



## John Wayne Cox

August 15, 1942 - December 27, 2020

John Wayne Cox was born August 15, 1942 in Gilmer, to Johnnie and Faye Cox and passed away Sunday, December 27 at UTHC. He grew up going to Glade Creek Missionary Baptist Church, and accepted the Lord as his Savior at an early age. He later became a member of Friendship Baptist Church, Gladewater, and then joined First Baptist Church, Gladewater. At the time of his death he was a member of First Baptist Church, Gladewater, but was enjoying listening to a dear friend and former pastor at First Baptist Church, Overton online every morning and worship service on Sunday.

John attended Mings Chapel Elementary through the 8th grade and was a 1960 graduate of Union Grove High School, where he loved playing baseball and football. He worked at Rob Roy in Gilmer, Delta Drilling Company, Spencer Harris and Norris Cylinder Company. He lived in Gladewater from 1969 until his death.

He is survived by his wife, the love of his life, Mattie Frances Meadows Cox, and his son, Gary Wayne Cox, of Gladewater. One brother, Charles Edwin Cox and wife, Ruth, brothers-in-law, Jerry Long and Vic Vessakosol, sisters' in-law, Lynda Meadows and Rita Cox, daughters' in-law, Su Layne Cox and Lisa Cox, granddaughters, Jessica Scheck and husband, Jayrd, Grandville, Michigan, and Kayla Cox and Harrison Bodrie, Los Angeles, great-grandchildren, Jayna, Kensley, Maya, Everly, and Asher Scheck.

Also surviving are nieces and nephews, Krista and Dr. Doug Hibbs, Timmy Vessakosol, Christopher & Rebecca Meadows, Jason Cox, Liana and David Niblett, Tisha Cox & Roger Ward, Brad & Emily Cox, Deana Cox, Ronnie & Melanie Cox, Amanda & Shannon Fleming, Kevin & Sandi Long, his best friend Bobby Yates & wife Sharon, and his beloved fur babies, Little Bit and Kitty, and lots of cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sons, Kenneth Wayne Cox and John Wayne Cox, Jr., his in-laws, Floyd & Willia Mae Meadows, his brothers, Larry Gene Cox, and Rodger Dean Cox, his sister, Felita Long and his sister-in-law, Floy Jeanne Vessakosol and brother-in-law Charles Meadows, nephews & nieces: Tony Vessakosol and his wife Donnessa, Bryan Meadows, Dennis Cox, and Debbie Warren.

John's first date with Mattie Frances was for his sister's wedding and two months later they were married. Their marriage lasted 51 years and they had celebrated their 50th anniversary in November of 2019.

John loved working in the yard and had a green thumb. He loved mowing the yard, cutting the hedges and edging his yard and all the neighbors' yards, growing trees and flowers. One of his greater accomplishments was growing grapefruit trees from seeds. One year one of his trees had 383 grapefruits and he enjoyed sharing them with all his friends.

Another of his greatest loves was serving as Sunday School Director at Friendship Baptist Church and also First Baptist Gladewater. He loved people and he loved the Lord. He loved sending cards for birthday, sickness, absentees, and to welcome visitors. He could discuss any of the Bible with the best of people. He loved being a part of the Men's Ministry at First Baptist Church with John Patrick and visiting the shut-ins.

He loved working with the Pony League as a coach and president of the league. He loved baseball and football (especially the cowboys) whether playing or watching. He loved watching John Wayne movies, reading Louis Lamour books and his Bible. He also loved listening to his son Gary sing.

John was a good man and a good friend. He just loved helping everyone. He loved his family and his pets. He loved his tools and could work on anything. When asked how he knew so much about fixing things, he would say “necessity”.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 pm, Saturday, January 2, 2021 in the Chapel of McWhorter Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Friendship Cemetery, Gladewater, Tx. The family will receive friends at 1:00 pm prior to the service. The family requests that masks be worn.

Please visit John's on-line registration book at [www.mcwhorterfh.com](http://www.mcwhorterfh.com) to leave a memory for the family.

# Cemetery Details

## Friendship Cemetery

22604 CR 3107  
Gladewater, TX 75647

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 2. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

McWhorter Funeral Home  
1074 St. Hwy 300  
Gilmer, TX 75645  
(903) 734-7070  
info@mcwhorterfh.com  
<https://www.mcwhorterfh.com>

## Service

JAN 2. 2:00 PM (CT)

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# Tribute Wall



“ *McWhorter Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of John Wayne Cox*



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**McWhorter Funeral Home** - January 01, 2021 at 03:51 PM

PP

*Such a beautiful tribute. May his memory be blessed.*

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**Pamela Pointer** - January 01, 2021 at 08:39 PM



“ *I remember Mr. Cox coaching me and my brother in baseball when we were teenagers. He was a great guy and loved what he was doing. He will be remembered always.*

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**Danny Meeks** - January 09, 2021 at 05:40 PM

JW

“ *Words don't come easy when someone so special is gone. I did not know John, but my husband Don was in his Sunday school class. He said that John was always friendly, and always had comments about the lesson. We all know that when God calls one of his children home, it is not easy for the ones left behind. Just look forward to the grand reunion! May the Lord bless you Frances & Gary. Jennifer & Don Wyatt*

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**Jennifer Wyatt** - January 02, 2021 at 03:31 PM

KC

“ When I think about John, I think of how quiet he was. At family reunions, he was always in the background or sitting quietly with someone telling stories while the sometimes loud Ford family members were going on about something. He always seemed to go around eventually and visit with everyone. John will surely be missed at the reunions and always. Richard and I love you, Mattie Frances!

Karen Carson - January 02, 2021 at 09:26 AM



“ 69 files added to the album Life Tributes



McWhorter Funeral Home - January 01, 2021 at 03:47 PM

PM

“ John knew I often practiced the organ at the church after work. He set up a light, controlled by a remote, so that I would not have to walk through a dark sanctuary. Just another of his “thoughtful deeds” made possible by his “fix-it abilities”.

Patricia Majors - December 31, 2020 at 10:02 PM

WW

“ I had the pleasure of working with Mr Cox for several years at Norris Cylinder. John was always early to work, had a humorous attitude but you best step back if you crossed him 😂. The work Mr Cox put out was more like craftsmanship quality! His stamping was better than the machine marking. Mr. Cox took pride in his work and his reputation. It is an honor to have known and worked with Mr John Cox!

Walter W

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**Walter Witcher** - December 31, 2020 at 08:48 PM

BT

“ My sympathy and prayers for family and friends.

Barbara Maberry Towery

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**Barbara Towery** - December 31, 2020 at 09:28 AM

BW

“ John Wayne Cox was a very long time friend of my husband, Larry F Williams.

They were Facebook friends and stayed in touch until Larry's passing in 2018.

My deepest sympathies to all his family.

He was a very good man.

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**Barbara Williams** - December 30, 2020 at 09:41 PM

WM

“ Extending my sympathy and empathy to you at this time.

Wondell Ellison Mackey

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**Wondell Mackey** - December 30, 2020 at 05:18 PM

RH

“ *John was quick with a smile and always had a good story to tell .  
Never had a disparaging word to say about a single person ; a man  
of great faith , a great friend and great servant to his church , family  
and community .*

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**Rocky & Laura Hawkins** - December 30, 2020 at 04:32 PM