



## Ira Edward (Ed) Cheek

August 28, 1933 - April 22, 2020

On the morning of April 22, 2020, Ira Edward (Ed) Cheek, of Mansfield, TX, went to be with his Lord at the age of 86 after an extended battle with brain cancer.

Ed was born to James David and Sarah Taylor Cheek in Waxahachie, TX in 1933. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Abilene Christian College in 1957. In March 1953 he married Lavena Ballow and together had two sons, Randy and Joseph (Joey). Later in life he married Mary Jane Bitz and they remained married until Jane's death in June 2007. He spent the last years of his life with his beloved Ann Tipping.

Ed was raised in the Oak Cliff area of Dallas and attended LaReunion Elementary, Greiner Jr. High, and Crozier Tech High School. He attended Arlington State College, Henderson County Jr. College, and Abilene Christian College. Ed played football at all three colleges and set an NJCAA record for touchdown passes in a Junior College career. He worked in the resort business in Arizona and Wyoming for many years but ultimately returned to reside in his native Texas.

Ed was an avid golfer with a special knack for "gamesmanship" on the golf course. Even in the later stages of his life he was easily shooting his age, a remarkable feat. At age 78 he recorded a 62 on 18 holes at the Lost Creek course, certainly one of the biggest highlights of his golfing days. He was also a devoted country and western music enthusiast, especially regarding the early country and western singers. He taught himself to play and loved to strum his guitar, sing, and entertain.

Ed is preceded in death by his parents, James and Sarah, wives Lavena and Jane, sister Virginia, and brother James Randall. He is survived by his beloved life companion, Ann, sister Rebecca, sons, Randy and wife Jeanne, Joey and wife Chrisann, granddaughters, Tara and husband Warren Green, and Kelly Cheek, great grandson Jackson Green, and great granddaughter Asa Green, along with several cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A public memorial service will be held at 11:00 AM on June 13th, 2020, at Turning Point Church, 10700 Burleson Road, Ft. Worth, TX 76140. Ed's remains will be buried alongside Mary Jane Cheek in Napoleon, ND at a later date.

In lieu of flowers please provide a memorial in the name of Ed Cheek to the Cathy Wickwire Scholarship Fund at TurningPoint Church.



# Comments

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“ I never made it through my stroke if you would have pushed me all the way. I really loved you since I was born. You pushed me and had I not been willing I wouldnt have made this far. I really had great uncles, Sonny, Randall, you most of all. I had the best of the best.....Because of you.....I'll see you again 🦋

I loved you  
Sandra

Sandra Taylor - June 13, 2020 at 07:47 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ira Edward (Ed) Cheek.



June 12, 2020 at 04:06 PM

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“ Sunny Memories was purchased for the family of Ira Edward (Ed) Cheek.



June 09, 2020 at 04:51 PM

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“ Ed was married to my sister, Jane. I worked for Ed at the Wickenburg Inn Tennis and Guest Ranch and we had many many good memories of the Ranch! I first started baking cookies for Ed at the Ranch, and continued to send them his birthday and Christmas every year (not sure if he ever ate them or tossed them!) I was able to make many trips to Arizona and Texas to spend time with Ed and Jane and have lots of precious memories - our family keeps those memories alive by sharing the stories and good times often! Ed will be dearly missed.

**Karen Ibach** - June 08, 2020 at 11:31 AM

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“ Your Bitz Family In-Laws, Nieces and Nephews purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Ira Edward (Ed) Cheek.



**Your Bitz Family In-Laws, Nieces and Nephews** - June 08, 2020 at 11:20 AM

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“ Coach, lived 2 houses down from us in Winters. We were always throwing footballs or baseballs and he would always come down throw with us, sometimes sharing how to throw breaking balls. The Coach was an asset to our town and touched many kids either in the classroom or on the court. R.I.P. Coach...

**Mike Holloway** - June 07, 2020 at 08:21 PM

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“ Ed became my civics teacher in Winters the month he graduated from ACC. As a 12 year-old girl, I had a crush on him and spent part of my lunch money every day to buy a Baby Ruth for him. His wife was my GA leader at Winters Baptist Church where Ed was Sunday School superintendent. When I left Winters, I lost contact with him until reconnecting a few years ago on Facebook. I enjoyed the chats we had and consider him a friend.

**Carolynn Scott Tidmore** - June 07, 2020 at 04:59 PM

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“ Pam and Bill Elliott purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Ira Edward (Ed) Cheek.



**Pam and Bill Elliott** - June 06, 2020 at 07:58 PM

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“ Ed was our neighbor for over ten years and became a close and trusted friend. We spent frequent dinners together talking about sports, politics and life issues. I have fond memories of many nights during the hockey season watching the Dallas Stars. Ed took me to my first Dallas Stars game at American Airlines Center. Ed was an exceptional person I will always remember him. Mark and Rosemary Rosso

**Mark Rosso** - June 05, 2020 at 04:14 PM

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“ Ed and I met when I was hired as a tennis pro at the resort he managed, The Wickenburg Inn, in Wickenburg Arizona, in 1980.

In my 4 years at the Inn, Ed and I became friends, and shared many good times at the Saturday cookouts where we played guitar together with C.W. and Jeannie. Ed was into alcohol during those years and I was into pot. Many times getting crazy together. Why do I mention that? Because the Lord is a God of grace, forgiveness and renewal and He certainly proved it in our lives.

After many years of no communication, we connected again a couple of years ago over the phone. The conversations were always centered around what God was doing in our lives and how we were so grateful that He transformed our lives. We sometimes talked about his illness, but it was never for more than a few moments, because Ed wanted to talk and pray about what was ahead as he kept his focus on the amazing eternity with Jesus that day by day was getting closer and closer.

Ed wanted everyone to know the peace and grace that he had because of his trust in Jesus. Like all of us Ed was far from perfect but he is experiencing perfection and boundless joy now as he sits with the Father in heaven,

**Larry Lewis** - June 05, 2020 at 11:41 AM

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“ I very much enjoyed our Tue evening golf matches at Lost Creek, God Bless you my friend!

Brian Hecht

**Brian Hecht** - June 04, 2020 at 08:53 PM