

Obituary

Kenneth Wayne Roark, born on January 26, 1931, in Walnut Springs, Texas, passed away peacefully on June 27, 2026, in Athens, Texas. Kenneth's life was one marked by steadfast dedication to his family, his work, and his country.

Raised in the small community of Walnut Springs, Texas, Kenneth formed early foundations of strength and perseverance that would sustain him through the many chapters of his life. He graduated from Walnut Springs High School, carrying with him a deep respect for hard work and learning which he would later exemplify in all his pursuits.

In 1950, Kenneth answered the call to serve his nation, entering active duty in the United States Army. His service, which spanned from 1950 to 1952, included assignment during the Korean War. Kenneth was honored for his commitment and bravery with such distinctions as the Korean Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and two Overseas Service Bars. His dedication did not end with his active service; Kenneth continued to serve in the Army Reserves until 1958. His experience in the military was a defining part of his character—a testament to his resilience, courage, and sense of duty.

Upon completing his military service, Kenneth pursued higher education at the University of Houston, where he earned a bachelor's degree in engineering. With his degree in hand, Kenneth embarked on a distinguished professional journey. He worked with Darr Caterpillar from 1952 until 1968, contributing his expertise and work ethic to the company during a formative time in his career. In 1968, Kenneth joined Dow Chemical at the Oyster Creek Division, where he continued to make an impact until his retirement in 1995.

Throughout his professional and personal life, Kenneth found his greatest fulfillment in family. He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Wanda Roark, with whom he shared many years of loving companionship; by his son, Jim Gentry; and by his parents, I.B. and Aline Roark. Their memory remained ever-present in Kenneth's heart.

Kenneth leaves behind a legacy cherished by his family, including his daughter Christi Roark, daughter-in-law Regina Gentry, and grandchildren Tiffany Owen, Josh Philippi, and Keni Gentry. The love, guidance, and stability he provided will be forever treasured by them.

His presence, marked by humility, steadfastness, and a quiet dignity, enriched the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing him.

A burial to honor Kenneth's life will take place at Oak Grove Cemetery in Walnut Springs on June 30, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Family and friends are invited to gather and pay their respects at County Road 2565, Walnut Springs, TX 76690.

Kenneth Wayne Roark will be remembered for his unwavering integrity, his selfless service, and the enduring bonds he forged with those he loved. He leaves behind a legacy and an example that will continue to inspire all who knew him.



In Loving Memory



Kenneth Wayne Roark

JANUARY 26, 1931 - JUNE 27, 2026

In Loving Memory

Kenneth Wayne Roark

Date Of Birth

January 26, 1931



Date Of Passing

June 27, 2026

GRAVESIDE SERVICE

Tuesday, 10:00 A.M., June 30, 2026

Oak Grove Cemetery

Walnut Springs, Texas

OFFICIATING

Family

