



## Richard Helmstetler

November 14, 1911 - February 7, 2009

### Obituary for Richard Earl Helmstetler

Richard Earl Helmstetler 97years, 2 months, 27 days, went to be with our Lord, February 7, 2009. Graveside services for Richard Earl Helmstetler, will be held at 10 am Saturday, February 14, 2009 at South Park Cemetery. Richard was born November 14, 1911 to Miles Helmstetler (1956) and Hettie Helmstetler (1989). He owned and operated buses for Chaves County Schools for many years. Richard was a good carpenter, building homes in Roswell. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him. Richard is survived by his daughter; Carla and his son-in-law Johnny Clements; four sisters; Charlie Ruth Crossland, Beulah Earley, Winona Emerson and Lucille Howell, five grandchildren; Rocky Brittain Jr., Garland Earl Helmstetler Jr., Tracy Helms, Tim Helmstetler and Shanda Posey; his beloved great-grandson; Rocky Brittain III; 13 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family members and friends. He is preceded in death by both his parents, Miles and Hettie Helmstetler, his son; Garland Earl Helmstetler (1982) a daughter-in-law; Alice Helmstetler (2008) a wife; Pauline Helmstetler (1963) and Henrietta Helmstetler (1986) his sister; Millie Raymond (1967) and two brothers, Denton Ray Helmstetler (2001) Jay Helmstetler (2006). Pallbearers will be Robert C. Adams, Carlos C. Hawley, Rocky Brittain III, Eric Helmstetler, James Hill and Robert Clements. Viewing will be Monday-Thursday 8 am to 5 pm and Friday, February 13, 2009 from 8 am to 6 pm at Anderson-Bethany Funeral Home & Crematory. Please share your thoughts and memories with the family in the online register book at [andersonbethany.com](http://andersonbethany.com) Services are under the direction of Anderson-Bethany Funeral Home & Crematory.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Richard Helmstetler*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *To all the family that remains may God grant you peace with Uncle Earl's passing. 97 years in 250 words, not possible.*

*Uncle Earl to me was one of the most intriguing and unique persons/relatives I've ever known. What I loved most about him was his teasing and nicknames for all his sisters. The missing middle finger on his right hand and the way that looked, as he put it to his head and moved it just so, to gesture good bye. It brings a tear to my eye just thinking about it. MMM HMMM..... A lip full of Honest Snuff and a mind full of ideas, active and alert. If he could see it and think about it for awhile he'd figure out a way to build it. May we all be as blessed as we move into our later years in life.*

*I guess it's not the total amount of time that I spent with him where he lived, but the total time I thought about him where I lived that makes him iconic. Small seeds planted into a small heart can and do grow.*

*He has left me with a huge inheritance, maybe not one I can put into a local bank, but one just as rich. I will never forget him, always love him and consider him my favorite Uncle.*

Michael Howell - February 15, 2009 at 09:41 AM



“ *Dear Brother Earl,*

*JL and I love you. Our whole family loves you. You have been like the Rock of Gibraltar to us.*

*JL said you have gone on to a higher place. He will never forget the time we spend together working on a house in the mountains. You were so good to me and such a wonderful brother-in-law.*

*Thank you for all the information about our family. I can still see us in Sister's living room talking about the move to Plains, Tx when I was younger.*

*An end of an era has past. You will be greatly missed. I will always love you very much.*

*Lucille and JL*

Lucille and Virgle Howell - February 14, 2009 at 09:48 AM

“ Uncle Earl,

*Many, many childhood memories surface when I think of you. Our annual family vacation from California to Roswell meant that we were lodged at the Helmstetler hotel. I will always remember the time took the kids to A&W. We could have "anything" we wanted. Once we arrived the "anything" had a five cent limit! How many times did you have my brother, Michael, chasing "horney toads" to take back to California? About the time mom would convince Mike he couldn't you would start again.*

*You hosted a family reunion the year Bill and I became engaged. If the crowds bothered you, you never complained. As our family grew from two to five, you treated our sons to New Mexico strawberries and cackle berries on many occasions when we lived in Lubbock!*

*Although the miles and family responsibilities prevented fewer visits, you will always be a very special person to me. If thoughts and wishes were letters, you would have had a ton.*

*Michael and I so enjoyed our last visit with you a few years back. We both marvelled at your explanation of how you made the template for your whirligigs. You should have seen the faces of those around us as we got special permission to hand carry ours back on the plane and proudly told them that our 90+ year old uncle had made them. Mine is now weather worn by California winds but each time I hear its noise or see it, I think of you.*

*Love always, Sharon*

---

**Sharon Brooks** - February 14, 2009 at 09:36 AM