



## Mr. Grady S. Kyle

October 18, 1926 - January 8, 2018

Funeral services for Mr. Grady S. Kyle, 91, of Beckville, Texas will be 2:00 p.m. Thursday, January 11, 2018 at the First United Methodist Church with Rev. Kevin Otto and Rev. Leah Hanks officiating. Burial will follow in the Woods Cemetery under the direction of Hawthorn Funeral Home. Visitation will be 6-8:00 p.m. Wednesday night at Hawthorn's. Mr. Kyle died January 8, 2018 in Longview, Texas.

Mr. Grady Stanhope Kyle was born October 18, 1926 in the Woods Post Office Community of Panola County, Texas. He was one of five children born to the marriage of Kit Carson and Berta Elizabeth Hooker Kyle. He was raised and schooled in Tenaha and Woods Community, graduating from Carthage High School with the class of 1945 active in the school band. He learned guitar with James and Carey Rhiddlehoover and James Travis "Jim" Reeves. He would receive both his bachelors and masters in music from Stephen F. Austin State University. Grady would serve his country through the U. S. Army. He married John Anne "Johnnie" Brooks September 8, 1947 and they celebrated over 57 years of marriage before her death in 2005. Mr. Kyle served as a talented band director in Jasper, Texas and DeRidder, Louisiana until retirement. He worked as a cattle rancher and was a member of the First United Methodist Church where he served as choir director for many years. He was a charter member of the Sounds of Swing Band performing all over East Texas, a member of the Carthage Lions Club, and was inducted into the Carthage Bulldog Band Alumni Hall of Honor. He is also preceded in death by

his parents, and brother, Murph H. Kyle and wife Vivian, K.C. "Casey" Kyle and wife Birdie, sister, Gwendolyn Kyle Meeks and husband Bennis, sister-in-law, Mildred Williamson Kyle and an infant son, Kevin Kyle.

Mr. Kyle is survived by his loving daughter, Kathy Kyle Johnson and husband Carl, devoted son, Kit Brooks Kyle of Fairplay, brother, Dr. Wayne Kyle of Carthage, numerous nieces, nephews other relatives and a host of friends.

Memorials may be made to the First U.M.C. Choir; 201 S. Shelby, Carthage, Texas 75633. An online guestbook may be signed at [www.hawthornfuneralhome.com](http://www.hawthornfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Woods Cemetery

381 CR 425  
Tenaha, TX 75974

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 10. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Hawthorn Funeral Home  
307 West Wellington Street  
P.O. Box 188  
Carthage, TX 75633  
(903) 693-3816  
info@hawthornfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.hawthornfuneralhome.com>

## Service

JAN 11. 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church - Carthage  
201 S. Shelby  
Carthage, TX

# Tribute Wall



“ Hawthorn Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Grady S. Kyle



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**Hawthorn Funeral Home** - January 10, 2018 at 05:13 PM

PM

*My condolences to the Kyle Family. I am Patricia McWhirter, and was a band student at DeRidder School System under Mr. Kyle. Sincerely, Patricia.*

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**Patricia McWhirter** - April 12, 2019 at 07:44 PM

BS

“ *Mr. Kyle was such a great man! He taught music to my mom and dad in high school in DeRidder, and then he taught me music in the sixth grade! We all loved him very much...he made a deep impact in our lives.*  
*Belinda Farquhar Strittmatter*

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**Belinda Farquhar Strittmatter** - January 11, 2018 at 05:31 PM

MR

“ *To hear Grady sing was always such a treat . Merrell Rhodes*

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**Merrell Rhodes** - January 11, 2018 at 02:48 PM

RA

“ *Ron Ashcraft lit a candle in memory of Mr. Grady S. Kyle*



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**Ron Ashcraft** - January 11, 2018 at 08:48 AM

TB

“ *What wonderful man Mr. Kyle was! I have always had such respect for him and appreciation for the way being a part of his DHS Band enriched my life. My framed sheet music to "Grandioso" still hangs on my wall today as a reminder of a sweeter time and precious memories that mean the world to me.*

*Teet Bordelon*

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**Teet Bordelon** - January 11, 2018 at 08:35 AM

TD

“ *Terry Dorsey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Grady S. Kyle*



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**Terry Dorsey** - January 10, 2018 at 09:10 PM

GB

“ I knew him as the band director, but also as Kathy and Kit's dad. He was so very nice and jolly and kind. I will always have great memories of him and time spent with the band in Deridder and bandcamp in Bunkie. I still get chills everytime I hear Grandioso and the pride I felt marching in his band. He is now with Mrs. Kyle again and will watch over everyone still. My thoughts and prayers are with Kathy, Kit and their families.

Gail Bennett - January 10, 2018 at 07:10 PM

BG

“ He will be missed. He touched many lives.  
DHS Band 69-73  
Bob Gates.

Bob Gates - January 10, 2018 at 04:44 PM



“ 31 files added to the album LifeTributes



Hawthorn Funeral Home - January 10, 2018 at 01:38 PM

MW

“ I was fortunate enough to have Grady as not only the band director at DeRidder High School but as what basically constituted a private teacher as he generously worked with me in one on one lessons, something above and beyond what was required given that he had over 100 students to meld into a high performing group. I was additionally blessed to have had an opportunity to visit him on numerous occasions a few years ago while he was at Baylor Heart Hospital in Plano TX where I lived. His memory was astoundingly precise as he recalled incidents I had forgotten about. He was always in great spirits during that time. Grady’s guidance and tutelage prepared me to take and pass an audition to be a U S Navy musician. I served as a navy band musician throughout my enlistment, was awarded a college music scholarship afterwards. A great deal of quality life experiences I have enjoyed can be directly attributed to Mr Kyles early influence on me. I am eternally grateful.



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**mike wagley** - January 10, 2018 at 11:34 AM

 Monte Nichols

“ It was a special day, Octobrr 23, 2013, when it was my privilege to visit the wonderful man who had been my band director at DeRidder High School (class of '68). It was an opportunity to say, "Thank you for your immense contribution to my life as a young musician" We sat for an hour or so catching up on each other's families, our musical activities, and sharing treasured memories and funny stories from DHS band days. I knew when I drove away from that visit that I wouldn't likely see him again this side of heaven, but on that day he was reminded that he loved and appreciated for the investment he made in our lives. ' Monte Nichols, Atlanta, Georgia

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**Monte Nichols** - January 10, 2018 at 12:59 AM

DC

“Loved Ms. Johnnie and Mr. Grady! Good folks from FairPlay. Can remember them checking on my grandparents, Wadford & Hazel Holland from time to time when I was a little girl visiting from Houston. Mr. Grady has played for our home church, Allison Chapel UMC at a few revivals we had back in the good ole days! He is not resting, he is being that same faithful servant in Heaven as he was here on earth! I can't wait to get to Heaven to hear the music! Our thoughts and prayers are with you all in the days to come.  
David & Kathy Chapman



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David & Kathy Chapman - January 09, 2018 at 09:37 PM

GB

“Grady (CHS Class of 1945) was a year behind me ('44) in high school but I got to know him when we were in the band together. I always admired his musical talent. Our CHS "War Years" Classes enjoyed having him and the "swing" band he played in and sang for to play for our 65th reunion in 2009. I enjoy listening to their CD in my car stereo, also.

I always thought he and Johnnie Brooks made a good pair and admired the way he carried on after her untimely death. Now he can see and love her again in the Great Hereafter God has prepared for us.

Rev. Dr. Gus Browning, Austin, TX

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Guston Browning - January 09, 2018 at 05:45 PM