



Virgil Lee Tanner

May 16, 1920 - December 20, 2017

Dateline: Mission, TX

Virgil Lee Tanner, 97, died Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at his home in Mission, TX. Born May 16, 1920 in Brackinridge County, Kentucky he was the son of Jess and Mabel (Erbin) Tanner. Mr. Tanner was a WWII Infantry Veteran. On October 2, 1963 he married the former Lucille Evelyn Engle. He worked for Owens Illinois Glass in Alton before retiring and moving to Mission, TX with the love of his life, Lou. He loved to travel, fish, boat, dance and play pool. Lou preceded him in death on May 25, 2009. Surviving is a daughter, Percilla Ann Clark (Jack) of Mission, TX, grandchildren, Deanna S. (Smith) Brand, Lisa M. (Smith) Sumpter, Larry Depper Jr. (Lori), Katherine A. (Depper) Alvey (Jeff), Lucinda J. Depper-Lyman and Tina M. (Depper) Terbrak (Lester), nine great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren. Also surviving are two sisters, Stella (Tanner) Feilbach (Don), and Mary (Tanner) Leady, and 22 nieces and nephews, with two deceased. Along with his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Patricia A. (Tanner) Smith, three brothers and their wives, Hubert and Violet Tanner, Theodore and Dorothy Tanner, and John and Jenny Tanner, a brother-in-law, Vincent Leady. The family of Virgil Tanner would like to send out a special thank you to the Hospice Legacy out of Mission, TX for the wonderful care he received. Graveside services will be at 1:00 p.m. Friday, December 29, 2017 at Upper Alton Cemetery with the Alton VFW Post 1308 officiating. A memorial service will be held at a later date in Mission, TX. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be

made to American Cancer Society or the Mission First United Methodist Church. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Upper Alton Cemetery

Oakwood Avenue
Alton, IL 62002

Previous Events

Graveside Service

DEC **29**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Upper Alton Cemetery
Oakwood Avenue
Alton, IL 62002

Tribute Wall



“ *Virgil Lee Tanner*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Virgil Lee Tanner*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *I remember when I would call grandpa I would say hey handsome how you doing. He would comment back.....awww and can't complain because no one would listen anyway. I love and will miss you very much*
Kathy Alvey

Kathy Alvey - January 02, 2018 at 05:10 PM



I never met my uncle Virgil. I would say the same thing to my dad John C. he would respond the same way. My dad and uncle Virgil talked a lot in their later years. Aunt Stella had a lot to do with that.

Mary Louise Tanner Harris - December 29, 2019 at 11:09 AM

CM

“Hi there! My name is Cindy (Engle) Matson. I am the 2nd of 2 daughters (Lisa being the 1st) of Glen and Sharon Engle. My dad, Glen Engle, was Lucille's 2nd cousin....we all spent time together on The Ash River Trail.

I remember some of my best times were with Cousin Lucille and Virgil 😊 and am very fortunate to have had so much time with them in the summers when they were on The Ash River Trail in MN!! Virg helped us build our cabin, he and Lu took me out fishing and always picked on us for needing to go to an island periodically 😊! As far back as I can remember, Virg NEVER called me by my name...

It was always, "Youngon"

(It sounded more like "Youngon" (like the ending of the word "onion" put together with the word "young" attached to the front of it 🤪)!!! I think one of my favorite memories (but there were SO MANY 🤪)!! It was when I had called my Cousins my Virg and Lu (they were back in Mission, TX for the rest of that year by then) that I was going to get married.

They were both so happy for me and my husband to be 😊!

After calming down some what I could hear the 2 of them talking kinda muffled, then Lu comes back on the line.

The 1st question they wanted to know was not where or when it was or any of those silly details. Nope, it was; "Are you going to be wearing a dress?"

To which I replied without any thoughts or hesitation; "Are you serious 🤪 🤪??? Not only NO, but HE'LL NO!! Are you kidding me? NO I am not wearing a dress. It's MY wedding...Did ya miss that part? 🤪" Now, you also need to know that when I was younger my parents attempted the whole "dress" thing with me and usually by the time we were suppose to be leaving for whatever event, I had been out climbing trees and what ever else, like playing under the deck with my matchbox cars in the dirt! As a result, I had normally ruined and/or ripped the dress, so they had to quickly dress me in something else...and always saying to each other, "What did we just talk about? I knew it was too early to put that on her." Needless to

say, it is on extremely rare occurrences that I'll be in a dress, PERIOD. I think I've only worn them; once to one of Lisa's weddings. I managed to wrecked that one pretty good 😂 It had been a bridesmaid dress w/ballet slippers (which I threw out of my Trans Am T-tops and proceeded to put on my puppy chewed, beat up, high-top Nike's 😏!! Yep, EVERYONE tried to get a picture of me in the dress (that'll tell you how this was such a rarity). That poor thing had cigarette burn holes and meltings from other people, but the really bad stuff that happened to it was after got home. I had rode to the wedding place with a friend and had planned on riding back home with my mom, but, that didn't happen. She had to decided to stay longer and visit. So my Cousin, David Engle, brought me home. One there I realized that I had no keys to the house (stupid apparel with no pickets 😡), and my mom had the garage door opener...so, with David's help, I crawled through the small garage window. This was not good... I hooked the dress a few times in the framing around the widow I was crawling through and kinda landed hard as I'm vertically challenged ever since my dad dropped the Oak tree on my head. (No I'm not lying or kidding, you can't make this kinda shit up)!

Anyway, I had to get past our Ford LTD and had managed to hook that damnedable dress on it a number if times! Then I pretty much repeated the same thing with our riding Toro lawnmower with the tube and bagger attached! That was pretty much the end of THAT dress and, it was no longer resellable 🤔👉!

Now then, you know why Virg and Lu wanted to know if I would be wearing a dress 🤔!!

Then Lu says; "Well, we ain't gonna come special to your wedding being you ain't gonna be wearing a dress, but we will see you on The Ash River Trail for your reception!"

Now, I had mentioned to my dad that they were going to be at the wedding reception on The Ash River Trail, and how much I looked forward to seeing them again, I ALWAYS DID 😊!

However, my dad told me; "They won't be here. Don't get your hopes up too high because they aren't going to drive litteraly from one tip of the country to the other for you. Let me explain. Cindy,

they didn't come to my wedding when I was remarried to your step-mother, Leslie. They also haven't been to your sister's 2nd and 3rd weddings either so therefore they surely would not make that drive all the way from Mission, TX to Northern Minnesota (17 miles from the Canadian border) just for you." I replied; "Yah they will." with a smile. So my dad asks me; "Cindy, What makes you think that they'll actually come?" To which I replied with a bigger smile; "Because...they like me." You should've seen my dad's face when he walked into Ash-Ka-Nam and heard my cousin Lu call out in the southern drawl; "Hey there Cousin Glen!" Yep, one of my best memories of Virg and Lu!

I will always remember joking around with Virg, talking to him weekly after Lu had died...I had even offered for him to come live with me up here, but he always told me he just didn't like being cold anymore, and that now he didn't have to.

They were a real good fit for each other...I love and will miss them with a heavy heart...

They will always have a special place and home in me...

I loved them so much 😭😭, but, I am grateful for all the times we were together and the things I learned from them (I even went to carpentry school)...

But most importantly...I'm lucky to have witnessed their love for each other, and that when Virg said he was wanting to spend this Christmas with his wife, Lu, that he was with her for this Christmas and all eternity...

Cindy (Engle) Matson - December 29, 2017 at 01:09 PM