



W. C. McClellan

February 1, 1922 - June 22, 2010

W. C. McClellan died on June 22, 2010, at the age of 88. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Dr. Patricia Ann McClellan, a long-time teacher/administrator in the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District; by his sister, Loraine Sybil Heaser; by two daughters, Marian McClellan Latham and Lorene Renie McClellan; his eldest son, Cole McClellan, and his "six-year-old" twins, Clark McClellan and Casey McClellan; and his two beloved grandchildren, Catherine Latham Ricketson and William Clark McClellan, II. Two sons, William Morrison McClellan, II and Philip Evan McClellan, predeceased him in 1986 and 2001, respectively. Bill and Pat McClellan have been members of St. John's United Methodist Church for nearly 60 years.

Bill served his nation in WWII as a Navy Lieutenant in the Pacific theatre, serving as a commander of LCT 736. He remained an officer in the Naval Reserve through 1960. After the war, he married Patricia and the two of them lived three years in Hawaii, where they had their first two children. They moved to Austin, Texas, where Bill received an advanced degree in Physical Education from the University of Texas, before settling the growing family in Richmond. In addition to UT, Bill also attended Notre Dame's Naval Officer Training School, and Southern Methodist in Dallas. But the school closest to his heart was always Tarleton State in Stephenville, Texas, where he first went to college.

Coach Mac, as most nearly everyone in the Richmond-Rosenberg area knew him, began his long and successful career in public school education in 1951

as a teacher and coach at the newly-created Lamar Consolidated High School. Coach Mac became the first baseball and basketball coach for the Mustangs. He led the 1952-53 Mustang baseball team to an undefeated season, becoming the only Lamar coach to have accomplished that feat. His basketball teams compiled a record of 154 victories to 49 defeats over his 15-year coaching career. As magnificent a coach as he was, he was at heart a teacher who believed in the necessity of developing not only the minds, but the mind-set of his students. Displayed prominently on his desk was thought from John Gray, "Developing the mind is important but developing a conscience is the most precious gift that can be given to a child." After retiring from teaching in 1972, Bill McClellan continued his service to the public school system and LCISD by serving eight years on the School Board of Trustees in the 1990's.

In 1972, Bill McClellan moved on to the real estate and cattle businesses with the same vigor and vitality he had displayed as a teacher and coach. He was responsible for much of the development west of the "S" curve on Band Road, parts of Hartledge Road, and all of the Twins Lane development off of Zunker Road. With his wife's assistance, he also built many of the homes along Marian Lane and Philip Evan Boulevard. Bill simultaneously developed his own breed of cow, the "Smooth Black", and had property and cattle interests all around the state, from Angelina and Cherokee counties in East Texas, to Limestone, Hill, and Navarro counties in Central Texas, and to McMullen County in South Texas. In addition to that, for many years he moved Registered Angus cattle from Missouri to the Gulf Coast area, eventually establishing a ranch near Osceola, Missouri, and with Patricia, even owned and operated a hotel in Osceola.

Bill McClellan was distraught when he was forced by the vicissitudes of life to leave the Rosenberg-Richmond area for the "frozen north" as he called it, but it was really only the Dallas area in 2008. He came to terms with move, but he never thought of it as anything more than his "so-called home" as he would

say. Though the years did take his memory, he never forgot his friends and his love for the area and the people of Rosenberg and Richmond and he is, I know, happy to be home.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., Friday, June 25, 2010 in the Chapel of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home in Rosenberg.

The funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, June 26, 2010 at St. John's United Methodist Church in Richmond with Pastor David Luckert officiating. Burial, with military honors, will follow at Greenlawn Memorial Park in Rosenberg.

Tribute Wall

AH

“ We were so saddened to hear of Coach Mac's passing. He was a wonderful and well respected teacher, mentor, and friend to those of us fortunate enough to know him. Our sincerest condolences to his family. Rest in peace, Coach Mac.

With love,
Otto and Alane Haardt

Alane Haardt - July 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ My deepest sympathy for the family. May the promises in the Holy Scriptures brings comfort to you. The Bible promises one day soon, “death will be swallowed up forever”;-Isaiah 25:8. We yearn for the day to see our dear loved ones again. Jesus promises, “the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out”; -John chapter 5 verses 28, 29.

Rena - June 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ Pat, Johnny and I both have such fond memories of Coach McClellan. He taught us both, and was a wonderful friend, as were you, of my parents. You were both very special to all of my family and to us. Our deepest sympathy. Heaven has a new coach now! Love always, Jane Males Jakubik and John T. Jakubik

Jane & John Jakubik - June 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ As a young child, I fondly remember going to the McClellan home in Richmond. There were so many people - happy people. Coach Mc was my history teacher in junior high where there was another Connie, so he called me Lea. I loved his class because he was so interesting. It seems he has always "been around" during my lifetime. I will miss him and his energy.

Connie Reese Blessitt - June 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ Coach Mac was an amazing man. As an annual staff photographer I had the privilage of shooting the basketball season one year. Later when I was a writer and reporter, we had some nearly endless conversations. I always thought he lived his life in epic episodes. He will be missed by many.

Sharon K. Wallingford - June 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FG

“ Bill was a genuinely good person. I spent little time with him in school, but in his later years, he was fun to talk with and so proud of his community and his family. He will be well remembered.

Frank Gutowsky - June 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

F'

“ Coach Mac was so much a part of my years at Lamar. He was incredibly dedicated, whether in the classroom or on the sidelines of the basketball court. I'm thankful that I knew him and know that your memories will be your treasures. God bless.

Fredericka Richter-DeBerry, '58 - June 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ *The W. C. “Bill” McClellan Family*

A contribution in the name of W. C. “Bill” McClellan has been made to the Rosenberg Railroad Museum.

Heart felt wishes of condolence go to each of the members of the family.

Sincerely,

Travis & Joan Reese

Travis Reese - June 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *Mrs. Pat and family,
I have many memories of Coach and all of your family; from class to church to babysitting. My thoughts and prayers are with you. I am Lamar Clark's daughter
Donna Dean Clark Hutcherson*

Donna Dean Clark Hutcherson - June 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RO

“ *Bill was a wonderful man. I got to meet him in his real estate dealing with Greg Knauth and he was an amazing man. He will be missed.*

Rosemary - June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ *One of the nicest men I have ever known.*

Larry Wilkinson - June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ To Coach Mac's family, we just wanted you to know that you will be in our hearts and prayers. I will never forget his smiling face in the halls of Lamar, what a Great Man and inspiration to so many! May God Bless you all.

Billy and Mary Greenwald

Mary Carson Greenwald - June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM