Cassandra C. Garcia and Christian J. Garcia; two great-grandchildren, Samantha R. Garcia and Ryan A. Soto; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.



**Victor Manuel Lagunas Sr.**  
**February 11, 1924 ~ January 14, 2023**

Victor (Chito) was born in El Paso, Texas on February 11, 1924, and he passed away in Sacramento, California on January 14, 2023.

Victor was preceded in death by his one and only true love and high school sweetheart Enriqueta "Queta" DeLaRosa Lagunas; parents Manuel and Julia Lagunas; brothers Luis and Armando Lagunas; and sisters Julie Wilson Neville and Irene Nesom Coffey.

He is survived by sons Victor Jr. (Brenda), Gilbert (Eugenia), Mark (Gwendolyn), Martin (Eva); daughter Melinda Denise; sisters Marta Rosina Lagunas-Reils (Bob), Magdalena Lagunas; sisters-in-law Mary Louise Lagunas, Marta Hermosillo (Ruben), and Irma DeLaRosa; grandsons Eric (Angie) and Kayl (Hellen), Michael, Nicholas, Danielle, and Nicole; and great-grandsons Mark, Isaiah, Anthony, Benjamin, Tyler, Cameron, and Austin.

Before going overseas during World War II, Victor was sent to an Army tank operations school in Detroit, Michigan for four months. He served with the 14th Armored Division commanded by General George Patton, traveling through France, Belgium, Germany, and ending in Austria. The 14th Armored Division was known as the "Liberators" because its soldiers freed the majority of those living in concentration camps in France and Germany.

He returned home from Europe in March 1946 & married Queta. Victor was honored by the French Government and received a Diploma of Thanks. Victor received a letter from the French General Council in San Francisco thanking him for his service for protecting their country.

Victor also held an honorary master's degree in Military Arts from Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee. He was very proud his older sons Victor Jr. and Gilbert, who served in the Army during the Vietnam War.

A resident in Sacramento since 1952, Victor was a machinist for Southern Pacific for over forty years. In 1960, Southern Pacific purchased twenty four German locomotives and he was chosen to be part of the team to be trained on the intricate Voith diesel-hydraulic transmission. Victor loved the German language and metric system, and befriended Otto Aeugle, head of the German team. After spending six years in the United States, the German crew returned to Germany. He kept in contact with Otto and both families exchanged visits to Germany and the United States.

He was a docent for the California State Railroad Museum, restoring historic railroad equipment, including the El Dorado located in Old Sacramento. For many years, Victor donated blood to the Blood Bank, totaling 20 gallons! He was a parishioner at St. Peter All-Hollows Church.

After retirement, Victor was an avid health-nut and physically active, going back to school at

Sacramento City College to not only study German, but took up downhill skiing, spin class, volleyball, and circuit weight training in his 70s, 80s, and 90s.



**Tommy Lynn Cash**  
**August 4, 1949 ~ February 5, 2023**

Tommy Lynn Cash, 73, of Pine Bluff, Arkansas went to be with the Lord on February 5, 2023. He was born August 4, 1949 in Pine Bluff to Ira and Oralyn Lutrell Cash.

Tommy graduated from Rison High School in Rison High School, where he was an honor student and excelled in track and basketball. Tommy high jumped for the RHS track team. During his first ever track meet, he set a state record in the high jump for Class B schools. He won the Meet of Champs high jump competition. He also high jumped for Arkansas A&M College (now the University of Arkansas at Monticello). Tommy graduated from Arkansas A&M with a business degree in 1971.

He worked at the Cotton Belt/ Union Pacific for thirty-eight years, retiring as a transportation clerk. He loved to be outdoors and was known to be an amazing gardener (both flowers and vegetables). He enjoyed watching sports, fishing, and hunting. He was known for being incredibly dependable, honest, and hardworking. He was a member of the Rison Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by his parents; parent in laws, Robert, and Helen Munn Lindsey; brother-in-law, Luther W. Brown; and a niece, Stacey Brown Sadler.

