



Hugh Franklin Downey

April 20, 1924 - August 1, 2021

Hugh Franklin Downey peacefully passed away on Sunday, August 1st, 2021 with his family by his side. He was born on April 20, 1924 near Ringgold, Texas to Benjamin Franklin and Honor (Mayfield) Downey while his father was employed on a cattle ranch there. He lived a long life of 97 years, three months and 12 days.

On October 14, 1943, Hugh entered the United States Army while serving his country in the Philippines and Austria.

Hugh married the love of his life, Pansy Lou Beauford on June 18, 1950 in Henrietta, Texas. In 1952, he went on to Officers Candidate School and finished 2nd out of 200. In the next 27 years while serving his country, he went on tour in Japan, returned to Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, then to Verdun, France back to Ft. Sill, OK. Then Hugh went to Vietnam and from there to Ft. Huachuca, Arizona and finally retired on August 1st, 1970. After retiring, he returned to Durant, Oklahoma and bought 120 acres in Roberta and enjoyed raising cattle, horses, chickens, hay, and gardening. Hugh also enjoyed being with his family, guns and hunting.

The most important things in his life were his family and serving his country. He did with honors and will always be loved and remembered. You made us so proud Lieutenant Colonel Hugh F. Downey (Daddy).

Hugh is preceded in death by his wife, Pansy before her passing on October 26, 2003, daughter Jalaine Helton of 2015, father Benjamin Franklin Downey, mother Honor Mayfield Downey, brothers Elmor and Benny Downey, and sisters Betty Downey and Martha Blalock.

Hugh is survived by his daughter Robin E. Jarratt and husband John "Bo" of Durant, Oklahoma, grandson Hugh Ezra Hill and wife Dr. Tram Hill of Frisco, Texas, grandson Desmond Lavern Signs and wife Ena of Atlanta, Georgia, and great grandchildren Jacob and Chloe Hill of Frisco, Texas.

Funeral Services with full military honors will be held on Friday, August 6th, 2021 at 2:00 PM at Brown's Funeral Service. Interment will be held at Highland Cemetery in Durant, Oklahoma. Pallbearers will be provided by the United States Army Honor Guard. Honorary Pallbearers will be Gurley Mattingly, Dakota Graham, Mike Pickett, Donnie Zachary, Jeff Shelburne, and Johnny Wilkerson. Family Hour will be Thursday, August 5th, 2021 from 6-8:00 PM at Brown's Funeral Service Chapel. Condolences may be sent to www.brownsfuneralservice.com. Arrangements are under the directions of Brown's Funeral Service in Durant, Oklahoma.

<https://www.tributeslides.com/tributes/show/L5NCQNL8C377BPXR>

Cemetery Details

Highland Cemetery

1620 Cemetery Rd
Durant, OK

Previous Events

Family Hour

AUG 5. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Brown's Funeral Service - Durant
4900 West US Hwy 70
Durant, OK 74701
(580) 920-0393
info@brownsfuneralservice.com
<https://www.brownsfuneralservice.com/>

Chapel Service

AUG 6. 2:00 PM (CT)

Brown's Funeral Service - Durant
4900 West US Hwy 70
Durant, OK 74701
(580) 920-0393
info@brownsfuneralservice.com
<https://www.brownsfuneralservice.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Brown's Durant Funeral Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Hugh Franklin Downey*



Brown's Durant Funeral Service - August 03, 2021 at 06:38 PM

JA

We know his family felt blessed to have Hugh in there life for so many years and it probably didn't seem long enough. We where blessed to have met Hugh years ago ,We hauled hay for Hugh back in the early 90's .A very good man. Prayers for his family.

James Airington - August 06, 2021 at 10:19 PM



“ *Hugh Franklin Downey*

January 08, 2023 at 11:32 PM

CS

“ Captain Hugh Downey was my company commander from 1962-1963 in Verdun, France. I worked for him as company clerk. Captain Downey was a great Officer, gentleman and someone to look up to for a nineteen-year-old young person.

Please accept my condolences for your loss. I will never forget Captain Downey and shall remember him in my prayers.

Chuck Sekerak Glen Ellyn, IL

Charles Sekerak - December 17, 2021 at 10:06 AM



“ Sharalynn Culy lit a candle in memory of Hugh Franklin Downey



Sharalynn Culy - August 06, 2021 at 01:14 PM



Bob and I wish we were there with you.

Sharalynn Culy - August 06, 2021 at 01:15 PM



“ We loved you Hugh and we had loads of fun each and every time we visited. You always went out of your way to make use feel welcomed and special. We loved your BBQ and our visits. Bob loved talking about his service days with you and we had some adventures too, since neither Bob nor I will ever forget having to get you down into the tornado shelter on our last visit. I am still so thankful Bob was with us or we would still be down there, LOL, who knew those doors were so heavy? You were something special and you will be missed by all who knew and loved you. May God grant you grace and mercy and we will surely see you again. With Love,
Sharalynn and Bob Culy

Sharalynn Culy - August 06, 2021 at 12:29 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Hugh Franklin Downey.



August 05, 2021 at 04:04 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Hugh Franklin Downey.



August 05, 2021 at 10:34 AM

LP

“ We salute your veteran. Our condolences for your loss & gratitude for your loved one's service to our country. May your memories & God's love bring you peace, comfort & strength at this difficult time. Death leaves a heartache no one can heal but LOVE leaves a memory no one can steal.



Death takes the body. God takes the soul. Our mind holds the memories. Our heart keeps the love. Our faith lets us know we will meet again someday.

Lana & Larry Hurt (NE OK PGR) - August 04, 2021 at 07:16 AM