



Billy Ray Shaw

September 14, 1936 - January 11, 2023

Billy Ray Shaw, 86, passed away peacefully in his home on Wednesday, January 11, 2023. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 66 years, Bennie, who had passed away only hours earlier the day before.

"Papa Dude", as he was affectionately called by his family, was born on September 14, 1936, to SK and Margaret Shaw in Clovis, NM. He graduated from Melrose High school in 1955 before enlisting in the Army. He married his sweetheart, Bennie Baxley, on March 16, 1956, in Roswell. They made their home and raised their two sons in Hagerman, while Bill served on the Artesia police force and later as a New Mexico State Police officer for over 30 years. He was an active community member, and a regular fixture at Toby's Cafe each morning for coffee. Bill was a member of the First Baptist Church in Hagerman, as well as a loyal brother of the New Mexico State Police Brotherhood Association. He also served as a city councilman and was a member of the Hagerman Lions Club. Prior to his retirement from the State Police force in 1985, he received many awards for his outstanding service and dedication. After retiring, he worked several years in security for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Artesia, as well as in transport services for Tate Branch Automotive. Bill had a big personality, and a booming laugh to match. He loved fishing with his boys, woodworking, and watching the Cowboys play on Sunday afternoons.

Bill is preceded in death by his parents, his wife Bennie, and sisters Betty Morgan and Barbara Hughes.

He is survived by his sons Casey Shaw (Faye) of Livingston, LA, and Jay Shaw (Kimberly, deceased) of Hagerman, NM; his grandchildren Mara Poe (Jonathan) of Walker, LA, Aubrie Forbes (Mitchel) of Moreauville, LA, Cassie Holland (Wade) of Walker, LA, Adam Jones (Angel) of Walker, LA, Katie Reyes (Dr. Jose) of Chicago, IL, Camille Shaw of Jarrell, TX and Madalyn Shaw of Jarrell, TX; one brother, Gary Shaw (Choleng) of Iowa, and sister Sheryl Nation of Childress, TX. His great-grandchildren include Thaddeus and Jemma Poe, Everlie Forbes, Owen and Taysom Holland, Adaline, Annie, Allison, Ely Jones, and Emilia Shaw. Bill had many nieces, nephews, and extended family who loved him dearly

A combined memorial service for Bill and Bennie will be held at the First Baptist Church of Hagerman on Saturday, January 28th, at 2:00 pm. Their nephews, Jimmy and Toby Baxley, and "Brother Herb" Gage will be officiating.

The family would like to extend sincere thanks to the Hagerman and Dexter EMT departments as well as Lali Munoz, their dear family friend, and devoted caretaker to Bennie and Bill.

Please take a moment to share a kind thought or memory with the Shaw family at www.andersonbethany.com.

Billy's tribute is written in his honor by his family

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 28. 2:00 PM (MT)

First Baptist Church (Hagerman)
211 Cambridge Ave
Hagerman, NM 88232

Tribute Wall



“ *Bill and Bennie will be greatly missed in Hagerman. They both showed God's love in all they did. I don't remember the first time your dad looked after me, he seemed to always be there in the important moments of my life. My brother and sister-in law were your neighbors for a time in the circle. I went to college in Oklahoma, on a trip home (I was 18) we were stopped in McLean, Texas because of a dirt storm, a police car was leading groups through the dirt. I was worried because I had never experience this, then there was a knock on my window. There stood Bill, he was in the car just in front of me. He told me everything to do and told me to stop when we made it through to make sure I was OK. I believe God put him there to help me. Your Mom did the same for so many people. I know they were both proud of their family, as they should be. Hold tight to your history, it is one the be proud of. All my love, Tammy Harshey Taylor*

Tammy Harshey Taylor - January 28, 2023 at 01:17 PM



“ *I lost one of my childhood heros this past week and his life long wife passed one day before him. He was the reason I chose Law Enforcement as a career.... Grew up bringing him coffee in my moms cafe when he came in...and got pulled over by him once on State Road 2...(thats a long story for another time...) Hell of a man and if you were ever fighting for your life and he showed up....the fight was instantly over...He fougth like a chainsaw..... Bill Shaw NMSP...so glad to call you a friend and even happier to call you my Brother..... "Rest well my good and faithful servant" New Mexico and the world is a lesser place without you and Benny. I always thought he walked on water...*

Virgil Hodges - January 27, 2023 at 12:05 PM



“ *Bill Shaw was a great man, he was honest, hard working man who try to keep us youger adults starting out in this big journey of life on the right path. He was certainly a role model for many of us. We are going to miss this wonderful man. RIP Bill Shaw*

Janie Mendoza - January 26, 2023 at 12:03 AM



“ *When is was a kid and when I worked along side him... He walked on water. And was the reason I choose law enforcement as a career.... One of the giants I was privileged to walk along..*

Virgil Hodges - January 25, 2023 at 07:49 PM