



Nolan T. Hefner

November 26, 1925 - November 15, 2012

Nolan T. (HEF) Hefner of Foreman, Arkansas, passed away Thursday, November 15, 2012, at St. Michael Hospital in Texarkana. Nolan Hefner was born November 26, 1925, in Snyder, Texas. He spent his early years in ranching and construction business in New Mexico before moving to Arkansas in 1964. He was retired from Day and Zimmerman and from Little River County. He was a veteran of the United States Air force, having served during World War II. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Foreman.

Nolan was preceded in death by his grandson, Kevin Cowling. Survivors include his wife, Oleta Hefner, of Foreman, Arkansas; a son Jeff Hefner of Texarkana, Arkansas; a daughter and her husband, Elaine and Ken Cowling of Texarkana, Arkansas; three granddaughters, Haley, Kara and Chelsi Hefner; and several nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be held on Saturday, November 17, 2012, at Dollarhide Cemetery in Foreman, Arkansas at 11:00 A.M. Visitation will be on Friday, November 16, 2012, at Madden Funeral Home Chapel in Foreman, Arkansas from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Services to be conducted by Brother Craig Jenkins of Texarkana under the supervision of Madden Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to the: Kevin Cowling Memorial Scholarship Fund at Regions Bank.

Online registraion: maddenfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Nolan T. Hefner*

October 08, 2023 at 02:47 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Uncle Hef's passing. What a wonderful man he was. Thoughts and prayers to Aunt Oleta and family. Linda*

Linda Holloway Cooper - Radcliff, KY - Niece - December 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Thinking of you and your family at this time Mom sent me the obituary from the Little River newspaper and wanted you to know you are in my thoughts and prayers.*
Cindy

Cindy Sagely - North Little Rock, AR - Friend - November 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

“Many years ago, I was with a dance band, Chilee Redd. We were setting up to play for the Little River County Rodeo dance one night, and a gentleman walked up to the stage and said, "I hear y'all got a girl fiddler in this band." I turned around and he introduced himself, "I'm N.T. Hefner, and I wanna hear some fiddlin' tonight. Are you the gal that plays?"

Well, I'm not and never was very good on the fiddle, but I told him yeah, I was the one, but dang it, I'd left my fiddle home that night. Hef wasn't about to let it go that easy. "Well," he said, in his friendly, easy way, "If I can round up a fiddle for you, would you play it?" Remember, I did not know Hef at that time, and had no idea who I was talking to, so I said, "Sure, why not?" Didn't dream he meant HIS OWN fiddle...didn't dream I was really putting myself on the spot in front of a real fiddler.

So in a short while here he came with a beautiful instrument, completely in tune and with great strings! I began to wonder who I was messing with....I played Hef's fiddle that whole night, not realizing Hef had lent me his own fiddle, not an easy thing for most musicians to do! Then, along toward the end of the night, about 1:00 a.m. I asked if he played. Yeah, he said, a little. I asked him to do one for us, and he played "Maiden's Prayer," one of my favorites. I had a new best friend and inspiration!

For many months after that, until that band split-up, Hef was a regular with Chilee Redd. What fun I had playing twin fiddles with him on the old Texas dance tunes. One night, Hef's brother (I can't remember which....sorry) showed up and gave me the thrill of playing third fiddle (I really didn't mind!!) with the Hefner boys. What fun, what fun!

My husband, Doug, and I, along with the rest of Chilee Redd had the pleasure of meeting Hef's sweet wife and daughter, and we even stormed the house one night before playing another Little River County Rodeo dance. By then Hef was an old friend.

Hef was a true gentleman, a funny, good natured man, and a good friend I was so sad to read of his passing, and I'm sorry for the loss of your beloved husband, father, and grandfather. I know he's resting with Jesus now, and I can almost hear "Maiden's Prayer" tonight as I think of him.

Anna Camponovo - Texarkana, TX - fiddlin' buddy - November 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MA

“*Elaine, Ken and family: So sorry for your loss. He is with Kevin now and resting til you see them again. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Marlene and George Adkison, Texarkana, AR

Marlene Adkison - Texarkana, AR - November 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM