



Billie Joe Fouts

July 26, 1921 - November 4, 2016

Billie Joe “BJ” Fouts age 95 of Iredell, TX passed away November 4, 2016 in the Clifton Hospital. Services were held 3:pm. Monday, November 7 at the Iredell Baptist Church, followed by graveside services at Mitchell Cemetery. BJ was born July 26, 1921 to QA and Grace Harris Fouts. BJ married Jewel McDonel on December 25, 1940.

BJ was a lifelong resident of Iredell. He temporarily resided in Dallas- Fort Worth area prior to WWII and California before deploying to the Pacific Theater during the war as a seaman aboard the U.S.S. Napa assault ship where he participated in several campaigns including the February 1945 land of the Marines on the island of Iwo Jima where he served as crewman of one of the Napa’s landing craft.

BJ owned and operated the Fouts Grocery in Iredell for several years until the business was lost to fire in 1965. Following that he worked briefly as a custodian at Tarleton State University before entering into a long career in the pipeline construction industry as an operating engineer. He was a member of International Union of Operating Engineers-IUOE Local 178, Fort Worth until his passing. BJ was a Master Mason for 70 years and served as Worshipful Master of Iredell Lodge 405.

BJ enjoyed fixing anything that broke; often using creative and unusual methods. He was also a “tinkerer” and, among other devices, is remembered for a lead filled fairway golf driver and a resultant shoulder span. He was also known for homemade mustang grape wine that he shared with family and

friends. BJ and Jewel traveled extensively during his pipeline career and often visited Las Vegas to visit grandchildren where he was well known for his remarkable consumption of bacon in the hotel buffets.

BJ is survived by his wife Jewel resides at Hilltop on Main Retirement Center, Meridian; two children, Joe David and wife Kay, and Judy Benoit and husband Richard of Iredell; five grandchildren, Troy of Iredell, Melissa and Bobby Crabb of Fort Worth, Darrin of Las Vegas, Kimberly and David Payne of Seward Nebraska, and Ashley and SSgt. Jared Helgerson of Wichita Falls. He also has nine great and one great, great grandchildren.

Cemetery Details

Mitchell Cemetery

Iredell, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 6. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Harvest Hills Funeral Home
118 Second Street
Hico, TX 76457
(254) 796-4722
info@harvesthillsfuneralhome.com
<https://www.harvesthillsfuneralhome.com/>

Service

NOV 7. 3:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church
Iredell, TX

Tribute Wall

CH

“ i oiled for him when i was an apprentice ,he told me his wife called him a tobacco worm.I.U.O.E local 178 , troy if you remember me call if you want.Ive bean running cranes for the last 35 years ..Chris Hardey

chris hardey - August 09, 2017 at 07:36 PM

NJ

“ We love Billie Joe and Jewel and have so many wonderful memories of the two of them. B. J. was one of the sweetest people ever, and I always enjoyed hearing his wonderful laugh. We were out of the country when he passed away and wish we could have been here to give him the final respect that he so deserved. We'll miss just knowing he's not around, even though we didn't get to see him as much as we should have. Love to all the family. Don and Nicki Jones

Nicki Jones - November 19, 2016 at 05:35 PM



“ Ghirardelli & Fruit Condolences Gift Basket was purchased for the family of Billie Joe Fouts.



November 07, 2016 at 03:46 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Billie Joe Fouts.*



November 06, 2016 at 08:55 AM



“ *He was one of the greatest influences in my life, both as a man and a Mason. Many years ago I was honored to present him with the Golden Trowel Award that Iredell Masonic Lodge unanimously voted to recognize his many years of devoted Masonic service with. He was the oldest member of Iredell Masonic Lodge, over sixty years, and a devoted friend to all who he loved and cared for. I shall cherish his friendship and Brotherhood the rest of my days. Rest well my dear Brother. So Mote It Be.*

T.L. Thompson - November 05, 2016 at 05:20 PM



“ *The Families of Tommy Ford, Valorie Brock, purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Billie Joe Fouts.*



The Families of Tommy Ford, Valorie Brock, - November 05, 2016 at 11:07 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Billie Joe Fouts.* ”



November 05, 2016 at 01:42 AM