



## Henry "Hank" Washington

March 9, 2019

Henry H. Washington born December 13, 1931 in Colgate, Oklahoma to George and Martha Washington was the oldest male of nine children. After high school graduation, he joined the army and served in the Korean War from 1951-1954 in the 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division. He had a long and illustrious career in the Border Patrol, Customs, and the DEA, and retired in 1982. He passed March 9, 2019 in The Woodlands, Texas. He is survived by: his beloved wife, Gail Washington; daughter Sharon and her husband, Bruce Waddell; grandson Bruce, his wife Lizzy, and great granddaughter Genevieve Waddell; and granddaughter Bethany and her husband Chris Hobbs. Funeral services will be held at Magnolia Funeral Home Chapel 2:00 P.M. Sunday, March 17, 2019 officiated by Bart Bagwell, Chaplain Military Honors Internment, Houston Veterans National Cemetery.

# Events

---

**MAR** **Funeral Service** 02:00PM

**17**

---

Magnolia Funeral Home

811 South Magnolia Blvd., Magnolia, TX, US, 77355

# Comments

---



“ Don Clements purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Henry "Hank" Washington.



**Don Clements** - March 13 at 04:51 PM

---



“ I grew up going to various holidays at the Washington's house. I have so many memories of exploring the outdoors and catching butterflies on what seemed like a vast texas paradise through the eyes of a little girl. I remember Hank teaching us how to shoot shot guns at targets he had set up for us. One year we even smoked gofers out of the front yard! There are so many crazy little experiences like that I had as a small child that I wouldnt have had if it weren't for Hank! This wonderful man as well as his wonderful wife Gail opened up their hearts and homes to my family. I will always be thankful and always remember him for that. Thank you Hank! Thank you Gail!



**Brandee Kwon** - March 13 at 03:38 PM

---



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Henry "Hank" Washington.



March 13 at 09:10 AM

---



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Henry "Hank" Washington.



March 12 at 09:07 PM

---



“ My life got a little darker when I heard that we had lost Hank. It was my great privilege to work with Henry in Mexico and Arizona and later around the country after he retired. There are a thousand unique stories about this man and his exploits throughout his life-especially during his time with US Customs and DEA. He was truly one of the best men I have ever known and consider myself lucky to be called his friend.

Frank Talak

Frank Talak - March 12 at 04:57 PM

---



“ Hank and I shared an amazing niche of time in the history of federal law enforcement on the Mexican border: The Border Patrol, the Customs Port Investigator to Agent program, The Customs Agent draft into DEA mandate, the creation of the Customs Patrol and many great hunting and fishing experiences. It was always my pleasure and an honor to be known as Hank Washington's friend during this era of exciting adventurous changes on the Mexican border. He was a very good man. Ray Summers

Ray Summers - March 12 at 03:48 PM

---



“ Greg and Liz Parks purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Henry "Hank" Washington.



Greg and Liz Parks - March 12 at 11:36 AM

---



“ We met Hank and Gail in 1989 after moving to El Paso TX with our young family. We quickly made friends at church with Sharon and Bruce and not long after, got to know Hank and Gail. They took us in like family. We were far from our own families and as we got to know them and learned to appreciate them greatly, our children began to feel about Hank and Gail like they did their own grandparents. Special occasions and other times they invited us out to their "country" place and we always had a great time. Hank loved to interact with the kids and one day we heard a commotion outdoors and found Hank and the kids outdoors lighting fire crackers and tossing them down gopher holes! He was such a prankster and loved to tell stories about his career and life. Liz would bake bread quite often and Hank loved her rolls. However, she would sometimes bake a loaf of all-bran bread and Hank would throw a fit. "I don't need anything good for me!" he would bellow, and crack a smile. Well Hank, no more all-bran for you, it's hot buttered rolls from here on! Thanks Gail for being the angel always there for him. He's with other angels now. With great love and respect,  
Greg and Liz Parks  
Kingsland, Texas

**Greg and Liz Parks** - March 12 at 11:28 AM

---



“ Hank Washington was one of my old bosses. When my career as young narcotics agent at the DEA Task Force started he was a big boss and I heard about him from others. I'd see him around on occasion and he always knew my name. He always called me "Billy."  
He was a tough man and no one to trifle with but someone you'd buy a used car from and hope was with you in a gunfight. One who came up the hard-way. Combat in Korea and then a career in federal law enforcement down on the border. For those of us who were fortunate enough to have worked for Hank during our careers were truly lucky. I knew he had my back and that gave me a greater level of confidence to accomplish the tasks in front of me. The world is truly a better place because of what Hank did. He gave his all, and had fun too. For those of us who had the honor to work in his shadow we were given a gift you couldn't buy. We are all thankful that there were people like Hank who did America's dirty work. Thanks Gail for sharing him with us and supporting him all these years.

**Bill Richardson** - March 11 at 06:19 PM

---



“ It's hard for me to believe that Hank is gone. I've been of the opinion that he was just to tough to die! He had beat the odds so many times over the years. I worked and played with Hank since the mid 60s through our careers with the Border Patrol, US Customs, DEA, and finally after retirement we went into business as Private Investigators. I'm still not sure how we survived, but we did. It was very seldom boring when riding with Hank Washington, in fact at times downright hair raising! We raised our children together, played dominos with our Better Halfs, fished, hunted

and just generally enjoyed life. Hank had several very serious Heart Surgeries over the last 38 years or so, accompanied by dire predictions by various physicians who felt his time here was limited. The last few times I spoke with him he was laughing about that, saying, I'm pretty hard to kill, I've outlived all those - -blank-blanks! Gail, I don't really know how to express my sorrow of your loss. He was my friend, but you know that! My sincerest condolences to you and your beautiful family.

**Horace Cavitt** - March 11 at 10:24 AM