



Phil Brewer

May 5, 1955 - November 4, 2015

Philip Terry Brewer was a unique gentleman. Even the date of his birth was distinctive and memorable, Phil having been born on 5/5/55, in San Antonio, Texas. Phil died at 60 years of age on November 4, 2015, in Lubbock, Texas, following a brief hospitalization.

Phil was a man of many talents, educated and well-read, a commendable athlete, and an accomplished lawyer. He was, in the truest sense, a man of genius. Phil never found it necessary to stay too long in any level of his education, graduating from Midland (TX) High School in 1973 after only three years of attendance. He then entered McMurry College (now University) in 1973, and graduated with highest academic honors (summa cum laude) in 1976. From there, Phil was admitted to the University of Texas School of Law, where he was awarded his juris doctorate in 1979.

Phil moved to Roswell in 1979, and joined the Hinkle law firm. In the years that followed, Phil began to focus his practice on matters involving energy and natural resources, and was associated with several outstanding Roswell lawyers. Phil found his true niche, however, when he established his own independent practice at his office on 4th Street in Roswell, where he continued to practice until the time of his death. True to his unique nature, Phil dubbed the offices "Pegasus Place," a reference to the mythical winged horse that had long been the symbol of Mobil Oil. When the folks at Mobil decided that some lawyer in Roswell had begun improperly using their symbol, they tried to force Phil to stop doing so. Phil reached an agreement with them that

made them think they'd won, but those of us who have been to Phil's office know that he had the last laugh. The winged horse still flies there, proudly keeping watch over Phil's domain.

Phil's brilliance allowed him to solve a legal problem or a math problem with equal ability, but he was most at home in the law. During his career, he was licensed to practice in both Texas and New Mexico, and was Board certified in Natural Resources law.

He was named a Best Lawyer in America in Oil & Gas, and a Southwest Super Lawyer in Energy & Natural Resources, accomplishments and recognitions reserved for only the best.

Phil's considerable accomplishments in the law were overshadowed by his generosity in giving his time and talent to many worthy causes. For many years, his name has been synonymous with the administration of the Eastern NM State Fair, and he also served on the Board of CASA, an organization dedicated to helping children in difficult circumstances.

Perhaps Phil's greatest gifts were to McMurry University. Phil enjoyed a lengthy tenure on McMurry's Board of Trustees, and served as its Chairman from 2010 to 2012. Phil was named McMurry's Distinguished Alumnus in 2002. Those achievements are well known. Less well known, however, was the fact that a great many McMurry students owe at least some portion of their college education to the financial generosity of Phil Brewer, who quietly and without notoriety provided scholarship funding. The Lord knows Phil as a cheerful giver, and a faithful man, and has welcomed him home.

Phil's work with youth also extended to high school students in Chaves County. Along with a few other lawyers in Roswell, Phil served as a volunteer coach of the Dexter High Mock Trial team for several years. One of his teams was especially skilled, and captured the second place trophy in State competition, defeating schools from Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Los Alamos along the way. Those schools were all bigger and richer, but none as well coached as The Brew Crew from Dexter.

Phil was preceded in death by his parents, Herman and Patsy Brewer.

Those who survive Phil are his beloved wife Jennifer, and their many four-footed creatures including Felix the Cat, and most notably their little terrier Mr. Goldberg, who was often seen helping Phil practice law at Pegasus Place. Phil is also survived by his sister Martha Hull and husband Gene and their children, and his aunt Sara Terry of Ft. Worth, Texas. Finally, Phil is survived by his law partner and good friend of many years, Adriann Ragsdale, who has been a constant source of professional support.

The family wishes to announce that there will be a memorial service on Saturday, November 14, at 1:00 pm MST, at the First United Methodist Church of Roswell, followed by a reception at The Anderson Museum of Contemporary Art.

Anyone wishing to honor Phil's memory may do so by making a donation to either the Roswell Humane Society at 703 E. McGaffey in Roswell 88203; or to McMurry University, at Box 938, Abilene, Texas 79697, or you may access the university's website at www.mcm.edu, and donate on-line.

For the rest of us, Phil was our dear friend, a man we loved and trusted without limit. He shined as brightly as any star, and gave us light even in those times that seemed so dark. Our world is made dimmer by Phil's passing, but in time, our sorrow will give way to treasured memories of the love and laughter that Phil gave all of us. We will miss him always.

John 15:13

Please take a moment to share your thoughts and memories with the family of Phil in the online register at andersonbethany.com.

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Phil Brewer*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *Jennifer I'm so very sorry to hear of Phil's passing!! You are in my prayers and thoughts. Love you!!! Penny*



Penny - November 15, 2015 at 11:36 PM



“ *Penny sent a virtual gift in memory of Phil Brewer*



Penny - November 15, 2015 at 11:33 PM



“ *Thinking about tomorrow and knowing that my thoughts during the service will no doubt be focused on memories of you in this life. An amazing intellect, a valuable counselor, a generous spirit beyond compare, a personality too big for one regular person, a caring individual - just a pretty terrific soul in so many ways. Phil was truly one of a kind and my time here was better for the fact that our paths crossed.*

- Just a friend - November 13, 2015 at 06:24 PM

DD

“ I am so very sorry to hear about Phil's passing. What a nice guy he was. He will certainly be missed by many people.

