



Neville Franklin "Frank" Stephenson

June 27, 2021

Neville Franklin "Frank" Stephenson, age 77, of Murfreesboro, TN passed away on June 27, 2021 of pancreatic cancer in his home surrounded by his family. Frank was a native of Eula (Clyde), Callahan County, Texas. He was born on January 29, 1944 to Neville "Neb" and Roberta Stephenson of Eula, TX and was an only child. He was the grandson of the late R.P. and Alice Miller Stephenson who were early settlers in the Eula community. He was also the grandson of Robert and Annie Slough. Frank grew up on the family farm at Eula, and he graduated in 1962 from Eula High School, where he participated in various sports. He then attended McMurry College (now university) and graduated with a BBA in marketing in January of 1967.

Frank began his career working for Gulf Oil Corporation in west Texas followed by a brief time with General Dynamics Corporation in Fort Worth, Texas on the F-111 program. Frank then began a 41+ year career in the insurance industry in 1968 spending time as a multi-line claims adjuster, marketing specialist, and for the final 29 years as a marketing/underwriter specialist with MOAC and Liberty Mutual Insurance Companies in the commercial Inland Marine business.

Frank developed an interest in aviation early in life which resulted in his involvement in several aviation museum projects and becoming a pilot/aircraft owner in 1983. Frank enjoyed flying his several aircraft, going on vacation with his wife, Becky, and spending time with fellow pilots. Frank was an active member of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), the International Cessna 170 Association, Wings Over the Border as well as numerous other aviation organizations.

In 1971, while on a trip to Hawaii, Frank met the love of his life, Becky Duncan Hunter, who was also vacationing there. They learned that they both lived in Texas, and after a year of dating, he and Becky were married on May 13, 1972 in Fort Worth, Texas at the Botanical Gardens. To their union came a very special daughter, Amy Dawn, on November 6, 1976. Later on in life Amy blessed them with a fine son-in-law, Clint

Houghton, and then later, two very special grandsons, Brett Hunter Houghton and Carter Reed Houghton.

The simplest of pleasures brought Frank great joy. He loved good Tex-Mex food (from Texas), homemade ice cream, enjoying nature, spending time with family and friends, and of course, flying. Frank was loved by many, and will be greatly missed.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, Neville Hampton Stephenson and Dorothea Roberta Slough Stephenson. He is survived by his wife, Becky Stephenson; daughter, Amy Dawn Houghton; son-in-law, Clint Houghton; and grandsons, Brett Hunter Houghton and Carter Reed Houghton.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Jennings and Ayers Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 820 S. Church Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37130. 615-893-2422 Please leave online condolences at <http://www.jenningsandayers.com>.

Comments



“ Hello Poncho!

Many a time Frank has invaded my memories as I thought of all of our experiences together. We were both small-town boys striving to become erudite at, to us, was a big time life at McMurry College. We pledged together to join Chi Omicron social club where we really started to grow socially. As the upperclassmen would take us on "walks" on Saturday nights, we became great friends. Our exploits in the Homecoming Tepee Village became legendary, especially pulling all-night guard duty on our contemporary tepee complete with color tv and oil derrick. Collecting (stealing?) commode floats from gas station restrooms, we created pineapples for table decoration at our XO Banquet. The numerous opportunities at XO social activities as well as campus sports activities was the springboard for our friendly competition of seeing who could date the more underclassmen girls. We often would double date on both Friday and Saturday nights and discovered that we had dates with the same two girls on alternating nights. Graduation precipitated a slow separation of our social lives even though we both gravitated to the Ft. Worth area. Marriage and kids kept us so busy that we eventually lost touch. However, I have never lost the memories of our friendship. So long Frank!

Charlie Sanders - July 11 at 10:09 AM



“ Frank was my best friend from the day I met him in 1974, where we both worked for "The" Continental Insurance Co., in Ft. Worth, TX. For 47 years we were always in contact with lunches and phone conversations...right up to the end of his journey. Frank did love his Tex-Mex, and while it lasted, Jerry's Apple Pie in Ft. Worth. I miss him dearly...he was the brother I never had...and I'm sad beyond words.

Ken Bowen - July 09 at 08:25 AM



“ And..."This is where the cowboy rides away"....

Ken Bowen - July 09 at 04:55 PM



“ Frank was a true Blessing to know. Frank loved flying and I was lucky enough to fly with him on many trips. He always invited me to fly to the many places we went for breakfast on Saturdays and lunch during the week. Frank was one of our Hardee's gang also.

Frank was a true friend to all who knew him. Thank you Frank for all the memories I have and a BIG thanks to you Becky for sharing Frank with us,

Ronnie Green - July 07 at 12:53 PM



“ When the Lord calls our Loved ones home, he leaves a gift of memories in exchange. Hold on to your memories, and let them guide you during this time of sadness. We hold you safe in our hearts. to you and your family our deepest thoughts and prayers.

Tommy and Belinda Tosh

Belinda Tosh - July 08 at 09:54 PM



“ Frank was a great guy; whom you liked instantly the from first the moment you met him! I was fortunate enough to get to know Frank and Becky through the many Cessna170 Conventions we both attended over the years. Frank was very level-headed guy and a key contributor and volunteer to “The International Cessna170 Association. People, such as Frank, have made the organization as successful as it is today! I'm honored to have called Frank a good friend! I'm terribly sorry to hear of Frank's passing; Becky and family, you have my deepest sympathy! Surely a great loss for the C170 family!

Jay Baeten

Jay Baeten - July 16 at 06:36 PM



“ Frank was a special and great guy. He was a wonderful and sincere friend to everyone he met. The Cessna 170 conventions just won't be the same without him. You will be missed my friend.

Ken Peck

Ken Peck - July 17 at 08:07 PM