

ORVILLE BUCK “J.R.” JOHNSON, JR.

1923-2010

BRIDGEPORT: Orville Buck “J.R.” Johnson, Jr., 87, of Bridgeport, Texas died September 13, 2010, in Decatur.

J.R. retired from Bell Helicopter after 33 years. He held a commercial with multi-engine pilot license and a license for AE Mechanic. He was the manager of the Decatur Municipal Airport in the early 1970’s, which is when the skydivers first came to Decatur.

Many people would come out to watch the skydivers jump from the old Convair L13 Aircraft that could be heard all the way from Decatur to Bridgeport. J.R. was also one of the founders of the Bridgeport Riding Club, which was established in 1957.

He loved the outdoors and liked to ride horses, hunt, fish, camp and fly. He was a member of the Texas Rifle Association & the NRA. He believed strongly in our Constitution, the Bill of Rights and especially the Second Amendment. He believed in “One Nation Under God” and was a Christian man.

He also loved to target shoot, reload his own ammunition and quick draw. At least until he shaved down the trigger on his pistol to help him shoot faster, and it was so quick he didn’t get the gun out of the holster before it discharged, thus shooting himself in the leg. He loved to dance for fun and flirt with all the pretty women. He loved Indians and had Indian ancestry in his background. He would even do a rain dance when asked by his coworkers at Bell Helicopter. He was quite a character who loved to make people laugh and feel special. He had many friends and family and will be missed by all.

He is survived by daughters Wanda Rich and husband, Joe and Carolyn Potteiger and husband, Jim; son Michael Johnson and wife, DeAnna, all of Bridgeport; step-children Jim Kinsey and wife, Deb, Robin Drouillard and husband, Tom, Gail Bright and husband, Dave; sister, Juanita Collins of Garland, Texas; grandchildren Sheryl, Kelli, Kristy, Brad, Michelle, Chris, and Leslie, step-grandchildren Jared, Schera, Richard, Jonathan, Jeremy, Sarah, Shelby and Chaney; and fourteen great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and his former wife Evelyn Johnson.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Myrtle and Orville B. Johnson, Sr.; two brothers, Jack and Harry; step-daughter Cheryl Watson; and wife Barbara Johnson.

Funeral services were 2 p.m. Thursday, September 16, 2010, at Pleasant View Baptist Church, Bridgeport. Brother Gary Demmitt officiated. Interment followed at Thomas Cemetery.

*Jones Family Funeral Home
1401 Halsell St. • Bridgeport, Tx.*

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