

IN MEMORY OF  
**DINK**  
**WHISENHUNT**

**Obituary for Dink Whisenhunt**

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Dink Whisenhunt, 80, died Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at his home. Services will be 1:00 p.m. Friday, April 1st at Merkel First United Methodist Church with Pastors Rhonda Greenwood and Dick Griffith officiating. Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery, directed by Starbuck Funeral Home. Visitation will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Dink graduated from Merkel High School in 1954. He was drafted by the Cincinnati Baseball Organization and left for Florida immediately following graduation which was an experience of a lifetime. He played against the famous Brooks Robinson and others. He also played with the Abilene Blue

Sox in places like El Paso and Juarez in a bull fighting arena. In 1957 Uncle Sam called him to service. He went to Ft. Hood and from there to Germany where he played basketball, football and baseball. He said he once fielded the largest stadium he ever saw in front of five star generals where there could have been up to 200,000 spectators. While playing football he suffered a career ending wrist injury which was never properly fixed. After returning home he continued to play semi-pro games with fellow Merkelites his brother and Dick Carpenter and other players from the area.

Dink started a lifelong career in farming and ranching. He loved the land. A big fish and a good cow meant a lot to him. He was an avid bird hunter and loved his bird dogs. When hunting there was no such thing as a limit to him or his partners in crime. He loved being the center of attention and enjoyed it. He always said that if you don't have a good time doing whatever you're doing it is your fault. The other love in life was his precious wife, Jan, who took fabulous care of him. He loved his two girls and his three granddaughters. He loved playing games of any kind and "42" was his specialty. You either wanted to be his partner or not play him at all. He was a big man with a big heart and loved his life. Signing off-

On his new journey his advice to us would be “Take your time and pitch a good game.” Bubba

Survivors include wife, Jan Whisenhunt of Trent; daughters, Windi Fowler and husband Royce of Merkel, Dusti Crawford and husband Steve of Abilene; brothers, Walter Whisenhunt of Merkel, Clyan Whisenhunt and wife Charlie of Ada, OK; granddaughters and their spouses, Drs. Kleesy and Josh Thomas, Rainy Day and Chad Laughlin, and Allie Faye Ann Fowler all of Lubbock; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Riley Franklin and Montie Faye (Blair) Whisenhunt; sisters, Irene Hammond and Tommye Niell; brothers, Jack, Glen and Gwin, and Little Bob.

Memorials may be made to the Merkel Cemetery Association.

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