Survivors include his loving wife of forty years, Beth Cash; son, Bryan Cash (Christina); brothers, Mike Cash (Evelyn) and Randy Cash (Kathy); and sister, Schaun Brown.

**Billy Glyn Day**  
**August 17, 1941 ~ January 31, 2023**

Billy Glyn Day of San Antonio, Texas, was born August 17, 1941 and entered eternal rest on January 31, 2023.

Bill worked for many years as a locomotive engineer for Southern Pacific/Union Pacific.

Bill was a loving husband, father, and brother. He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Elina Day; his

daughter Missy (Greg) Hemphill; and four precious grandchildren, Travis and Taylor Hemphill and Cody and Adam Walker; other loving family members; and friends.

He is preceded in death by his daughter Jackie Walker; six brothers and sisters; and his parents John and Pearl Day.



**David Lee Murray**  
**September 3, 1946 ~ January 31, 2023**

David Lee Murray was called home by his Father in Heaven on January 31, 2023. He was 76 years old. He was born in Del Rio, Texas on September 3, 1946. David Lee was raised by his mother and grandparents and spent his formative years in Del Rio.

At 17, he enlisted in the United States Navy. He was then assigned to the Fleet Marines as a combat medic, and soon after left for Vietnam. He was twice decorated for his service in Vietnam, receiving the Vietnam Service Medal with Fleet Marine Combat Operations Insignia and the National Defense Service Medal.

After leaving the military, David Lee returned home to Del Rio, and worked odd jobs to support himself and his family. After some years, he found his three passions: railroading, music, and the ministry.

David Lee retired after thirty-four years with Southern Pacific and Amtrak. He then began his music ministry, spreading the gospel through word and song.

David Lee had a country band that toured throughout Texas for years, and was also a Christian recording artist with Dimension records.

He had a prison ministry as well. Soon after he became a certified lay minister, serving Methodist Churches in Rocksprings, Barksdale, and Brackettville.

As pastor, David Lee would always say, "Everything's already okay, you just don't know it yet" and "I love you whether you like it or not."

David Lee is survived by his loving wife of seventeen years Jana; children, Christy Reilly, Ted Murray, Jene' Hurney and husband Tom, Chance Ring and wife Lisa, Ranea and husband Ahmed;

grandchildren Joseph, Tatum, Jacob, Zakary and wife Jennifer, Tyler and wife Hannah, Courtney and husband Tyler Wayne, Sara, George; great grandson Michael; and friends too numerous to mention.



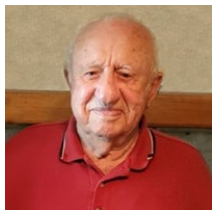
**Alvis Jesse Worthen**  
**September 21, 1930 ~ February 14, 2023**

Alvis Jesse Worthen, 92, of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, peacefully went to be with the Lord, on February 14, 2023. He was born September 21, 1930 in Grapevine, Arkansas to Holbert and Hazel Ashcraft Worthen. Alvis was a very devoted family man and you could not find a more loving and caring husband, father and grandfather.

Alvis was reared and educated in Grapevine. He worked as a carman for the Cotton Belt before retiring in 1992. Alvis served in the National Guard and was a member of Taylor Masonic Lodge #206 at Grapevine. He was a member of Salem Missionary Baptist Church.

Preceding him in death were his parents; sister, Rita Worthen; and two brothers, Carrol Worthen and Gaylon Worthen.

Survivors include his wife of over seventy years, Patsy Evelyn Ramick Worthen, whom he married October 19, 1952 in Grapevine; two sons, Anthony Ramick Worthen and Dean Allan Worthen (Darlene); one daughter, Sherri Lynn Todd (Bill); three grandchildren, Allan Worthen, Andrea Wood (Brandon), and Drew Worthen (Sarah); two great grandchildren, Andrew Wood and Peyton Wood; his devoted dog, Faith; and a host of nieces and nephews.



**Harold James Huval**  
**February 18, 1927 ~ February 2, 2023**

Harold James Huval, 95, of Moss Bluff, Louisiana, passed on Thursday, February 2, 2023.