Donna Davis - November 13, 2015 at 02:19 PM

RM

“ Reed M. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Phil Brewer.



Reed M. - November 13, 2015 at 08:19 AM

LW

“ Dear Jennifer,
I am sorry to hear of Phil's death. He and Daddy must be catching up visiting! We are driving to Roswell for Jane Dempsey's funeral, but will only get as far as Shawnee OK on Saturday. Phil was one of my favorite people, and had the most interesting office! Please know that you will be in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Laura Snead Waters

Laura Snead Waters - November 12, 2015 at 03:09 PM

TD

“ Phil recently taught an oil and gas legal education seminar in Applejerky. I always sleep through those things. Phil was so eloquent, understandable and entertaining that he kept me awake. Quite a fellow.

Tom Dunlap - November 12, 2015 at 08:34 AM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Phil Brewer.*



November 10, 2015 at 01:57 PM



“ *One of the first persons I met when I moved to Roswell 20 years ago was Phil. We laughed and he told me "this is not Texas kid." He assured me I would grow to love this place and he was no doubt correct. Over the years he helped more times than I can count and never asked for anything in return. I will truly miss him!*

Royce Hoskins

Royce Hoskins - November 10, 2015 at 12:08 PM



“ *Many many memories of this absolutely GREAT guy! Always loved seeing how he would be dressed at the old NMLA golf tournaments and receptions! Grass skirts were always a hit and a great conversation piece.*

Phil is already greatly missed!

Blessings are with you Jennifer and the other members of Phil's family!

Billy and Kay Owen

Bill Owen - November 10, 2015 at 09:23 AM

TK

“ 18 years of knowing Phil as my consuler and friend, I feel the loss of the guy I knew to to be good at both. Good bye "parts"



Tom Krumland - November 09, 2015 at 02:36 PM

DB

“ Phil was the kindest, most considerate and forthright attorney we ever met. Having known him for nearly twenty years, we were deeply saddened to hear of his passing, and will miss him. -- Donald and Mollie Burleson

Donald and Mollie Burleson - November 08, 2015 at 12:18 PM

TB

“ I was a member of the Brew Crew from Dexter and I can tell you that Phil, and our other coach, Rod Schumacher, had such a profound influence on all of us. Of the 9 of us on this team 8 of us graduated from college and most of us have completed our Master's degrees as well.

In reflecting back to our awards ceremony for the state mock trial competition, we were all very upset at not winning because we had stomped the other teams. However, here comes Phil T. walking in like Don Johnson from Miami Vice with loafers, his pant cuffs rolled up and his hair in a french braid held with a blue beret! While we didn't win we knew that we had the coolest coach of all the other teams.

As I sit here crying while typing this, it is such a privilege to be associated with Phil. I thank him so much for everything he did for me even after graduating from high school and enjoyed my visits with him when passing through Roswell over the years because he always had the time to talk. I think it have him great joy to know that the Brew Crew was doing well with our paths in life.

Ted Bates - November 08, 2015 at 11:48 AM

AG

“ Phil. Friend, counselor, golfer, philosopher, we spent many an hour debating oil and gas lease and joint operating and exploration agreement provisions and solutions etc. Sitting here laughing and remembering the time in Ruidoso when the big doberman was chasing me from the hambrger joint as you slowly drove the convertible away hollering for me to jump in as you laughed your head off. Thanks for the friendhsip and the legal help with all those many matters old friend. My you rest in peace, I will remeber you fondly always Phil.

Andy Grooms (BA)

Andy Grooms - November 08, 2015 at 07:20 AM

DG

“ Phil was one of my mentors when I started practicing in Roswell in the mid 1980s. He was an awesome friend and taught me much about practicing law and how to solve problems. We played in several member-guest golf tournaments together and I always enjoyed those, as did my friends who met him during those events. He always called me "Bubba" and when he did I always felt like he valued me as a friend, too. I trust that Phil will rest in peace.
Dave "Bubba" Giddens

Dave Giddens - November 07, 2015 at 04:31 PM

DC

“ Phil was a classmate of mine at McMurry University. Phil had a big personality, a brilliant intellect. He was a true friend and a caring soul. Phil truly made a positive difference in this world. We are all better to have known him. Rest in Peace Phil. You will be greatly missed.

Don Cain - Class of '76

Don Cain - November 07, 2015 at 10:50 AM

AS

*Jennifer my heart is heavy with the loss of Phil. I will forever remember the Cat Stevens vows he wrote for Brett and me. I hope he is as at peace and rid of pain and demons. I pray that time will ease your pain and sorrow and deepen and sweeten your memories.
Andi Smith*

Andi Smith - November 14, 2015 at 09:29 AM

BC

Jennifer, Sonny and I are deeply saddened by Phil's passing. He was one of the sweetest most caring people I have ever met. The best neighbor too! He was always working and helping others. He will be truly missed by so many! Betty & Sonny

Betty Chancey - January 17, 2016 at 05:29 PM