



## A.R. Durbin

August 25, 1957 - February 28, 2007

A. R. "Sonny" Durbin passed away Feb. 28, 2007, at the Heart Hospital in Albuquerque from complications of pneumonia. He was born in Roswell July 3, 1938 to Cecil Aubrey Durbin and Lillian Rivers Durbin; both his parents preceded him in death.

Sonny and Sylvia Pilling were married Aug. 25, 1957 in Carlsbad; she survives him at the family home. They owned and operated Durb's Fruit Market and Durbin Produce Company in Roswell. He loved Nascar, dirt track racing and building racecars. Sonny and his family loved to trout fish in the summer.

In addition to his wife, Sylvia, Sonny is survived by his three children, Cynthia Lay and her husband, Connie, of Tahlequah, OK, Renee Little and her husband, Kedric, of Roswell, and Dayton Aubrey Durbin of Hobbs, NM; seven grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; two sisters, Lillian Haley and her husband, Virgil, of Roswell, and Norma Bacher of Azle, TX; numerous nieces and nephews; and a host of friends.

Pallbearers will be Dayton Durbin, Ryan Scott, Kent Scott, Connie Lay, Virgil, Eugene, Bruce, and Terry Haley, Stan Vandever, and T. J. Whitaker.

Honorary pallbearers will be all his friends with whom he loved to play dominoes at the park.

Services for Sonny will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday, March 5, 2007, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 2201 W. Country Club. A luncheon will follow the service. Burial will be at 3 pm in the Carlsbad

Cemetery Carlsbad, NM.

Sonny will lie in state Saturday from 10 am to 8 pm, Sunday from 12 to 8 pm at the funeral home and Monday from 9 am to service time at the church.

The family invites those attending the services to wear western wear.

Donations may be made to the American Lung Association or the Heart Association.

To sign the register book online go to [www.andersonbethany.com](http://www.andersonbethany.com)

Services are under the direction of Anderson-Bethany Funeral Home and Crematory.

# Tribute Wall



“ *A.R. Durbin*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *Sonny was one of a kind. I would shop with my grandmother at Durb's, and then in college I worked there a couple of summers and Christmas breaks. Sonny was a good man, a hard worker and a good boss. My sympathies to all the Durbin family, especially his beautiful wife, Sylvia. God bless you.*

**Liz (Zellmer) Huddle** - April 04, 2007 at 10:16 AM



“ *Dear Sylvia and Family, I just wanted to send a note to let you know Im truly sorry to hear of the passing of Sonny I know you now have alot to bear, and wanted to send you a big hug. If you dont remember who I am I was good friends with Gwen and Renee. And I attended LDS also. I know Sonny is soaring with the angels and probely working as had in heaven as he worked on earth. God Bless you Linda Sumrow*

**Linda Sumrow** - March 14, 2007 at 09:55 AM



“ *He was my Uncle Jug. Always telling funny stories and jokes. Wish we lived closer so we could have visited more. I loved you lots and will miss you dearly! Love to all of the family. May God bless you all*

**Betty Jo Henderson** - March 07, 2007 at 01:11 PM

RC

“ My prayers and thoughts are with you all today. I will remember Sonny always...

Roy Chrisman - March 05, 2007 at 01:28 PM

GW

“ Our prayers go out to the whole family. I know how sad it is to loose a family member. But I believe Sonny is in a better place! He will be missed by all that really knew him. All in all Sonny was a good ole guy! God Bless each and everyone in the family!

Glenda, Patty, Travis Williams - March 05, 2007 at 01:05 PM

JS

“ Sonny and my father, Joe Shamas, Sr., were both long time merchants in Roswell and in that way, were involved in sustaining this community. It saddens me greatly when we lose one of those valued men who made a life and a family here in Roswell while serving others through a hometown business. Please accept our sympathies.

Judge & Mrs. Ralph Shamas - March 05, 2007 at 08:35 AM

GB

“ Sonny was, by marriage, my cousin and one of the best in-laws I ever had. I wish he and Sylvia had lived closer so we could have spent more time together. I didn't fish, like them, but I would have enjoyed going with them anytime. My mother would visit them almost every year and Sonny was very good to her. They had a lot of good laughs. God bless you, Sylvia and family.

Glenn Bryner - March 04, 2007 at 08:08 PM

AD

“ WE SEND OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO SYLVIA AND FAMILY. SONNY WAS THE HARDEST WORKING MAN I EVER MET IN MY GENERATION.HE WAS VERY HONEST AND ENJOYED TO SEE OTHERS LAUGH AT HIS JOKES. HE WAS TO ME A TRUE SOUTHWEST COWBOY AND I ALWAYS REFERRED TO HIM AS ONE OF THE "GOOD OLE BOYS OR "THE OLE COWBOY " I PRAY FOR SYLVIA AND THE FAMILY TO HAVE THE STRENGHT TO CARRY ON KNOWNING SONNY IS NOW RIDING WITH THE ANGELS.GOD BLESS YOU ALL WITH HIS GREAT LOVE KARLEEN BRYNER

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**A.R. DURBIN** - March 04, 2007 at 07:07 PM