



Conquest, John L. 'J. Lee'

1934-2024

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Bridgeport – John L. Conquest (“J. Lee”), 89, a beloved husband, father, and grandfather, entered eternal rest Monday, Jan. 1, 2024.

J.L. was born in Pharr on Sept. 22, 1934. He graduated early from PSJA High School when he was 16. He earned his Bachelor of Science in petroleum engineering from Texas A&I University–Kingsville in 1956. At A&I, he served as Engineers Club president, senior class president, was a member of the national professional organization, American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers (A.I.M.E), and Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities.

He married his sweetheart, Marylou, on Nov. 26, 1968. They were married 55 years. Together they raised three children, Steve, Vicki, and Sue Ann.

J.L. was recruited and began his professional career as a petroleum engineer for Gulf Oil in 1956. During this time, he completed basic training in Laurel, Mississippi, and served seven years in the Air Force Reserve with a critical skills deferment. In 1959, he began working at Mitchell Energy in Bridgeport. J.L. was a partner of Marcon Operating Company where he worked as an oil and gas consultant. In 1992, J.L. became a licensed real estate agent and partner of Century 21 Sue Ann Denton, where he worked until he semi-retired in 2020. He was also a licensed Texas appraiser.

J. Lee will be remembered for his devotion to family, his vast knowledge and memory of facts, and his persevering spirit. He was a trusted advisor in business, the oil and gas industry, and in life.

His fanaticism and recollection of every Dallas Cowboys and Texas Rangers statistic was unending. His love for the game, no matter the sport, was a trait he passed down to his children and grandchildren. Many of whom credit him for their passion and competitiveness, as he cared deeply about every play. But truly, J. Lee will mostly be remembered for his kindness and loving nature; his humility and business acumen; his contagious laugh, quick wit and sense of humor. He left a profound impact on all who knew him.

For decades on Friday nights, J. Lee could be found in the bleachers of Bull Memorial Stadium, loudly cheering on the varsity football team. On Sunday mornings, he would be serving or in attendance at Grace Fellowship Church, and with his small group every Wednesday night. Outside of his love for the maroon and white and his faith, he loved spending time with his family.

J. Lee was a meticulous engineer at his core. He was also in a bowling league and enjoyed playing ping-pong. He cared deeply about his community and loved ones; and leaves a legacy that will not be forgotten.

J.L. is survived by his wife, Marylou Conquest; three children, Steve (Jana) Jones, Vicki (Jerrod) Niblett, and Sue Ann (Tommy) Denton; grandchildren, Pete (Katrina) Smith, Trent Niblett, Mara Denton, Matthew (Ruth) Jones, Haley Denton (Sebastian Erdman), Payton (Levi) Taylor, Drew Jones; great-grandchildren, Brock Smith, Bryndle Niblett, Carson Taylor, and Cooper Taylor; sister-in-law, Corinne Conquest; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Gladys Conquest; brother, Keith Conquest; sisters, and brothers-in-law, Shelley (Spot) Thornton and Joyce (Willie) Harris; and grand-nephew Noah Robles.

Funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 6, 2024, at Grace Fellowship Church in Paradise. Visitation will take place prior to the service at 1 p.m. Interment will follow the funeral at Alvord Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you donate in memory of J.L. to: St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Footage Project, The ALS Association.

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