



Mr. Henry Ford Downing

March 9, 1926 - April 8, 2015

Funeral services for Mr. Henry Ford Downing, 89, of Gary, Texas will be 2:00 p.m. Saturday, April 11, 2015 at the Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Richard Plunkett and Rev. Dwain Turner officiating. Burial will follow in the Gary Cemetery under the direction of Hawthorn Funeral Home. Family visitation will be 6-8:00 p.m. Friday night at the funeral home. Mr. Downing died April 8, 2015 at his home in Gary, Texas.

Mr. Henry Ford "Sonny Boy" Downing was born March 9, 1926 in Gary, Texas to the marriage of James Ausburn "Als" and Gladys Ford Downing. He was raised and schooled in Gary graduating with the class of 1944. He served his country through the U.S. Army during WWII stationed in Germany. He married Juanita Hall August 23, 1947 and they celebrated 67 years of marriage. Mr. Downing retired from United Gas after many years of service. He had a lifelong passion for antique cars and ran his home shop called the "Pit Stop". He built electronic ignitions for flathead fords. Henry and Juanita were lifelong members of the First Baptist Church in Gary, Texas. He is preceded in death by his parents, brother, James Downing, sisters, Margaret Chapman, Lois Smith, Francis Stephenson and Nell Nail, and a grandson, Chad Downing. Mr. Downing is survived by his loving wife, Juanita Downing, children, Dale Downing and wife Arlou of Gary, Randy Downing and wife Jan of Gary, Peggy Downing and husband Bill of Luray, Virginia, Bonita Calhoun of Emory, nine grandchildren, twelve great grandchildren, sisters, Wanda Jean Nail of Carthage, Janie Sue Smith of Salt Lake City, Utah, numerous nieces,

nephews and a host of friends. The family requests memorial to the Bethany Home Health and Hospice for the wonderful care they provided. An online guestbook can be signed at www.hawthornfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Gary Cemetery

176 Bobcat Trail
Gary, TX 75643

Previous Events

Visitation

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

Hawthorn Funeral Home
307 West Wellington Street, P.O. Box 188
Carthage, TX

Service

APR 11. 2:00 PM (CT)

Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel
307 W Wellington St.
Carthage, Tx

Tribute Wall

GG

“ I'm so sorry to just hear of the passing of Henry. I spoke with him in great length after ordering some parts. I so enjoyed my conversation and would have loved to sat down to talk to him in person. My condolences to the family. Greg Gower, Tantallon Nova Scotia Canada.

Greg Gower - June 08, 2015 at 03:56 PM

CP

“ Jaunita, I'm so sorry for your loss. I didn't know until after the funeral or I would have been there. I enjoyed the many times that I got to visit him in his shop. Sometimes I came for parts, but most times I just came to visit and see how he was doing. I feel very blessed to have known him and been his friend.

Clay Pinnick

Clay Pinnick - April 11, 2015 at 06:18 PM

DH

“ Sonny and Juanita were wonderful examples for me growing up in Gary. I have fond memories of times spent with them at church an in the community. I am sorry to hear about Sonny. I know his family misses him dearly, but I know they find comfort in knowing they will see him again one day.

Sending love and prayers,

David Heflin

David Heflin - April 10, 2015 at 10:34 PM

PD

“ So sorry to hear about your loss. Please know that we will have you in our thoughts and prayers. Cherish your sweet memories.
With love,
Jerry and Pat (Edens) Dorman
Proverbs 17:17



Pat E Dorman - April 10, 2015 at 09:25 PM

MF

While I personally never met Mr. Downing, I purchased items for my '50 Ford "Shoebox" in the past. Mr. Downing was well thought of throughout the world by various customers. On behalf of Classic Ford owners across the globe, we wish to convey our sympathy to his family and friends. He will be missed!

Mike Ford - April 11, 2015 at 08:33 AM

LL

“ Sonny, will be missed. My parents thought he was a great man. He also helped me many times and I enjoyed talking with him about almost any subject. Lee Latham

Lee Latham - April 10, 2015 at 01:35 PM

JD

“ Jimmie and Cathy Downing purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mr. Henry Ford Downing.



Jimmie and Cathy Downing - April 08, 2015 at 09:04 PM