



IN LOVING MEMORY



**JOHNNIE
WOODS**

SEPTEMBER 15, 1941 - MAY 26, 2026

Wake

Saturday, June 6, 2026

1:00 p.m.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

2590 US 190

Livingston, Texas 77352



Funeral Service

Saturday, June 6, 2026

2:00 p.m.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

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Livingston, Texas 77352

Johnnie Woods

September 15, 1941 — May 26, 2026
Goodrich, Texas • A Life Well Lived

Johnnie Woods was born on September 15, 1941, in Goodrich, Texas, to the late John Henry and Eles Wright Woods. As a young child, Johnnie was lovingly raised by his grandparents, Clarence and Margaret Wright, in Goodrich, Texas. He accepted Christ at an early age at New Hope Baptist Church and attended New Hope School.

In middle school, Johnnie moved with his parents to Cleveland, Texas, where he attended Douglass High School and was a member of the Class of 1959. Johnnie was the oldest of nine children born to John Henry and Eles Woods.

On a blessed occasion in 1961, Johnnie was joined in holy matrimony with Molly Ritha Richard and became a practicing Catholic. Together they built a beautiful family and were blessed with five children: Dalfenia Woods, Darryl Woods, Sr., Annette Woods, Antoinette Woods, and Dana Williams. Molly faithfully walked by his side until her passing in 2014. In 2017, Johnnie married Gloria Comeaux and they enjoyed joy and companionship in his later years that his family and friends were grateful to witness.

Johnnie answered the call of duty and proudly volunteered to serve in the United States Army from 1969 to 1973, completing three tours of service in Vietnam as a hand-to-hand combat instructor. He earned the rank of Sargeant and served as a Drill Sargeant before returning home with honor. His distinguished military service was matched by an equally impressive civilian career — he retired from the United States Postal Service after 30 years of dedicated service. He also owned and operated Woods A/C and Heating for over 25 years, serving his community with integrity and skill.

Johnnie joined St. Joseph Catholic Church in 1979, where his faith deepened over the decades. He was a proud 4th Degree Knight of the Knights of Columbus since 1992. A steadfast patriot and servant of his fellow veterans, he served as a longtime member and past Post Commander of VFW Hall #8568 in Livingston, Texas.

Johnnie was preceded in death by his parents, John Henry and Eles Woods; his beloved first wife, Molly; his cherished daughters, Annette Woods and Antoinette Woods; and his brother, Clyde Woods.

To celebrate his life and mourn his passing, Johnnie leaves his wife, Gloria Comeaux Woods; his children, Dalfenia Woods, Darryl Woods, Sr., and Dana Williams (Theron); his step-children, Shirley Davis, James Davis (Beverly), Sandra Davis, and Felicia Davis; his grandchildren, Portia Woods, Iyawna Woods, Darryl Woods, Jr. (Kayla), Darrin Woods, Sydney Williams, and Shelby Williams; great-grandchildren, Devonte Williams, Alan Woods, Desmond Jones, Destinee Jones, and Aria Woods; and great-great-granddaughter, Mila Williams. He is also survived by his siblings, Jim Woods, Mary Alice Davis, McAurthur Woods, Clarence Woods (Olivia), Gloria Harrison, Jeannette Woods, and Bennie Woods (Linda); and a host of nephews, nieces, extended family members and friends.

“Well done, good and faithful servant.”

— *Matthew 25:23*

Order of Service

Opening Procession Amazing Grace

Opening Blessing

First Reading (Old Testament) Wisdom 3:1-6, 9

Responsorial Psalm (23rd Psalm) *“The Lord is My Shepherd”*
(This will be sung)

Second Reading (New Testament) 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

Gospel Acclamation (Sung by the Cantor)

Gospel Reading Deacon Robert Ruiz

Homily / Sermon Deacon Robert Ruiz

Prayers of the Faithful Deacon Robert Ruiz

The Lord’s Prayer

Communion Service with Communion Song Center of My Life

Song of Farewell How Great Thou Art

Military Honors VFW Hall



A Tribute to Daddy

Ten Lessons He Lived and Gave to Us

I. Work Hard — Every Day.

Daddy believed that no matter what, we should show up and do the work. Rain, ice, sleet, or snow — he was going to that post office. Laziness was not an option, not even on Saturdays. If you heard Lou Rawls blasting through the house, you already knew: chores came before play.

II. Stand on Your Own Two Feet.

Daddy taught us to be self-sufficient regardless of what was going on in the world. He did not tolerate depending on others to get what you want in life. He kept a garden, cleared his own land, ran an A/C business, worked at the post office, and went to college — all at the same time. He encouraged many of us to start small businesses and work for ourselves, because he believed we had the power to determine our own destiny.