Mr. Huval was born on February 18, 1927, in Scott, Louisiana, and moved to Lake Charles, Louisiana in 1952 before moving to Moss Bluff in 1980. He served his country in the United States Merchant Marines during World War II. He was a devoted member of St. Theodore Catholic Church, where he served as an usher. He was a past member of the

Knights of Columbus and the W. B. Williamson American Legion Post #1. Mr. Huval worked as a locomotive engineer for Southern Pacific for forty years and also owned and operated various businesses and rental properties throughout the years, including The Bluff Skate Country that he built and opened in 1982.

Mr. Huval always put God first in his life, followed by his family. He was an avid golfer and reader and enjoyed saltwater fishing and dancing with his wife, with whom he also traveled the world. They were members of the Cruisin Cajuns and also enjoyed traveling in their motor home. Mr. Huval will always be remembered as having a smile on his face and for his sense of humor.

Those left to cherish his memory are six children, Christine Collins of Lake Charles, Charlotte Baudoin (Steve) of Lake Charles, David Huval (Greta) of Moss Bluff, Kathleen "Kathy" Harrell of Kinder, Louisiana, Hubert J. "Huey" Huval (Denise) of Kennesaw, Georgia, and Claudia Dugas (Derrick) of Moss Bluff; brother, Daniel Huval (Anna) of Meaux, Louisiana; sister and Godchild, Jeanette Huval of Lafayette; twenty-six grandchildren; and fifty great-grandchildren, with one more on-the-way.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of sixty-eight years, Dorothy "Dot" Latiolais Huval; parents, Oscar and Esther Duhon Huval; sons-in-law, Terry Collins and Jeff Harrell; sister, Mary Alice Rabieaux; and two great-grandchildren.

**Lauren (Hank) Henry Gale Jr**  
**1945 ~ 2023**

Lauren Henry (Hank) Gale Jr. passed away February 9, 2023, in Eugene, Oregon.

Hank was born in Orange, California in 1945 to parents Hallie Marie Dudrey Gale DeJong and Lauren (Laddie) Henry Gale who was one of the University of Oregon's "Tall Firs" in 1939.

Hank was an alumni of North Salem High School and Central Oregon Community College in Bend, Oregon. Throughout his career with Southern Pacific and his love of geography, Hank explored Oregon he loved so much all of his life.

Hank is survived by his son Lauren (Lenny) Henry Gale III and his grandson, Nicholas D. Dale, who both live in Marcola, Oregon, and his two sisters, Robin Gale Terrett of Goldbeach, Oregon and Mary Ann (Tia) Gale Menser of Florence Oregon.



**Southern Pacific and Cotton Belt Reunion  
April 16 through April 19, 2023  
Pocola, Oklahoma**

The reunion will be held at the Choctaw Casino Too-Pocola (<https://www.choctawcasinos.com/pocola/>) in Pocola, Oklahoma from April 16, 2023 through April 19, 2023 (with checkout on April 20, 2023). Rates for the rooms will be \$99.00 per night, plus 10.5% tax. Each guest will receive \$10 free play at check-in; transportation to and from the airport; access to the business center; complimentary wireless internet access; cable TV; concierge services; and more.



The Casino is located at 3400 Choctaw Road, Pocola, Oklahoma 74902. For reservations call 800-590-5825. The hotel contact for the reunion is Sheryl Buckner and refer to SPRR Reunion. **Reservations must be made before April 1, 2023, as room availability and special rate may not be available after this date.**

The Casino will provide our customary dinners for the evening of arrival (April 16, 2023) and the last night before departure (April 19, 2023). The cost of the dinners is \$40.00 for the first night and \$35 for the last night. **Payment for the dinners must be made before March 17, 2023.**

Tours of the Fort Smith Trolley Museum and Chaffee Barbershop are free.

For more information, please call Virginia Rodriguez at 281-487-4961 or Leon Roesler at 281-424-4307.

We hope to see you there!