

## **Alvis Piner Stephens | 1928-2015**

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Alvis Piner "Al" Stephens

Alvis Piner "Al" Stephens, 86, of Fort Worth, died Saturday, Aug. 22, 2015, after a courageous struggle with Parkinson's Disease. Memorial service is 2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22, at First United Methodist Church, 800 W. 5th St., in Fort Worth. A private inurnment service will be held at the church's columbarium.

Al was born Dec. 10, 1928, to Joseph Piner and Ruth Hornbeck Stephens. He grew up on the family dairy farm in Wise County. He had an idyllic childhood in a loving family, balancing the beautiful pasture lands and flowing creeks with the daily challenges of dairy farming. Al earned his bachelor's degree in accounting at the University of North Texas and his MBA at Texas Christian University. His career began in the accounting department of Texas Electric Service Co., and after a brief stint in the U.S. Army finance corp in Sapporo, Japan, he joined a local accounting firm.

That firm merged with the international accounting firm of Arthur Young (now Ernst and Young) with which he served as partner for more than 50 years. He took retired partner status with Ernst and Young in 1988 and worked another 20 years as chief financial officer for Lewis and Lambert. For many years, he was active in Certified Public Accounting and industrial accounting organizations, as well as community organizations like Downtown Rotary Club and the American Diabetes Association. He was a supporter of his two alma maters, UNT and TCU, and an avid golfer and member of Ridglea Country Club. He was a member of First United Methodist Church of Fort Worth and the Inquirers Class.

The family expresses appreciation to his caregiver, Joan Parker of Comfort Keepers, Community Hospice and the staff and friends from First United Methodist Church, Fort Worth.

Al was preceded in death by his parents; and sisters Mary Phillips and Helen Wallace. He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Carolyn; stepson Douglas Aiken and wife, Melissa, of Granbury; grandson Dalton Aiken, who is a student at his grandfather's alma mater UNT; and nephews Craig Phillips of Fort Worth and Rick Wallace of Decatur. Memorials may be made to the Justice Ministry of First United Methodist Church or First Street Methodist Mission.