
Jack Allen(1935 - 2016)

Coach Jack Allen, 80, of Lake Leon passed away Friday, May 27, 2016, in Fort Worth. Funeral: 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Stephenville Funeral Home Chapel. Interment: Desdemona Cemetery in Desdemona. Visitation: 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at Stephenville Funeral Home. Memorials: Foster's Home for Children in Stephenville. Coach Allen was born on July 28, 1935, in Ranger to the late Robert and Bea Needham Allen. He married the love of his life, Linda Ann Greenhaw, on July 29, 1966. Jack graduated from Sam Houston State University earning his bachelor of science in 1963 and a master's in 1973. Jack's coaching career began in 1963 at Ranger Junior College where he coached for 23 years earning numerous awards, including two national championships in 1973 and 1978. His 1975 team finished fifth and his 1976 team finished third in the nationals. He also won seven regional championships and nine conference titles. Coach Allen was elected into the 1986 Junior College Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame, and NJCAA and the ABCA Baseball Coach of the Year in 1973 and 1978. After retiring from Ranger Junior College, Allen took three years off before taking over the Tarleton State University head coach position in 1989. "I missed the association with the kids and I missed the competition," Allen said. He led the Texans to consecutive 40-win seasons and was named the NAIA District 8 and Area II Coach of the Year in 1992. Coach Allen earned his 1,000th career win in 1995 and led Tarleton to its first NCAA II Regional Playoff. Jack earned many awards while coaching at Tarleton before his retirement in 2002. Of all the awards that Coach Allen earned, he will be remembered as a great coach and father figure to his players whom he loved and who loved him. Coach Allen was inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2000 and the Tarleton State Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2009. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Bobbie Lee Gunn. Survivors: Wife of 50 years, Linda Ann Allen of Lake Leon; mother-in-law, Dorothy Greenhaw of Desdemona; brother-in-law, Morris Greenhaw and wife, Pat, of Desdemona; nephew, Brandon Greenhaw and wife, Karen, of Glen Rose; niece, Diana Greenhaw of San Francisco; and great-nephews, Evan and Marcus Greenhaw.

Funeral Home**Stephenville Funeral Home - Stephenville**

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