III. Lead. Take Risks. Reach Higher.

Daddy taught us that you have to take chances in life to learn how far you can go. He volunteered to serve in Vietnam at age twenty-eight — married with two children — so that he could leverage the GI Bill, advance his career, and lift his family into the middle class. We watched him apply for promotion after promotion and lead in his community by example.

IV. Read. Think. Decide for Yourself.

Daddy was a lifelong learner who taught us never to let anyone else tell us how to think or feel. He was always reading — a book, a newspaper, a magazine. As a history major, he turned every dinner table into a classroom. Civil rights, politics, books, sports, a 60 Minutes segment — no topic was off the table, and every voice was welcome.

V. Own Your Mistakes — Then Keep Going.

Daddy did not believe in blaming others for what was going on in our lives. He taught us to identify the mistake, own it, fix it, and move forward. Missteps were not failures — they were tuition. He taught us to count them as lessons and keep reaching.

VI. Never Complain.

In all our years, we never once heard him complain. Daddy believed that complaining was a waste of time. If you did not like what was happening, his answer was simple: get up and do something about it.

VII. See the World.

Daddy took us on vacation no matter what was going on and regardless of the budget. He believed that experience was the greatest teacher. Whether he was fishing in Alaska, cruising to the Caribbean, or driving across the country, he was always ready to meet the world with open arms — and he never wanted to leave us behind. He got just as excited about other people's travel stories as he did about his own adventures.

VIII. Invest in Yourself. Once you Learn Something, No One Can Take It Away.

Daddy believed in self investment — go back to school, earn the degree, learn a trade, join the military. He taught us to do whatever was required to achieve our dreams and goals. He taught us to be willing to better ourselves and improve our skills to move ahead in our careers.

IX. Help People Who Are Helping Themselves — and Never Need the Credit.

Daddy believed in lending a hand to those who were already doing their part. He had little patience for those who would not try, but for anyone who was genuinely working to get somewhere, he would quietly do whatever he could to help them along. He never sought recognition for it. The help was the point — not the praise.

X. Always Eat the Dessert.

Daddy rarely finished a meal without something sweet. Eating out brought him pure joy, and every Friday night growing up, he would take us out and — without fail — order the pie, the cake, or the cobbler, never without ice cream. He said life was too short to skip dessert. "We all gotta go at some point."

Lord, we thank You for the blessing of our Daddy and the lessons he lived and gave to us. We will surely miss you, Daddy, as we move forward in this world without you —but rest assured, we will remember what you taught us, and we will pass it on.

With all our love,
Dalfenia, Darryl, and Dana

Measure of a Man

When two people marry they not only join each other, they join two families. When Dana and I married on August 8 th , 1992, we merged the Woods and Williams families into one family. The night of our wedding, I stood in Paw Paw's den and gave him my word that I would take care of his daughter and that the responsibility now rested on me. He nodded his head and knew he could trust me. That means even more now that I have two daughters of my own.

From that moment on, Paw Paw and I had a special relationship. Over the next 39 years, we would form a bond and trust in each other that had one shared goal. That I would be the protector of his babygirl and that I understood that assignment. That role for me grew steadily over the years and I cherished each time he put his faith in me. He gradually gave me more responsibility within the family, and I did not take it lightly.

Paw Paw had a thirst for travel that would filter down to me over the years. We traveled together and I was one of the few he would let drive his trucks. He also enjoyed looking at other people's vacation photos more than anyone I knew. He was always thinking about the next trip. Now, Dana and I travel often, and I contribute that to Paw Paw.

He loved his grandchildren and took them on trips that they will always remember. Our girls still talk about the trips to Disney World or wherever Paw Paw took them, which will continue when Dana and I have grandchildren. A legacy of adventure he leaves in all of them.

One of the last trips we took was going to Bubba's police academy graduation. I drove him along with great grandson Alan to Oklahoma City to attend. We took a photo after the graduation which included three generations of Woods men. Paw Paw was a profound influence on numerous others that are too many to count. He taught hard work, organization, structure, and most important responsibility. You were always responsible for your own actions and only you could do anything about them. He was strong and straight forward when he needed to be.

Paw Paw was like a second father to me. There have been men in my life who have made me into the man I am today and he was one of them. When our families joined together, he would always stop by my parents' house in Lufkin and check on them. He always asked about my sisters and brother, and we attended gatherings on both sides.

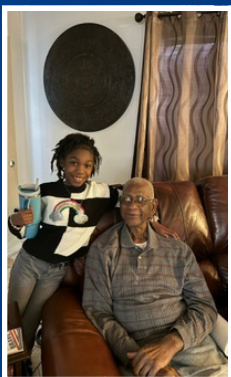
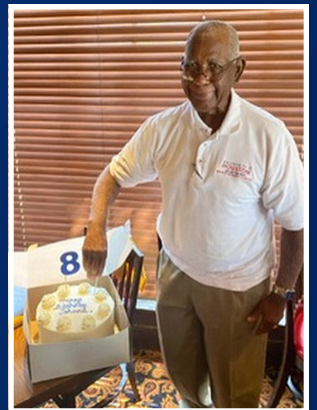
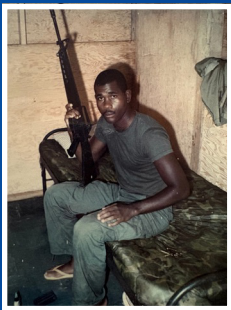
Our relationship came full circle a few weeks ago when I went to visit him. I stood over him and made one final promise. I gave him my word one last time that I would take care of both his girls and that they would be ok. He nodded his head just like he did in 1992 and knew he could rest easy when the time came. I will always cherish the bond my father in law and I had. He was a good man that I admired and will miss him dearly. Rest easy Paw Paw with the Ancestors. We have the torch and will carry it into the next generation.

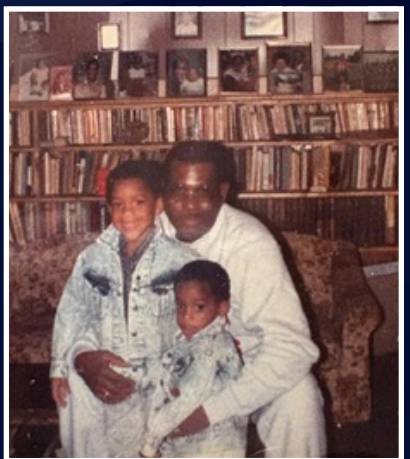
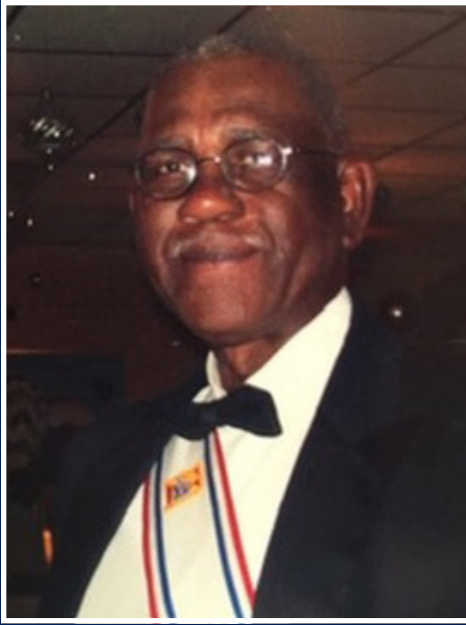
Theron Williams Jr

A Tribute from the Grandchildren

To us, Pawpaw was the heart of every adventure. He packed us into that old van or his truck each year for the trips that taught us the world was wide and worth exploring — the love of travel he gave us has never left. He passed down so much of himself to each of us: a quiet morning spent fishing, a book held a little too late into the night, a fascination with history, and, without fail, a sweet tooth none of us has managed to outgrow. To some of us, he was more than a grandfather— he was the father figure who raised us, and he opened his heart wide enough for us all. We carry these pieces of him everywhere we go.

Some of our fondest memories are of visiting Pawpaw in the country, where he'd put us all to work in his garden or have us make our rounds and stop by everyone's house to say hello. He taught us the value of owning land, of building something of our own, and of working with our hands and our minds, whether through higher education or a trade. Above all, he was a servant leader, pouring himself into his family, his church, his fellow veterans, and his community in everything he did. He led by example, and the example he set is one we will spend our lives trying to honor. Well done, Pawpaw. We love you.





Class of 1961



Pallbearers

Clyde Davis
Pendarvous Woods
Clifford Harrison
Brent Woods

Clarence D. Woods
McArthur Woods, Jr.
Christopher Hines



Honorary Pallbearers

Darryl Woods, Sr.
James Davis
Darryl Woods, Jr.
Devonte Williams

Darrin Woods
Alan Earnest
Theron Williams, Jr.
Desmond Jones



Interment

Tuesday, June 9, 2026
2:00 p.m.

Houston National Cemetery
10410 Veterans Memorial Drive
Houston, Texas 77038



Acknowledgements

The family of Johnnie Woods would like to express their sincere appreciation to CNC Care Homes, Judy Ward French, and Jaime Lambert for the exceptional personal and nursing care provided to Johnnie during his illness.

The family would also like to extend sincere thanks to all family and friends for your kind expressions of sympathy during our time of bereavement.

May God continue to bless each of you.

Funeral Services Entrusted to:

Duncan Funeral Home

1006 Martin Luther King Dr. | Livingston, Texas 77351
(936) 327-8770